

**CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE
COMMISSION MEETING**

Record of Minutes of Regular **Meeting Date** April 23, 2012 **Sheet No.** _____

A regular meeting of the Etowah City Commission was held on Monday, April 23, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 723 Ohio Avenue, Etowah, Tennessee. Members present were Mayor Burke Garwood, Vice Mayor Charles Slack, Commissioner Matt Goodin, Commissioner Ann Abbott, and Commissioner Dennis Morgan. Also present were City Manager Matthew Gravley, Recording Secretary Jamie Davis, and Finance Director April Preston.

Mayor Burke Garwood called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Mayor Burke Garwood and seconded by Commissioner Matt Goodin to approve the minutes for March 26, 2012 with an amendment to page 7 line 2. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

A motion was made by Mayor Burke Garwood and seconded by Vice Mayor Charles Slack to approve the minutes for Special Called Meeting on April 5, 2012. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Tom Strickland, 153 Country Road 685, came forward to express he was against annexation and he does not want to be part of Etowah. He stated that he has not talked to anyone in the affected area that does want to be part of the City. The City needs to have a good product and he just does not see it happening in Etowah. County Road 685 is in better condition than some of the roads in the city. Especially before the city wants to take on more roads, the city needs to maintain its own roads better. Thacker Lane is shown on the map as a major thorough fair through the city and it has a new one lane bridge and the rest of the road has pot holes all on it. That is nothing to be proud of! The worst looking properties in the city belong to the City of Etowah. The tennis courts have waist high weeds on them and that's disgraceful. The Old Community Center/School had to be torn down due to neglect and lack of maintenance. It simply became a liability. Pavilion is an eye sore and the pool is big hole in the ground due to non-maintenance. The Scout Lodge had gotten to the point where it was unusable and had major structural damage but outside sources came in and fixed it. The Depot had money spent to restore it in the 1980s and now it is lacking because of non-maintenance. The City needs to be saving money for a new roof at the New Community Center in 10 years instead of spending over \$325,000 for sewer expansion to gain only approximately \$7500 in taxes per year. This could be put into a maintenance fund. Tom Strickland ask City Manager Matthew Gravley if he had people coming into City Hall asking to be in the City? City Manager Matthew Gravley said people don't general come in asking to be part of Etowah, if they want to move here they move here. Tom Strickland said I have had a title search done for \$200 and it shows the road belongs to me and it is not a right of way! I do not want to be in the City of Etowah! The study shows that no more money would be needed for fire or police at this time. I want to know where there a

fire hydrant in my area? How are you going to get water there if there's a fire? Mayor Burke Garwood said we sent this to the Planning Commission, the Planning Commission will decide what we can do. Tom Strickland said you have already voted on it. Mayor Burke Garwood said they have 90 days to look over and the Planning Commission does all the work from that point and the finished plan comes back to the Commission.

Jim Brackett, Jim's Automotive, said he's behind Tom Strickland's opinion too. I ran figures for just what the Police Officers would be for coverage out there. And it would be about 15 minutes for them to patrol about 4 times per day which is about 365 hours per year. Garbage costs money and I just don't see the benefit. Mayor Burke Garwood stated that we are looking at the growth area and that's the main objective for annexation. We are trying to square up the City limits; we have to give a little to get a little. It's a hotly contested subject but we have to grow. Ann Abbott said the whole purpose is for us to be able to grow in 10, 15, or 20 years. We can't afford to do it all at once so we are trying to doing it little pieces at a time. Jim Brackett said why take in more if you can't keep up what you have now.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approval to repair Fire Department garage door and install electric door opener for \$1,560.00. Three estimates were received: Evans Garage Door to repair 2 sections of door and install opener for \$1,560.00, Evans Garage Door to replace entire door and install opener for \$1,900.00, and McSpadden Garage Door Company to replace entire door for \$1,797.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Matt Goodin and seconded by Vice Mayor Charles Slack to approve spending \$1560.00 to fix garage door and install opener. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

- b. Discussion and approval of uniforms from Aramark Uniform for Public Works and Sanitation Departments. This includes 11 sets of uniforms per employee, Laundry Service, and Mending Services. Annual costs ranging from \$2,662.92 to \$4,376.32 for all 12 employees.

Billy Ingram, Director of Public Works, explained that it will take a couple of months to get this program setup but would like to go ahead and start on it so that it would be in place by July 1, 2012. He also explained the details of this plan and said we will be changing the face of the departments with uniforms, new equipment, and it is a benefit to our employees. Billy Ingram suggested we go with the package that is \$3,452.28 and informed the Commission there will be a uniform policy drawn up and enforced. Commissioner Ann Abbott said the high visibility shirt are not that much more and would be much safer, she thinks we should go with the package that's \$3804.32.

A motion was made by Commission Matt Goodin and seconded by Vice Mayor Charles Slack to approve spending \$3,804.32 annually for uniforms. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

c. Resolution No. 1055 read by Mayor Burke Garwood.

RESOLUTION NO. 1055

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OFFICIAL INTENT THAT CERTAIN EXPENDITURES TO BE INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH CERTAIN PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS BE REIMBURSED FROM PROCEEDS OF NOTES, BONDS, OR OTHER INDEBTEDNESS TO BE ISSUED BY THE CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE

Mayor Burke Garwood explained this allows for us to start spending the money and we will get reimbursed within 5 or 6 weeks of starting the process.

A motion was made by Mayor Burke Garwood and seconded by Commissioner Matt Goodin to approve this Resolution. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

d. Approval to purchase a knuckle boom/grapple truck for approximately \$38,000.00 through the Rural Development loan/grant.

City Manager explained there is no guarantee that this exact equipment will be available because it's used equipment and it sells fast. Matthew is managing the money closely to get as much as we possibly can get for the money. We will be getting good used equipment and hopefully it will last us at least 7 to 10 years. Mayor Burke Garwood explained that these expenditures have already been approved for the knuckle boom, roll off truck, and the bobcat.

e. Approval to purchase a hook lift/roll off truck and 3 pride wagons for approximately \$54,450.00 through the Rural Development loan/grant.

f. Approval to purchase bobcat for approximately \$24,900.00 through the Rural Development loan/grant.

g. Approval to purchase 4 Personal Digital Video/Audio recorder for the Police Department along with chargers, car mounting kits, and warranties for \$3,850.00. These are funds that are reimbursable through a GHSO grant.

Commissioner Dennis Morgan ask how long it took to receive the grant? Eric Armstrong explained we have already received the grant we just need to spend the money in order to get reimbursed.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Charles Slack and seconded by Commissioner Matt Goodin to approve this purchase. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

h. Approval to purchase uniforms, raincoats, and coats for the Police Department for \$2,814.95. This item is budgeted.

Commissioner Dennis Morgan ask if this was in this year's budget? And will it be the same uniform? City Manager Matthew Gravley said yes and yes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Matt Goodin and seconded by Vice Mayor Charles Slack to approve this purchase. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

i. Approval to purchase inflatable slides: 2 wet/dry slides and 1 bounce house for \$6,295.00 for the Recreation Department. To be reimbursed with fees and donations.

Brian Silber, Director of Parks and Recreation, explained the different groups that would benefit from the use of these slides. Commission Matt Goodin ask if we bid this out and City Manager Matthew Gravley said this is a sole source type of thing we have to go out and find and compare the prices on. City Manager Matthew Gravley said they will most likely pay for itself within the first year. It will be a good thing for a lot of groups. Commissioner Matt Goodin ask if our liability insurance would cover this type of thing and City Manager Matthew Gravley said yes we are currently covered. Commissioner Ann Abbott said this is a good price for this type of thing.

A motion was made by Mayor Burke Garwood and seconded by Commissioner Ann Abbott to approve this purchase. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

j. Ordinance No. 722 read by Mayor Burke Garwood.

ORDINANCE NO. 722

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 717, THE CAPTION OF WHICH IS "AN ORDINANCE MAKING AND FIXING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF ETOWAH FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2011 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2012", BY ADJUSTING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES IN THE VARIOUS FUNDS TO ASSURE EACH FUND REFLECTS SUFFICIENT MONIES TO CONCLUDE THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2012.

A motion was made by Mayor Burke Garwood and seconded by Commissioner Dennis Morgan to approve this ordinance. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

**BUDGET CALENDAR
FY 2012-2013**

Thursday, April 5, 2012	Approval of Budget Calendar
Monday, May 7, 2012	Budget to City Commission
Thursday, May 10, 2012	City Budget Workshop, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall
Monday, May 14, 2012	Special Called Etowah City Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall a) Announce Public Hearing for Monday, May 21, 2012, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall b) First Reading of City Appropriations Ordinance c) First Reading of Tax Rate Ordinance d) First and Final Readings of Donation Resolutions
Tuesday, May 29, 2012	Public Hearing on City Appropriations Ordinance, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall Etowah City Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall a) Second Reading of City Appropriations Ordinance b) Second Reading of Tax Rate Ordinance
Sunday, July 1, 2012	FY 2012-2013 Budget Takes Effect

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 721

ORDINANCE NO. 721

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE CITY OF ETOWAH, TN (AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR COST RECOVERY FOR RESPONSE AND RECOVERY EFFORTS RELATED TO MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT, FIRE INCIDENTS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS DISASTERS, AND CERTAIN OTHER EVENTS; TO PROVIDE FOR LIABILITY FOR COSTS; AND TO PROVIDE METHODS OF ENFORCEMENT.)

A motion was made by Mayor Burke Garwood and seconded by Commissioner Matt Goodin to approve this ordinance. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Matthew Gravley gave updates on the depot and old community center. On the depot we have received the preliminary estimate on the roof and painting. We are pulling up the concrete and realized the underpinning has rotted out and there is terminate damage. We will be getting estimates on fixing this first. We will remove dirt 3 feet from the underpinning and then decide how we are going to move forward. Mayor Burke Garwood suggested that we go ahead and fix while we are in there. City Manager Matthew Gravley said we will be cutting the downspouts and connecting them to a new drain line to remove them from the sewer line they now are connected to. The Old Community Center lot is almost clear; the county came by and piled up the debris. They are coming back tomorrow with a track hoe and 2 dump trucks so it should be done in the next day or two.

We will be having a special called workshop on Monday, April 30th at 2:00 p.m. and notice has been given to all groups that will be requesting donations and/or additional staffing needs.

There are two software updates that we need at City Hall. One is for property tax to be able to be paid online which is about \$300.00 per year thru Local Government. The other is an Accounting and General Ledger update which we desperately need from Local Government.

We will also need to re-codify in the coming year for both federal and state laws.

Brian Silber, Director of Recreation, came forward to explain Summer Camps for kids at the New Community Center. We just want to meet expenses we are not trying to make a profit. We are looking into several kinds of camps including gymnastics, basketball, soccer, baseball, dance, and a special interest camp. We are looking at a timeframe from 9:00 until 3:00 and about \$50 per week. Camp Etowah would be for upcoming kindergartens thru 6th graders with different themes each week from 7:30 until 3:00. This would be \$60 for members and \$70 for non-members and we would provide multi-child discounts. There will be no camps the week of July 4th.

Matthew Gravley also informed the Commission that Scottie Mayfield came by City Hall on his Campaign Trail.

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mayor Burke Garwood seconded by Commissioner Matt Goodin to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

E. Burke Garwood III, Mayor

April Preston, City Recorder

Respectfully submitted by:

Jamie L. Davis, Recording Secretary