



## TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY Special Called City Council Meeting January 28, 2020 6:00 PM Minutes

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Allen called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and declared a quorum.

### **ROLL CALL**

#### **PRESENT**

Mayor Steve Allen  
Vice Mayor Daniel Anderson  
Councilman Tim Adkins  
Councilman Gerald Greer  
Councilman Roger Jackson  
Councilman Chris Kerrigan  
Councilwoman Lisa Walker

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Reed stated the minutes from last council meeting were not complete just yet and she would have them done for the next meeting.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### 1. City Hall Design Discussion

Mr. Josh Wright stated he has the floor plan of City Hall that was done with the feasibility study and he needs some direction for what is needed for the floor plan. Mayor stated with looking at figures and the possibility of doing away with general sessions court as a money saving option and he has spoken with the City of Dickson regarding what transpired when they eliminated general sessions court. Councilman Adkins stated he understood last week Ms. Anita Justice would be presenting numbers to the council. Ms. Justice presented a chart with figures for revenues and expenditures for the court. Councilman Adkins questioned how many employees are paid out of the court budget. Ms. Justice stated there are three full-time employees in the office plus the night magistrates, judge, and security. Vice Mayor Anderson questioned the revenue after everything is paid. Mayor Allen stated around \$158,000. Councilman Adkins questioned when court is held. Ms. Justice responded the first and third Thursday of the month. After some discussion Ms. Noe explained if the court continues with general sessions the floor plan will need to include the two holding cells and a bathroom for them as well. Mayor asked if this is a requirement by law. Ms. Noe stated it is a liability issue. She further stated the county judge's salary is based on population of the county. She explained there are opinions out there that the judge's salary should be set by the T.C.A. She stated she put a call in to the A.O.C. for the figure on what the judge's salary should be but has not heard back from this at this time. She stated the clerk should be elected to the office. She stated she spoke to an MTAS representative that would be willing to come out and explain further, but there are also provisions that require the General Session Judge's to live within the city limits. She explained that the opinions do hold weight but are not law. Ms. Noe stated the City of Dickson got rid of

their general sessions in 2016, but once it is eliminated you cannot go back after the legislation passes. Ms. Justice stated there are several cities that are not exercising the general sessions jurisdictions. Ms. Noe stated after speaking with Ms. Justice today she realized there needs to be an ordinance adopting the rules of the road at the next meeting. She further explained a judge that presides over general session court must live in the city limits and there is a small pool of attorneys who would be eligible within the city limits. Councilman Adkins questioned the increase in salary. Ms. Noe stated the bottom tier from 1991 was twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000); however, there are several increases for cost of living since then. Vice Mayor Anderson stated comparing us to Dickson is not a good comparison and we shouldn't change anything. Councilman Jackson questioned if everyone agreed. Mayor stated yes. Mr. Josh Wright stated what we have now is an extremely preliminary plan from when he originally met with department heads. Further, the end floor plan for the fire station is completely different than the beginning plan and the dollar amount per square foot depends on the area as some are nicer than others. Councilman Adkins questioned if all the department heads are OK with this plan. Mr. Wright stated this plan is not anywhere near complete and there is still work to be done. After some discussion of the areas on the preliminary drawing and what specific spaces were designated for, Mr. Wright stated he thinks he can get with the department heads and get the preliminary drawings to council by the next council meeting.

#### **OTHER**

Councilman Adkins asked about the property for city hall. Mayor Allen stated he has received some complaints about the buzzards, but nothing further.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Kerrigan, to adjourn. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

  
MAYOR STEVE ALLEN

  
CITY RECORDER KELLIE REED, CMFO, CMC