

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MAY 24, 2011

PRESENT

SCOTT FOSTER, MAYOR
GARRY FORSYTHE, VICE-MAYOR
STEVE BROWN, ALDERMAN
ARLENE CUNNINGHAM, ALDERMAN
TOMMY ELSTEN, ALDERMAN
HAMILTON FROST, ALDERMAN
CHRIS GALLAHER, ALDERMAN
JIM HOBACK, ALDERMAN
JACK LONG, ALDERMAN
FRED QUALLS, ALDERMAN
SCOTT SPROUSE, ALDERMAN
MATT STAMPER, ALDERMAN
LISA WEST, ALDERMAN
JOHN BRADLEY, CITY ATTORNEY
KAY FRANKLIN, INTERIM CITY RECORDER

AGENDA

West moved; seconded by Sprouse for acceptance of the agenda as presented. There was a unanimous vote for approval.

MINUTES

Sprouse moved; seconded by Forsythe for approval of the May 10, 2011 minutes. There was a majority vote for approval with Elsten abstaining.

Foster declared the motion carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

David Whitt, 1030 Margaret Drive, addressed the Board stating he hopes the Board keeps the health, safety and welfare of the citizens as a priority for budget needs. He cited the duties of the Mayor.

Donna DeSopo, 101 Chambliss Court, addressed the Board questioning the release of bond funds on the Monthaven Green Subdivision and cited the need for street lights.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MAY 24, 2011

PAGE 2

Michael Crabb, 203 Southburn Drive, addressed the Board requesting funds be included in the budget for drainage repairs in the Southburn Drive area. He stated corrections were not made as per the Drakes Creek Right Bank Tributaries Study.

Margaret Nolan, 253 Southburn Drive, addressed the Board stating water gets in her yard during heavy rains and requested funds for drainage repairs be included in the budget.

James Fox, 257 Southburn Drive, addressed the Board stating the flood plains have been filled in to build apartments on Indian Lake Boulevard and is causing flooding in his neighborhood. He asked the Board for help fixing the drainage problem.

Wayne Courtney, 239 Southburn Drive, addressed the Board stating his appreciation for the help he received during the flood last year. He stated the easements are not being cut which is causing flooding and requested funds be included in the budget for drainage repairs.

Jenny Hogan, 230 Southburn Drive, addressed the Board citing the emotional issues she and her family suffered from due to the flooding of their home and requested assistance with the drainage issues.

As there was no one else desiring to speak, Foster declared Citizens Comments closed.

REPORTS

Finance Committee – reviewed the budget and recommended the budget, tax rate and garbage assessment ordinances; recommended an ordinance to adopt a policy in reference to GASB 54; recommended a resolution authorizing contributions to certain non-profit organizations and reviewed the monthly financial reports.

General Committee – no report.

Public Safety Committee – no report.

Public Works Committee – met in a special meeting to review the Parks Department budget.

Long announced the limb drop-off site will be open for citizens to bring their limbs and brush beginning this Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Capital Projects Committee – no report.

Planning Commission – approved “bowling alley” as an allowed use in the Premier Park Development and approved an alternate building paint for Flower Express.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MAY 24, 2011

PAGE 3

Mayor – reported large trees were blown down primarily on the Indian Lake and Walton Ferry peninsulas from last night's storms; reported the limb crews are running approximately five weeks behind schedule due to the amount of debris from storms; reported the traffic signal at Glenbrook was damaged by storms and is being repaired; explained the bond on the Monthaven Green Subdivision could not be used toward street lights and that the homeowners association elected to have decorative lights installed on their homes instead of street lights and that it is the responsibility of the homeowners association to install street lights if desired; explained the budget is about choices and lack of funding for certain projects and explained infrastructure is not built for 100 year floods like the City experienced last year.

Hoback asked the Southburn Drive area residents to stand. He stated these residents want a starting point for a solution to their problem and asked for their patience.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

The caption of Ordinance 2011-12 was read on second and final reading, an Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with TEMA for a Hazard Mitigation Grant and to appropriate local share funding in the amount of \$82,781.00. Gallaher moved; seconded by Cunningham.

Elsten questioned the cost for demolition of these properties.

Foster stated the estimate is \$10,000 each and hopes to be able to cover this amount in the budget. He explained the \$82,781.00 is for three homes but due to duplication of benefits, it may cover five properties.

There was a unanimous vote for approval of Ordinance 2011-12 on second and final reading.

The caption of Ordinance 2011-14 was read on first reading, an Ordinance to adopt a City budget and to appropriate funds for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. Sprouse moved; seconded by Forsythe.

Foster moved; seconded by Sprouse to amend Ordinance 2011-12 by amending the Fire Department's budget to include \$50,000 for equipping the new aerial fire truck and \$5,000 for part-time salaries.

There was a unanimous vote for approval of the above amendment.

Forsythe moved; seconded by Sprouse to amend the budget document by removing FY2012 Capital Items for Borrowing as these projects are not being funded this fiscal year.

There was a unanimous vote for approval of the above motion.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MAY 24, 2011

PAGE 4

Forsythe moved; seconded by Cunningham to amend the Police Department's budget by taking the \$473,520 budgeted to purchase 12 police cars and change to reflect the amount of \$319,520 for leasing 15 police cars and the remaining \$154,000 plus the budgeted \$100,000 to be used for connectivity fees for police car laptops.

Forsythe explained this amendment would allow for funds to be used for the connectivity needed for the police car computers to function efficiently.

Sprouse questioned the interest rate to lease these cars. Forsythe responded the interest rate is 5.25%.

Sprouse stated he would rather purchase fewer cars than lease more. He stated connecting the car computers and purchasing air cards is not a critical need.

Foster cited items not included in the budget and stated he hired the Police Chief to increase technology in the Police Department. He stated the Police Chief has stated the car cameras are needed. He stated by leasing these cars, an additional expense is put in the next two years' budgets. He stated police cars are an operating expense and not a capital investment.

Stamper stated his concern that the cameras were not included in the budget.

Forsythe explained the connectivity fees will not be obtained until next year but there will be air card fees.

Cunningham stated the Police Department has laptops they are not able to use without the connectivity and feels this is a need and not a want.

Qualls questioned the model of vehicles to be leased. Forsythe stated they would be 2011 Caprices.

Qualls stated he would like to see the State bid on vehicles and have the interest rate bid as well.

Forsythe stated the Police Department is hoping to secure a \$100,000 grant to be used toward the connectivity fees and be able to connect 70 cars.

Sprouse stated he would favor separating the two issues but that he cannot support leasing or borrowing money for cars.

Police Chief Mickey Miller stated it is too late to get in on the State bid but we can piggyback on Murfreesboro's process.

Qualls stated he wants to make sure the City gets the best deal and would charge the Mayor with obtaining the lowest interest rate.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MAY 24, 2011

PAGE 5

Foster stated if this amendment is approved, the Murfreesboro bid package could be re-bid. He stated the Chief has stated he needs people first, then cars. He stated the connectivity cannot be used until January.

Brown stated he feels it is a wise decision to obtain the connectivity in order to be more efficient but agrees there should be a bid process.

Elsten stated he feels the most should be done with the money and the connectivity will make the Police Officers more effective and efficient. He further stated with the lease, the cars will become the City's after three years.

Frost called for the question.

There was a majority vote for approval of the above motion with Sprouse voting nay.

Foster declared the motion carried.

Stamper moved; seconded by Elsten to amend the Police Department's budget in Ordinance 2011-14 as follows:

- change the reclassified Administrative Assistant to a new Police Officer position in the amount of \$6,412;
- reduce FICA expense in the amount of \$9,847;
- reduce maintenance - vehicles in the amount of \$10,000;
- increase rent or lease expense in the amount of \$8,000;
- decrease retirement expense in the amount of \$3,862;
- decrease travel & training in the amount of \$20,000

reflecting a total net amendment reducing the Police Department's budget by \$29,297.

There was a unanimous vote for approval of the above amendment.

Stamper moved; seconded by Cunningham to amend Ordinance 2011-14 by increasing the Public Works Department's budget by \$100,000 in Special Projects for a Southburn Drive drainage project.

Forsythe question the source of revenue for this project.

Stamper stated he is aware of the low General Fund balance but historically the City ends the fiscal year with a higher fund balance. He stated he does not feel a tax increase is needed to fund this project.

Sprouse stated the General Fund balance needs to be built up to a respectable balance and cited emergency appropriations that may be needed.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MAY 24, 2011
PAGE 6

Hoback called for the question.

The following voted on the above amendment:

Aye: Cunningham, Elsten, Gallaher, Hoback, Stamper and West.

Nay: Brown, Forsythe, Frost, Long, Qualls, Sprouse and Foster.

Foster declared motion failed.

Stamper moved; seconded by Cunningham to amend Ordinance 2011-14 by amending the Public Works Department budget by \$36,000 for street lights in Monthaven Green Subdivision.

Stamper stated this amount would provide eight street lights in this neighborhood and feels this is a public safety need.

Foster cited the other subdivisions in town without street lights and stated the homeowners associations that have purchased street lights for their subdivisions would be requesting refunds.

Qualls cited other needs in the City and stated this is not the proper time to do this.

The following voted on the above amendment:

Aye: Cunningham, Elsten, Gallaher, Hoback and Stamper.

Nay: Brown, Forsythe, Frost, Long, Qualls, Sprouse, West and Foster.

Foster declared the motion failed.

There was a majority vote for approval of Ordinance 2011-14, as amended, on first reading with Stamper voting nay.

Foster declared the motion carried.

The caption of Ordinance 2011-15 was read on first reading, an Ordinance fixing the rate of taxation in the City of Hendersonville, Sumner County, Tennessee. Forsythe moved; seconded by Elsten.

Foster stated the tax rate will remain at \$.65.

There was a unanimous vote for approval of Ordinance 2011-15 on first reading.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MAY 24, 2011

PAGE 7

The caption of Ordinance 2011-16 was read on first reading, an Ordinance imposing a fee in the amount of \$252.00 for the purpose of funding "A Universal System of Domestic Garbage Collection and Disposal". Frost moved; seconded by Stamper.

There was a unanimous vote for approval of Ordinance 2011-16 on first reading.

The caption of Resolution 2011-4 was read, a Resolution ratifying continued membership in the Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee. Sprouse moved; seconded by Frost.

There was a unanimous vote for approval of Resolution 2011-4.

Upon motion and second and followed by a unanimous vote for approval, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Approved: Scott Foster, Mayor

Attest: Kay Franklin, Interim City Recorder