



TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY

Regularly Scheduled Workshop Meeting-

July 02, 2024, 6:00 PM

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor JT Smith

Councilman Tim Adkins

Vice Mayor Gerald Greer

Councilman Chris Kerrigan

Councilman Michael Smith

Councilman Kevin Thompson

Councilman Tony Young

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the Agenda with Changes. All approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. June 4, 2024, Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Kerrigan, to approve the June 4, 2024, minutes. All approved by voice vote.

PUBLIC FORUM

Brad Maxwell – He lives on Skyview Dr. They have a really bad speeding problem now that Skyview connects to Annette. After the resurfacing was done which was a really great job but has now turned in their 20 mile an hour dead end street into a race track. There are families and children playing and he feels like your taking your life in your hands. He stated that law enforcement has been up there but he understands that they cannot be there all of the time. He feels we need more speed signs or speed bumps added.

Levi Taylor – He lives on Skyview Dr and stated that many people have been speeding on his street. He stated that friends and family could get seriously hurt and he needs help by putting in speed bumps or more police patrols or both.

Kimber Taylor – She lives on Skyview Dr and stated that there is a reoccurring problem with speeding since Skyview Dr was connected with Annette. She stated that she is worried about her siblings getting run over because of how fast people are driving through. She stated that she should not have to be scared to play in her yard. She stated that they should have speed bumps or more officer patrols in the area but stated that it is at all times of the day.

Thomas Taylor – Thomas stated that they have seen an increase of the traffic and speed which was feared when they found out the roads were going to be connected. They submitted a petition to stop Skyview Dr and Annette from being connected because they were afraid this was going to happen. They were promised that there would be speed bumps and there are none there at this time. The patrols are few and far between and not enough. He stated that some of the speeders are in excess of 50 MPH. He understands that law enforcement cannot be there all of the time but they need more signs, speed bumps and something has got to be done.

REPORTS

3. Attorney - Jennifer Noe – Stated that she has no new information on the WWTP at this time and she should have more next week.
4. Project Update from Josh Wright – Gave an update on all the projects in the city. Highlights on City Hall Footings are 60% complete. They should be done moving dirt on July 8, 2024. Sports Park Highlights – Renderings are almost complete; they just want to be sure they all look right and reflect what the actual finished project will look like. Senior Center/Rec center Highlights - Looking and met with a pre-engineered metal building manufacturer. They feel that using a pre-engineered metal structure will greatly reduce the cost of the building to the city. It will be able to be bricked and look like a brick building on the outside. Vice Mayor Greer asked how long the pre-engineered building usually last. Mr. Wright stated it depends on the manufacturer. He is speaking with Butler Buildings and they offer a 50 year warranty. They also have a patterned Roof System that is the best in the business. Vice Mayor Greer asked if we had to use the 50-year warranty and the manufacturer is no longer in business what happens and who covers it. Mr. Wright stated – That is a good question for any type of warranty. Butler is a premier metal building manufacturer.
5. City Recorder - Mary Molepske – Gave an update on training and projects in the city that she is working on.
6. Codes Department - Allen Nicholson – Gave an update on the permits, inspections, Revenue collected, property maintenance cases. Advised Habitat for humanity pulling permits and constructing 2 new homes in the city.
7. Court - Cynthia Hollingsworth – ABSENT
8. Finance Department - Gayle Bowman - Emailed the finance report showing revenues versus expenses, fund balance, cash on hand and loan information and gave an update on the finance department. Gave update on what her departments are working on.
9. Fire Department - Chief Walker gave updates on how many calls they had and have been busy training and teaching CPR. Doing a lot of in-house maintenance on trucks.
10. Human Resources - Violet Black sat in on interviews on Thrive 55+ and public works. Completed open enrollment. Municode Training. Helped on Summerfest and 615 day. Councilman Adkins asked if Gary has indicated when interviews will start for the City Admin. Violet asked for a few dates to give him for the interviews in front of the council on zoom.
11. Parks Department - Anthony Clark stated that it has been a busy month. Started Farmer's Market, Summerfest, Fishing Tournament sponsored by Cheatham County Chamber, First 615 day, Concert in the park began, Food Truck Mondays.
12. Police Department - Chief Ray gave an update on the interview process and potential hires. Gave update on calls taken.
13. Public Works Department - Clint Biggers Gave updates on water and sewer taps. Filled position and maintenance in the city.
14. Technology Department - Justin Wheeler – Gave update on working on access control for the new city hall and updates on the new website with Gayle.
15. Thrive 55+ Department - Gena Batts gave an update on attendance for the dance and attendance on trips they have made in June. Gave an update on Paint the Town Purple and the Alzheimer Walk.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

16. THRIVE 55+ Center Rental Agreement Discussion
- Ms. Batts emailed proposals to the council to look them over for moving forward with the rental agreement. The most urgent is the Friday night dance since their contract ended last Sunday. Asked for thoughts on the agreement. Councilman Adkins liked that the groups mentioned could still use the center. Councilman Thompson agreed. Councilman Kerrigan asked about the cost for the Friday night dance and Ms. Batts advised they are fine with that cost and would not have to raise prices. No other comments or concerns were mentioned.

17. Thrive 55+ Dance Lease – Ms. Batts combined this issue with the above lease agreement.
18. Appoint City Recorder Discussion
A motion was made by Councilman Kerrigan, seconded by Vice Mayor Greer was made to move this discussion to the end of the agenda. All approved by voice vote.
19. ORDINANCE: TO ADOPT THE BUDGET AND TAX RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025
Gayle Bowman went over the budget and added items to the budget that were not on the original budget.
Councilman Adkins asked to clarify the process for the budget starting with the first reading and how the process would advance from that point.
Ms. Bowman gave specific instructions and the cost of how we will need to move forward to get the budget passed. She also gave the consequences if we do not have a budget passed by August 31, 2024.
Councilman Kerrigan gave reasons that he was not approving the budget. Councilman Adkins gave his reasons why he was not approving the budget. Vice Mayor Greer stated that his concerns aligned with the other councilman on the additional positions. He also asked about the brush truck and do we have other options for the size of the truck. Councilman Kerrigan suggested removing the position and revisiting it when the new city hall is complete.
20. Resolution: Amend Wage and Salary Policy – Pay Table
This is the 4% raise for the cost of living.
21. Award Salary Study
Gayle asked if they were ready to talk about this and she was letting Violet chose since she would be working with them. She advised that if we do not decide soon the prices could change.

NEW BUSINESS

22. Chamber of Commerce - Kelly Ellis, the director of the Chamber of Commerce came to introduce herself. Thanked the Mayor and AC for all the support. Both Tournaments each brought in about \$50,000.00 to our community. She is learning as she goes and thanks everyone for helping her through the learning process.
23. Propane Gas Service & Equipment Lease Agreement – Chief Walker explained that there is a 500-gallon tank at the training grounds to heat their building. He thought there would be natural gas going in but since they are not adding that line this allows them to continue to fill the tank for heat.
24. Resolution: 2024 Tennessee Senior Center Major Grant Request for Proposal – Ms. Batts explained part of this upcoming budget she asked for 3 major projects to complete. Painting the Center, New Floors, and New Front doors. This is something new that is being done, instead of the \$ 8,000.00 grant that they have gotten the last 2 years they are now doing a minor grant that is between \$ 5000.00 and \$ 10,000.00 and a major grant which is between \$ 10,000.00 and \$100,000.00 which is the one that she is requesting permission to apply for.
25. GNRC – Contract
Ms. Batts advised that this is a contract we do every year and we normally would get \$67,000.00 and this year we would get \$ 69,000.
26. Management Control Agreement
Chief Ray advised this is an agreement we must sign every year with the TBI.
27. Ordinance: Rezone Boyd St
Mr. Nicholson advised this is to rezone .34 acres for Mr. Stratton which is currently zoned c2 which is approximately 15,000 square feet to build a small house which he would need it rezoned to R1. It was approved by the planning commission.
28. 24-25 Bid for Paving
Mr. Biggers asked to defer this item and Councilman Kerrigan stated they would do a motion to defer next week.
29. Permission to apply for the BlueCross BlueShield playground grant
Mr. Clark stated that this is a playground grant that he would like to apply for. He would like the new playground to go along with the new ball fields.

At 7:05 PM the cameras were turned off to discuss the City Recorder position because there was employee information being discussed.

At 7:15 PM recording resumed to continue the meeting and discussion.

SURPLUS PROPERTY NOMINATIONS

NONE

EXPENDITURE REQUESTS

NONE

OTHER

Mayor Smith advised that he received a call about moving a cell tower. They want to put it at the 233 Tennessee parkway location. There is currently a tower, and it needs to come down and they are looking for a new location.

Councilman Adkins requested that the city honor Paul Robert Gupton who passed away last Friday. He was the Public Works Director and a long-time city employee. He was also a council member, and he would like the city to have a proclamation for him to present to the family.

Councilman Adkins also had more discussion about the speeding problem on Skyview Dr.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Kerrigan, to adjourn the meeting. All approved by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

VICE MAYOR GERALD GREER

CITY RECORDER MARY MOLEPSKE