



TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY

Regularly Scheduled Workshop Meeting- August 06, 2024, 6:00 PM

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Greer called the meeting to order at 6:24 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. July 2, 2024, Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Vice Mayor Kerrigan, to approve the July 2, 2024, minutes. All approved by voice vote.

PUBLIC FORUM

Kimber Taylor spoke to the council regarding Skyview Dr and speeding issues. She reminded Council that she previously spoke to them on July 2nd regarding this issue. She addressed Mayor Greer about the card he sent through the mail and asked if he truly was inspired by her to do something she is asking him to prove he meant it. She stated that the issue seems small to the council but it is important to her and her family. She stated that she is 11 years old but would like the council to show that her voice matters to her local government officials. She is Asking Mayor Greer to make her road a safe place for families and children. She thanked the council for their time to listen to how pressing this issue truly is to her.

Thomas Taylor spoke to council regarding Skyview Dr speeding- Started by thanking everybody and stated it is not the first time he has been there. Citizens from both sides of the street on Skyview and Annette Dr tried to stop the streets from being connected. The council decided that something from 1979 decided that no other roads are going to be connected. It was that reason given and the second reason given was for emergency vehicles to get through. He has also heard a lot of comparisons that between Skyview Dr and Annette Dr and Bell Rd. He feels that the comparisons are mute for numerous reasons. One, Bell Rd is a lot wider and It has a shoulder that Skyview Dr does not have. Second, the topography of the road when you look at the new build houses on Skyview Dr. They are either going to have to back into the drive or back out and the way the road is constructed to go down the hill and up the hill there is a pretty good risk of someone getting hit there, just getting in or out of the driveway. Third, this council didn't connect whatever Bell Rd was before. This council connected Skyview Dr and Annette Dr. This has created an issue with a lot more speeding, a lot more traffic on that road now. Now he needs help to fix the issue. He does not want to just come to council with a problem alone. He has possible solutions of how to fix the issues. The most cost-effective solution is to set up hydraulic bollards or a vehicle gate in between the 2 streets separating them again. Emergency vehicles could maintain the key to it so they could get through freely if needed but regular traffic will not. The other possibility is speed bumps. He understands that snow plowing being difficult for snow plowing. He has checked with other communities that state

that it is still easy to plow with speed bumps in place. School buses or the post office do not use pull-through so if you separate them it is the most effective and cost efficient. He then thanked council for their time.

REPORTS

2. Attorney - Jennifer Noe asked to move her report to next week to have more information for the council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. Ordinance: Rezone Boyd St - 2ND Reading Allen Nicholson stated this is a track of land for Mr. Stratton's family. Mr. Kipp is wanting to go back to R-1 to break off a small piece of the land For his brother to build a house on it.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Ordinance: Rezone Melton Property – Allen Nicholson stated this property is located at 1070 Highway 12 South and they are asking to move from R-1 to C-2 which is in our land use plan to go to C-2. The planning commission has approved this.
5. Belt Press/ CEC Discussion – Clint Biggers stated that our belt press that we use to press sludge is 30 years old. It is probably \$225,000 to \$250,000 but we have come to find out that it would be about \$100,000 to move it from the old plant to the new plant. We have the money at the end of our loan. It is grant money in the approximate amount of \$750,000. Rather than to move the old one they are asking permission to purchase a new belt press. Mayor Greer asked the average life span of a belt press. Mr. Biggers stated that this one is 30 years old and no longer made so any repair can be from \$ 50,000 to \$ 100,000.
6. Permission to Bid New Industrial water tank -Clint Biggers stated he has a grant is asking to go ahead and bid this out.
7. Permission to bid 3 sewer lift stations – Clint Biggers stated that he has a grant is is asking to go ahead and bid those out.
8. Speed Bump Discussion – Clint Biggers got some quotes on the cost of Speed bumps. It will cost about \$1000.00 per speed bump if you buy the plastic speed bumps. Councilman Thompson asked how long they last. Mr. Biggers stated it depends on the traffic. Councilman Smith asked if they can be removed and Mr. Biggers replied they have a stake in them to hold in place. Councilman Thompson asked if they could be removed for snow plowing. Mr. Biggers stated yes but there would be a hole in the ground and water would settle and cause ice. Mayor Greer suggested we look at all options to see if we can come up with something that would calm the traffic down on this road. Mr. Biggers stated that Pegram had some and the trailers were hitting them and they would bust a section out. They would have to replace it. These are 36 inches wide. Vice Mayor Kerrigan asked how many we would need on this road.4? Mr. Biggers stated he was not sure and Pegram also stated that people will sometime speed between them anyway. Vice Mayor Kerrigan asked what the recommended speed is for these bumps and the answer was 20 to 25 mph. We could get smaller ones that cause a bigger bounce but the fire chief in Franklin has stated that it has caused damage to the fire trucks going over them even if it is slow.
9. Use of the Cheatham County Elementary School for a recycling event – Ms. Black stated we have been contacted to do a recycling event. They originally wanted to use the elementary school but have decided that it would be better at the Middle school for parking. The event would be on September 21st.
10. Amendment to Maximum Liability for Recruitment and Retention Grant – Chief Ray stated it is another amendment from the academy and they apologize. They got this money from the legislature with no guidelines. This is the reason it keeps getting the amendments to update it as they go.
11. IHEART radio Agreement – Chief Walker stated we have had this grant for the last 10 years and we've got 4 more years of it. It is roughly \$400,000 for the last 4 years but they pay us for our recruitment and retention to advertise and we've had good luck.
12. OutFront Media Advertiser Agreement – Chief Walker stated that these are billboards in Nashville, and we have had very good luck with them. Basically, It's all paid through FEMA.

Vice Mayor Kerrigan stated that he has had someone he worked with that showed up to be a recruit.

13. HVAC Emergency Approval – Ms. Batts stated This is the unit that controls the Library and it is the last unit that has not been replaced within the last 5 years. I am asking for the Mayor to be able to sign an emergency purchase to get the new unit purchased. The lowest bid received is \$7,440.00. Councilman Young asked how many bids she got. Ms. Batts responded that she got 3 bids from local businesses.
14. AWA Collection Agency Contract – Ms. Bowman stated that she does not have the actual contract yet. They are still working on it but she should have it by Thursday. We have not received a check from our current collection agency in 2 years. They don't seem to be working well with our collections so we are looking to change.
15. Travel Policy – Ms. Noe stated we do not have a whole lot of time to get into the discussion. Currently, under our employee manual, we have a policy that requires if someone is going to be traveling that they are supposed to get either the department heads permission and the Mayor's. She is not sure this is happening. She thinks we need to look at how we are going to handle other travel such as senior center when there is travel.
16. Budget Discussion for a vote – Councilman Adkins Stated that when the voting took place for the budget he was only voting on the call to questions and that the budget vote was a separate vote. He would like his vote to be officially changed to NO for the record. He knows it will not change the outcome of the vote but would like his vote reflected as NO. Ms. Noe stated that she did think it was very confusing, when Gerald included the word AND it then became one vote that was twofold, and it was for both of them. These are the options available for you for next week. You can do a motion to rescind your vote and can be done without notice. You would have to get a second on it and then a majority vote. If the council wants to, You can do a motion to approve the budget for purposes of Clarifying the intent and action taken on July 30th and if you feel you want to have another official vote on this. I don't think you have to and you have the word AND in there and Gayle has spoken to the Comptroller, and they are ok with everything. These are the options available. You can also choose to just voice your opinion for the record. Councilman Adkins stated that he does not want anything at the Comptroller's office to delay anything, he does not think it will but he will look at the options and see. MS. Noe explained if he rescinds his vote then the budget would not pass until next week and she does not want us in trouble with the comptroller's office. Councilman Smith asked why can't we just put on record his vote should have been NO? Ms. Noe agreed that yes he could state that for the record. MS Noe advised it might be a good idea to establish our own parliamentary procedure. Mayor Greer wanted to clarify that when he made that motion it was intended to be 2 motions and not one but would like to handle it the easiest way to get the budget taken care of. Ms. Bowman stated that the Comptroller is currently reviewing the budget and Councilman Adkins advised he does not want to hold that process up and that is not his intension.
18. City Admin Interviews – Skipped to 19 for time purpose and we would return to it.

SURPLUS PROPERTY NOMINATIONS

24. General Government - Furniture from old City Hall - Desks, Chairs, Bookshelves, Etc. – Ms. Bowman stated this was furniture that has been kept in storage without air conditioning and we would not be taking them to the new city hall. It has been damaged by mold. Some of the things have been looked over by historical society and can be refurbished. We have in our current budget money to refurbish the new city hall when it is completed.

EXPENDITURE REQUESTS

NONE

OTHER

NONE

Mayor Greer asked how we address the time until the City Admin interviews are going to start? MS Noe stated to take a recess and turn the cameras off to do the interviews and return to live when they are completed.

Cameras were turned off at 6:40 pm

Interviews were held at 7:00 P.M.
The cameras were back on at 8:59 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to adjourn the meeting. All approved by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

MAYOR GERALD GREER

CITY RECORDER MARY MOLEPSKE