

**CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE
COMMISSION MEETING**

Record of Minutes of Regular **Meeting Date** September 27, 2012 **Sheet No.** _____

A regular meeting of the Etowah City Commission was held on Thursday, September 27, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 723 Ohio Avenue, Etowah, Tennessee. Members present were Mayor Jim Bull, Vice Mayor Matt Goodin, Commissioner Burke Garwood, Commissioner Dennis Morgan, and Commissioner Jim Swayne. Also present were City Manager Matthew Gravley, Recording Secretary Jamie Davis, and Finance Director April Preston.

Mayor Jim Bull called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer by Charles Slack.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Matt Goodin and seconded by Commissioner Jim Swayne to approve the minutes for August 27, 2012. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Reappointment of Vivien Payne to the Historical Commission for a 4 year term.

A motion was made by Mayor Jim Bull and seconded by Vice Mayor Matt Goodin to approve. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

- b. Approval to purchase complete new garage door, track, springs, hardware, and electric opener including installation for the Fire Dept totaling \$2,200.00.

Commissioner Dennis Morgan ask what happened to the door we approved before. Fire Chief Mike Moore said we had 3 chances to put the door up. We could have repaired the panels but it would have been unsafe to use with the old panels. We tried a commercial door from Lowe's but that didn't work out, however, we can use in another department. Commissioner Dennis Morgan ask if the door was insulated and Chief Mike Moore said none of the doors were insulated. Commissioner Dennis Morgan said next time more investigation needs to be done. Mayor Jim Bull said he looked at the door today and with track being that long, they will have to brace and the track with the wiring screws will have to come down long ways. Mayor Jim Bull said we need to check into getting the protective eyes on those doors. Chief Mike Moore said we will look into it.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dennis Morgan and seconded by Commissioner Jim Swayne to approve up to \$2500.00 for door and protective eyes. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

c. Approval to purchase two portable radios from Cartwright Communication for the Police Dept totaling \$1,360.34. These will be bought from the drug fund.

Commissioner Burke Garwood ask how many do you need to have enough? And did you receive quotes on these and is this the best bid? Chief Eric Armstrong said we are only short 2 and all staff will be covered.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dennis Morgan and seconded by Vice Mayor Matt Goodin to approve. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

d. Approval to conduct further sprinkler work at the Depot and the funds will be taken from of the Depot renovation money totaling \$850.00.

Commissioner Burke Garwood ask if there were other weak links in the sprinkler system and City Manager Matthew Gravley said they checked it and only found the 3 leaks in this quote.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Matt Goodin and seconded by Commissioner Jim Swayne to approve. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

e. Approval for funds to resurface and stripe the Depot parking lot and the funds will be taken from of the Depot renovation money. Quote will be given during the meeting.

City Manager Matthew Gravley explained that the quote was between \$5,000 and \$6,000 for sealing cracks, resurfacing, and restriping and this should be done by the next meeting. Currently it makes a terrible impression. Commissioner Dennis Morgan ask if we were going to restripe on North parking spots and City Manager Matthew Gravley said he thinks we should it's not included in this quote but thinks we can add it for below the \$6,000.00 mark.

A motion was made by Mayor Jim Bull and seconded by Vice Mayor Matt Goodin to approve up to \$6,000.00. The motion passed 4 to 1 by a commission vote with Commissioner Jim Swayne voting nay.

Commissioner Dennis Morgan said we need to fix Tennessee Ave striping while they are here and get a price for it. Commissioner Jim Swayne ask if they were just cracks not potholes, is that right? City Manager Matthew Gravley stated the cracks were from utility work and uneven spots.

f. Approval to purchase a spindle head from Peterson Industries for knuckle boom truck for \$3,000.00.

City Manager Matthew Gravley explained this was to repair another problem found inside the boom mechanism that is a large steel part.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Matt Goodin and seconded by Mayor Jim Bull to approve. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

g. Approval to do \$2,500.00 worth of Pothole patching.

City Manager Matthew Gravley said we need to do this before they stop making asphalt and before it gets cold.

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

h. Approval to repair the street sweeper in Public Works for \$2,000.00.

City Manager Matthew Gravley said this truck is expensive to maintain but we need to get it back on the road. We think it needs to be back in service but it's going to require some maintenance and better training to operate. Commissioner Burke Garwood said 1 ½ years ago I was told it would be \$5000-\$8000 to fix but now it's down to \$2000. If we do fix it, it needs to be run after 8 am or before 6 pm. And our employees need to be trained if we are going to use it. Mayor Jim Bull ask if the catch basins could be cleaned with it? Billy Ingram said yes. We were doing that before the bearing wore out. Vice Mayor Matt Goodin ask what year it was and Billy Ingram said 2006. Vice Mayor Matt Goodin said we did it at night because of traffic, right? Billy Ingram said yes we had a guy come in at midnight on Thursday and finish up on Friday morning.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Matt Goodin and seconded by Mayor Jim Bull to approve. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

i. Approval to spend \$2,000.00 on concrete and gravel to raise walking track spots that flood.

City Manager Matthew Gravley said it will flood and freeze before long and become very dangerous. The bridge over there is coming along pretty good. Commissioner Jim Swayne ask what shape the canal was in down by the walking track? Commissioner Burke Garwood said past the bridge is terrible. City Manager Matthew Gravley said it runs really good up to 5 ½" of rain in 24 hours which is the tipping point. Commissioner Jim Swayne said there is going to be a second phase and we are not going to stop, right? City Manager Matthew Gravley said no unless we extend and reinforce the walls at the Depot later down the road.

A motion was made by Mayor Jim Bull and seconded by Commissioner Burke Garwood to approve. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

j. Approval to purchase 2 park benches and 2 trash cans for 6th Street Park totaling \$1,803.00.

City Manager Matthew Gravley said it seems like a lot but all recreation equipment is outrageous. Currently we have no seats and no trash cans that we can secure to the ground. Mayor Jim Bull ask what it was made of and City Manager Matthew Gravley said it is a plastic coating over steel.

A motion was made by Commissioner Burke Garwood and seconded by Mayor Jim Bull to approve. The motion passed 4 to 1 by a commission vote with Commissioner Jim Swayne voting nay.

k. Reading of Ordinance No. 731 by Mayor Jim Bull.

ORDINANCE NO. 731

AN ORDINANCE TO ABANDON AN UNNAMED AND UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG NORTH IOWA AVENUE AND BORDERING ON MCMINN COUNTY TAX MAP 107J, GROUP D, PARCELS 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, AND 5.00 WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE.

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

l. Reading of caption for Ordinance No. 732 by Mayor Jim Bull.

ORDINANCE NO. 732

AN ORDINANCE TO ADD CHAPTER 2 TO TITLE 10 OF THE ETOWAH MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROHIBIT, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS, THE OWNERSHIP, HARBORING, OR POSSESSING OF PIT BULLS WITHIN THE CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE.

The full reading was put off until the next meeting for the 2nd reading. Commissioner Burke Garwood said he understands this ordinance but do we understand the impact of what we are doing here? Laura Bohannon said that 71% of fatalities were caused by pit bulls.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Matt Goodin and seconded by Mayor Jim Bull to approve. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

m. Reading of Ordinance No. 733 read by Vice Mayor Matt Goodin.

ORDINANCE NO. 733

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 Jim Bull and seconded by Commissioner Jim Swayne to approve. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

Commissioner Burke Garwood ask what our asset to debt ratio was at year end and Finance Director April Preston said 17% and if we add the Depot it is 20%.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 730 read by Mayor Jim Bull.

ORDINANCE NO. 730

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 16 OF THE ETOWAH MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING STREET CUTS

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

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Matthew Gravley said the GEM Theatre roof blew off the A/C unit in a recent storm and damaged part of the stage. The damage will be covered by insurance for the roof and where the leak happened totally about \$50,000 worth of work. We are going to put in some motorized lowering devices for lighting too but it should be less than \$1000.00.

Matthew also stated that the Ready by 21 Conference that he attended was very good and gets our young adults workforce ready and was packed with good information. He appreciates the Commissioners allowing him to attend.

Southeast Tennessee Development District awarded Tennessee Technology Center in Athens an award and made them the model program for the state. There is a plant managers meeting tomorrow which I will be attending. Basically we have jobs in McMinn County but do not have trained young people to go into these jobs.

We received a letter from Jack Hammontree stating the core samples at industrial park for CSX had been completed. McMinn County and City of Etowah each contributed \$5000.00 to perform bore drillings. The North Industrial Park Capital Fund now has \$4369.53 available and can be used for future certification requirements.

There is a Red Shoe Gala at Springbrook Country Club this Saturday at 7:00 p.m. and it is \$30 per person.

The Friends of the Library are hosting a Business After Hours on October 22nd from 4:30 – 6:00 before our next commission meeting.

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS

Commissioner Burke Garwood ask if we got the liability from CSX for the bridge. City Manager Matthew Gravley said not yet but we have talked to Russ Blair.

Commissioner Burke Garwood said paving of Highway 30 to Englewood is about to begin and we need to have them repave and establish the curbs of Tennessee Ave. while they are here.

Commissioner Burke Garwood ask if we had done any more towards the UT students doing a study at the Community Center and the parks in town? Brian Silber said yes he is visiting UT on Monday.

Commissioner Burke Garwood ask what are we going to do about the pool? We are going to have to start talking about it or we are going have to do something with it. City Manager Matthew Gravley said he would like to get a quote first but it would have to be declared obsolete or of equal recreational value to move forward. Commissioner Burke Garwood said we are locked until something is done on any other grants.

Commissioner Jim Swayne said he supports the Charter of the City of Etowah but he is against any liquor referendum.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

ADJOURNMENT

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

Jim Bull, Mayor

April Preston, City Recorder

Respectfully submitted by:

Jamie L. Davis, Recording Secretary