

**CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE
COMMISSION MEETING**

Record of Minutes of Regular **Meeting Date** August 26, 2013 **Sheet No.** _____

A regular meeting of the Etowah City Commission was held on Monday, August 26, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 723 Ohio Avenue, Etowah, Tennessee. All members of the commission were present. Also present were City Manager Matthew Gravley, Recording Secretary Eva Valentine, and Finance Director Rebecca Penney.

Mayor Jim Bull called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed with the Prayer by Rev. Aaron Pierce and Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice-Mayor Charles Slack.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Charles Slack and seconded by Commissioner Jim Swayne to approve the previous minutes of the regular commission meeting held on Monday, July 22nd, 2013. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jim Swayne and seconded by Vice Mayor Charles Slack to approve the previous minutes of the Public Hearing held on Monday, July 22nd, 2013. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dennis Morgan and seconded by Commissioner Jim Swayne to approve the previous minutes of the Special Called Meeting held on Friday, August 2nd, 2013. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vice Mayor Charles Slack and seconded by Commissioner Jim Swayne to approve the previous minutes of the Special Called Meeting held on Monday, August 19th, 2013. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Jim Bull read Resolution 1092 and Commissioner Jim Swayne made a motion to approve and Vice-Mayor Charles Slack seconded the motion and motion carried by a full commission vote.

Mayor Jim Bull read Resolution 1093 and Commissioner Dennis Morgan made a motion to approve and Vice-Mayor Charles Slack seconded the motion and motion carried by a full commission vote.

Vice-Mayor Charles Slack made a motion to increase the hourly rate of the city detective position by \$1.50. Commissioner Dennis Morgan seconded the motion and motion carried by a full commission vote.

Vice-Mayor Charles Slack made a motion to accept the proposed pay scale plan submitted by City Manager Matthew Gravley. During the discussion Mr. Gravley stated this was a foundation to build on for our future merit raise system. Commissioner Burke Garwood seconded the motion and motion carried by a unanimous commission vote.

Vice-Mayor Charles Slack made a motion to approve the cost of repairing the grapple truck in the amount of \$1,533.85. Commissioner Burke Garwood seconded the motion and motion carried by a unanimous commission vote.

City Building Inspector Dave Mason and 911 representative, Marvin Kelly presented the proposal to rename several street names within the city which would affect 241 addresses, but only the street names would be affected, not the actual house numbers. There was much discussion regarding the impact this decision would have on the citizens. The issue communicated by Mr. Kelly and Mr. Mason was the difficulty emergency crews were having when attempting to respond timely in emergency situations to addresses such as 800 Georgia Avenue and 800 North Georgia Avenue. Commissioner Jim Swayne made a motion to table this issue until a later date. Commissioner Burke Garwood seconded the motion and motion carried by a unanimous commission vote.

OLD BUSINESS

None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Matthew Gravley reported to the commission the need for repair to the roof of the Post Office at least to the south side as shingles were popping up and resulting in significant leakage. Preliminary estimates range from \$14,000.00 for partial roof replacement to \$40,000.00 for entire roof replacement. A consensus by the commission was to obtain a firm estimate for partial repairs.

Mr. Gravley also presented the commission with cost for installation of surveillance systems for both the Community Center and the Depot, which will consist of four wireless cameras with night vision and DVR for the depot and for a cost of approximately \$850.00. Sixteen cameras would be hardwired at the Community Center with a DVR for a cost of approximately \$800.00.

Commissioner Burke Garwood made a motion to approve up to \$1700.00 for the purchase of the surveillance equipment. Vice-Mayor Charles Slack seconded the motion and motion carried by a unanimous commission vote.

City Manager Gravley reported the S.E.D.D. retreat in Gatlinburg was a good experience and would be attending the Governors Conference in October.

Benchmark representatives presented a check for \$555.75 to be used by the Parks and Recreation department.

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS

Kim Dockery, residing at 335 Hillcrest, Etowah came before the commission to express her concern regarding the old Etowah motel site on Hwy 411 North. The overgrowth is affecting her lawn as well as her neighbor's and is asking the city to take care of this.

Robert Johnson, an elder from First Christian Fellowship Church came before the commission to request the city to correct the drainage issue at corner of Ohio Avenue and Seventh Street. Also mentioned was another drainage problem near the trucking company. He stated the curb and sidewalk is worn down and the water is turning toward the Church. Public Works Director, Billy Ingram stated he would check the grade and try to come up with a solution.

Commissioner Burke Garwood expressed concern and the need for establishing and communicating the emergency steps or protocol in the event of a train derailment or truck accident that would create a chemical spill or explosion to the citizens of Etowah.

Commissioner Dennis Morgan inquired about the water problem mentioned to him by the Mendenhall's on Hillcrest and Public Works Director Billy Ingram stated he had spoke with them just that day.

Commissioner Jim Swayne questioned the provision for the handicapped parking for the Labor Day crowd. City Manager Gravley informed the commissioners that Bob Holten will be managing the handicapped parking for the event. Commissioner Swayne also asked about the fact that Anderson's Drug Store will be open that day and was concerned what effect this would have on the parking issue. Mr. Gravley stated he would contact Mr. Holten to verify he had the situation under control.

Commissioner Dennis Morgan inquired about the parking lines on Tennessee Avenue and if the store owners were satisfied with them. Mr. Gravley stated yes they were and that Tennessee Avenue will not be restriped until the completion of the construction that will be underway soon.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Jim Bull, Mayor

Rebecca Penney, City Recorder

Respectfully submitted by:

Eva Valentine, Recording Secretary