



TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY

Regularly Scheduled Workshop Meeting

June 03, 2025, 6:00 PM

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Greer called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Greer
Councilman Tim Adkins
Councilwoman Binkley
Vice Mayor Chris Kerrigan
Councilman Michael Smith
Councilman Kevin Thompson
Councilman Tony Young

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Vice Mayor Kerrigan, to approve the agenda. All approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve May 6, 2025, Regularly Scheduled Workshop Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Vice Mayor Kerrigan, to approve the May 6, 2025, minutes. All approved by voice vote.

PUBLIC FORUM

KAREN BOYT: She is a representative of the HOA for Hickory Hills Condominiums. We came here late last year about the water/sewer hookup and our septic tank issues. We are back now because the mayor asked for this to be deferred until the Budget meetings are started. She is here as a reminder to look again at the issues that were discussed a few months ago and get it back on the agenda.

REPORTS

2. **ATTORNEY:** Jennifer Noe stated that she was moved to the bottom of the agenda for this evening. She introduced Riley Knox in the audience that is a recent graduate of Cheatham County and is going to be attending UT Knoxville in August. She will be interning with us this summer as a clerk. I thought out of all our meetings this would be a good one for her to watch and learn.
3. **PROJECT UPDATE:** Josh Wright stated he would be brief. I spoke to Clinton Dodson yesterday afternoon about our City Hall Project. The masonry is done on the Monument sign. The final topcoat and stripping for the parking lot will be installed by the end of next week. Clinton is finishing the minor punch list items. On 5-27-25 the State Fire Marshal granted approval. All Fire and life safety equipment was inspected and passed. Radio Communications test was performed and passed. The building has an approved sprinkler system. Alarms moving forward will be treated as a real emergency. All work by the State approved plans has been completed and the required paperwork has been received for the State Fire Marshal's office. The city building and codes department has done their walk through and approved. Parking lot light poles and cameras have been installed. The completion date is set for June 13, 2025, weather permitting. There is a small amount of close out paperwork to submit to USDA. This is the last workshop update for the new city hall.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. ORDINANCE 640: Budget Amendment – for the FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025- 2ND Reading
Jamie stated that there is a correction for the Ordinance. The \$ 750,000.00 will remain on it but the water portion of \$ 101,970.00 will be removed.

NEW BUSINESS

5. TCRS Bridge and Hazardous Duty - James Armistead from the Tennessee State Treasury Department came and spoke about the study that our council members authorized for the Hazardous Duty Insurance for Fire and Police. He is here to go through how everything looks. James will review the Public Safety Bridge and how that works as well. TCRS is Consolidated Retirement Plan for State Employees, all Teachers, Judges, Higher Ed, AG's, PD's, and members of the Legislature and then we have about 700 and growing local governments. It allows people to move around from place to place and build service and salary. There is a 5-year vesting requirement and then they are eligible to receive a monthly benefit upon reaching certain service requirements. We are contributing 5% to the plan. It is the highest 60 consecutive months of salary. We are in the legacy plan; this is the original plan. Employees must stay 5 years to receive a benefit at retirement. The Bridge plan is for public safety employees. It adds 3.5% on top of your regular TCRS rate just for Police and Fire. It requires mandatory retirement at age 60. If they retire at age 55 and have 25 years of bridge service, they can retire without a penalty. Bridge payments are only available until age 62. Hazardous Duty Plan: there is no mandatory retirement age. It is a .375% multiplier. It is half the benefit of the Bridge plan and runs until age 67. It requires 20 years or more of TCRS covered public safety service. It does not have to be all here. They would only get paid for the years they are here. There is a new 7-year bridge which is also 3.5% but the additional liability will be rolled up in the rate. It will end up being more expensive because it pays until age 67. The cost of Hazardous Duty is 7.14% which is a lump sum of \$ 205,673.00 and that contribution rate would increase by .34%.
Chief Ray and Chief Walker stated that it would be a good retention tool for some of the Police and Fire Fighters during the recruitment process.
6. Social Media Discussion – Violet Black stated that she asked to have it added to the agenda because it was asked for at the last meeting. We talked about the department head meeting on what to put on our web site and Facebook regarding events and whether they are city run events or not. There was a Resolution signed in July of last year that we would only post city run events on Facebook. The mayor has been interested in making a drop-down calendar on our web page for City activities that are happening in the parks, and we would denote all of those on the calendar and identify them as a non- city event.
Vice Mayor Kerrigan: stated he thinks it would be a good thing for things like Soccer, Baseball, Football and any other little event that goes on in the city that's a positive event.
Mayor Greer: has asked the parks board to start this a couple of months ago and Renee has reached out to Alicia to get this going.
Violet Black: these will reflect the happenings of the park but not necessarily city events.
7. CONTRACT: Fitness Instructors - Thrive 55 Center – Mary Molepske advised that this renew the contracts for the 3 returning instructors and the one new yoga instructor Barbara Frawley. Returning will be Anna Winberg, Juliana Watson, Phoenix Thornberg.
8. CONTRACT: Friday Night Dance Lease – Mary Molepske advised this is the renewal of the Dance Lease that expires On June 30, 2025.
9. CONTRACT: MCHRA - Transportation contract for Thrive 55 Center – Mary Molepske advised This is contract to transport our members in Cheatham County to and from the center. There is a grant that pays for the trips for most of the year but sometimes that money runs out prior to June 30 so trips are paid by the center for those members to get here and back home.
The cost of the trip has gone up from \$2 each way to \$3.
10. June 14, 2025, Vendor Discussion – Vice Mayor Kerrigan – We just want to be sure that they take the Vendor Responsibility Course for anyone that opens a liquor store in the Town. This should be included in the requirements to apply for a license before it comes to the council for

approval. He was reminded of the event in the park that was in question and the Vice Mayor stated that his questions and concerns were already addressed.

11. Grant Amendment Police Department - contract 77833-26 – Chief Ray stated that it is just another academy amendment. It was just a change to the dates, and we need to resign the contract again.
12. JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT - U.S DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR – Chief Walker said we have had this Agreement for several years and it is for the River Gauge on the Cumberland River Bridge. We pay a third and the County pays a third and the Federal Government pays a third. We can use an APP and set it to a certain elevation, and it tells you when the water raises up. It also helps our area during floods for the forecasters.
13. CONTRACT - APSU Austin Peay State University Information Systems Center – Allen Nicholson said this is a contract renewal that is included in the annual budget. It is for handling all the back-end stuff for our permitting system and we started this last year. It has been very helpful keeping our zoning updated.
14. CONTRACT: Planning Service - Clark Development Corporation LLC – Allen Nicholson said this is the contract renewal for our City Planner Ceagus Clark. He is doing a fantastic job with us, and I would like to renew his contract. He is a wealth of knowledge and does a great job of answering emails and calls from us.
15. RESOLUTION: 2025-23 - Public Meetings for 2025 - New Location – Mary Molepske – This is to announce our meetings for the remainder of the 2025 year moving to our new location at the New City Hall. We have also removed some of the wording so that we do not have to advertise the meetings in the paper each month. This will benefit the boards by not having to get the agendas ready 2 weeks prior to the meetings and it will save money by not having to run advertisements each month and we can utilize social media pages more. Removing the wording, when necessary, means those meetings are set for every month and if there is no need for a meeting we can post to our social media the meeting is cancelled for that month. If each board is going to meet, they only need to meet the 48 hour posting laws and post the agenda on our web page and Facebook and we also now post a paper copy in Thrive 55 Center.

SURPLUS PROPERTY NOMINATIONS

OTHER

16. Attorney and Client Privilege Meeting

Recess for Attorney and Client meeting was at 6:40 P.M.

Recess Ended and the Council Returned at 7:16 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilwoman Binkley, to adjourn the meeting. All approved by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

MAYOR GERALD GREER

CITY RECORDER MARY MOLEPSKE