

**CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE  
COMMISSION MEETING**

**Record of Minutes of** Regular **Meeting Date** March 24, 2014 **Sheet No.** \_\_\_\_\_

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A regular meeting of the Etowah City Commission was held on Monday, March 24, 2014 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 Reverend Jack Bryant from Miracle Lake and Pledge of Allegiance was 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, February 24th, 2014. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.*

*A motion was made by Commissioner Vice-Mayor Charles Slack and seconded by to approve the previous minutes of the Public Hearing held on Monday, February 24th, 2014. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

(a.) *Commissioner Dennis Morgan made a motion to approve the expense for sprinkler/plumbing repairs incurred at Depot in the amount of \$4,434.00. Vice-Mayor Charles Slack seconded the motion and motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

(b.) *Commissioner Jim Swayne made a motion to approve the 2014-2015 Budget Workshop Calendar. Commissioner Burke Garwood seconded the motion and motion carried by a unanimous commission vote.*

(c.) *Commissioner Dennis Morgan made a motion to approve the transmission expense for the 2008 Blue Crown Victoria, unit # 8501. Vice-Mayor Charles Slack seconded the motion and motion carried by a unanimous vote.*

(d.) *Commissioner Dennis Morgan made a motion to approve the purchase of the car camera for the 2011 Black and White Crown Victoria, unit # 9669 through the GHSO Grant and Drug fund for a total cost of \$4,850.00. Burke Garwood seconded the motion and motion carried by a unanimous commission vote.*

(e.) Mayor Jim Bull read Resolution 1104.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1104**

**A RESOLUTION OF  
THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE,  
AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO AND PARTICIPATION IN THE  
LOCAL PARKS AND RECREATION FUND (LPRF)  
50/50 MATCHING FUND GRANT PROGRAM**

*Commissioner Dennis Morgan made a motion to approve Resolution 1104. Commissioner Jim Swayne seconded the motion and motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

(a.) Adoption and Second Reading of Ordinance No. 754

*Mayor Jim Bull conducted the second reading of Ordinance 754.*

**ORDINANCE # 754**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING ORDINANCE TO ALLOW  
RESIDENTIAL USES IN THE C-1 CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT AS A  
CONDITIONAL USE IN THE  
CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE**

*Commissioner Burke Garwood made a motion to accept Ordinance no. 754 as read, and Commissioner Jim Swayne seconded the motion and motion carried with a unanimous commission vote.*

City Manager Matthew Gravley reported that Rebecca Penney, Finance Director has completed her CMFO certification and the Iowa Avenue project is 75-80% complete. Mr. Gravley also reported he had reviewed two companies that specialized in the codification process and recommended American Legal Codes for the task of codifying our ordinances for approximately \$8,000.00.

*Commissioner Burke Garwood made a motion to approve American Legal Codes to be awarded the task of codifying our ordinances for an amount to not exceed \$8,000.00. Commissioner Dennis Morgan seconded the motion and motion carried by a unanimous commission vote.*

Mr. Gravley informed the commission that Building Inspector Chris Ingram has completed the Residential Inspection Class. He also announced the Community Center is flourishing and we need additional equipment to better service the members. He recommended the City could take on a new debt of \$35,000.00 which will only be replacing the current debt that will be paid in full in August of this year.

*Commissioner Burke Garwood made a motion to approve the City to acquire a new loan in the amount of \$35,000.00 to acquire new fitness equipment for the Community Center. Commissioner Dennis Morgan seconded the motion and motion carried by a unanimous commission vote.*

Mr. Gravley reported to the Commission the option for the City to purchase the 180 acres in the North Industrial Park property will be up in 2016 and that it will not be extended. Kathy Knight has applied for the TVA grant for \$500,000.00 that could be used to help finance this purchase. Commissioner Burke Garwood suggested setting up meetings to discuss this. The projected cost for this property is \$1,800,000.00 or \$10,000.00 per acre. He also reported it appeared the bill to annex by referendum cannot be stopped that is scheduled for both the house and senate to vote on within days.

The City Manager also reported he is still working on checking options for the fire hall and has nothing to report at this time. He also reported that both the residential and commercial garbage trucks had to be repaired for an estimated cost of \$2,000.00.

*Commissioner Dennis Morgan made a motion to approve up to \$2,000.00 for repairs to the City's garbage trucks. Vice-Mayor Charles Slack seconded the motion and motion carried by a unanimous vote.*

### **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Haroldean Thompson, residing at 1031 Ohio Avenue came before the Commission to express her concern with the legality of using Face book as a public hearing. She was referring to the scheduling of meetings in regard to the proposed splash pad for Etowah and the Twenty-year plan for Parks and Recreation. Mayor Bull stated it is acceptable as legal media. Ms. Thompson also expressed her disappointment of not having a pool included in the plan and asking if there are any plans for a pool in the near future. Commissioner Burke Garwood also stated there was a big difference between \$30,000.00 and 100's of thousands of dollars. City Manger Matthew Gravley also cited the issues the City is facing in regard to the Fire Department.

#### UNSCHEDULED ITEMS

Mayor Jim Bull and Commissioner Burke Garwood reported on the Charter Committee having come to the end of their review process and there would be a Special Called Meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The plan is to have the revisions on the August 2014 ballot.

Commissioner Jim Swayne stated the City was facing some big item issues such as the Fire Department, police cars, and the consideration of the North Industrial Park and it all comes down to prioritizing.

Vice-Mayor Charles Slack suggested the City of Etowah Department Heads consider coming to the McMinn County Commission to ask for help. He also thanked Niota for the use of their garbage truck during our time of disrepair.

Commissioner Dennis Morgan mentioned several locations in the city which needed the attention of the Building Inspector Chris Ingram. They were: McClury's lot is being used as a dumping ground, Cline's Car Lot, Wilson's, and the need to determine why "Harry's" has not opened.

Commissioner Burke Garwood suggested a call be placed to the TN Dept. of Transportation to get someone from the state to address the inverted curbs from Fifth Street to Hwy. 30. He also expressed his disappointment in learning that Starr Regional is closing the Etowah facility with the exception of the Emergency Room and the Elderly Care Unit.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Commissioner Dennis Morgan made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Burke Garwood seconded the motion and motion carried.*

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Jim Bull, Mayor

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Rebecca Penney, City Recorder

Respectfully submitted by:

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Eva Valentine, Recording Secretary