

Minutes of the Meeting
City Council
City of Elizabethton, Tennessee
Regular Session

May 12, 2016

The City Council of the City of Elizabethton met at City Hall on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in Regular Session.

Invocation was led by Ray Amos, First United Methodist Church and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mayor Alexander.

The following officials were present: Curt Alexander, Mayor; William E. "Bill" Carter, Mayor Pro-Tem; Robert W. Cable, Jr., Wes Frazier, Samuel B. Shipley, D. Richard Tester, and Jeffrey C. Treadway, Councilmen; Roger G. Day, City Attorney; Deborah B. Kessler, Finance Director/City Clerk and Jerome D. Kitchens, City Manager.

Minutes

Motion by Mr. Cable, Second by Mr. Frazier, that minutes of April 14, 2016 regular session be approved as distributed.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Recognition

Police Chief Greg Workman detailed an incident that involved Corporal Matt Taylor and a 2-year old choking victim. Incident reports and memos show during normal shift, Sgt. Shane Darling and Officer Taylor heard Rescue Squad being dispatched to a nearby location involving a 2-year old choking victim. Upon arrival at the scene, Officer Taylor took the child and administered back blows until the food lodged in the victims throat was out. After this action, the child began coughing, crying and acting normal again. Due to the quick actions and use of his training, Officer Taylor quite possibly saved this child's life.

Mayor Alexander recognized Corporal Matt Taylor for his actions on March 28th, 2016, and presented him with the Lifesaving Award.

Corporal Taylor accepted the Lifesaving Award and thanked Mayor Alexander for the award.

Citizens Comments
Al Aaron, 511 Sycamore Gardens, spoke in reference to the Boys and Girls Club organization and stated that his father-in-law, Gordon Welch, Sr., started it from scratch in the kitchen of the home he currently lives in. He presented a "scrap book" with memories of the organization and has asked about having a memorial for Mr. Welch placed at the Club.

Mr. Aaron also spoke in reference to his tennis experience and the free tennis lessons he provided at the high school for years and that his mentoring of these kids helped them to receive scholarships and achieve long term goals. He suggested that there is a need for the kids to have a skate park due to the skateboarders having trouble with the merchants and stated that two tennis courts on Cat Island are not used and would be a good place for a skate park. Mr. Aaron has asked for financial help from an un-named source that shows interest and has asked about seeing designs. He stated that he has also talked with Officer Little and others at the Carter County Sheriff's Department about mentoring these kids and they were receptive.

Communications, Reports & Special Events by City Manager
City Manager Kitchens presented monthly departmental reports for review and special events for approval:

- Local option sales tax report from the Tennessee Department of Revenue for the month of March 2016 and local option sales tax graphs for the month of April 2016
- Police, Fire, Streets and Sanitation, Code Enforcement, Building Department Project Valuation & Fee Report, Electric, Water & Wastewater, and Parks & Recreation and Library monthly department reports for the month of April 2016

- Litigation Tax Return for April 2016

- Watauga River Regional Water Authority Board of Directors meeting agenda for the month of April 2016

Mr. Treadway asked questions to the different department heads about their reports and with their answers, he commented on the good job that was being done.

Agenda Amendment

Mayor Alexander asked for a motion and second to approve an amendment to the agenda to add a special event request by Cannon's Furniture to hold a Tent Sale in the parking lot behind the store.

Motion by Mr. Treadway, Second by Mr. Shipley, approving the amendment to the agenda to add the request by Cannon's Furniture, be passed.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Cannon's Furniture Tent Sale

City Manager Kitchens presented a special event request for consideration and action on behalf of request by Cannon's Furniture to hold a Tent Sale in the parking lot behind the store. This will be the 2nd year for this event.

Motion by Mr. Shipley, Second by Mr. Carter, approving the Cannon's Furniture Tent Sale between May 30, 2016 and June 6, 2016, be passed.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Carter County Relay for Life Event & Glow Run 5k

City Manager Kitchens presented a special event request for consideration and action on behalf of Carter County Relay for Life to hold the 3rd Annual Glow Run 5k.

City Manager Kitchens recommended approval of the event and the requested police department assistance.

Motion by Mr. Carter, Second by Mr. Frazier, approving the Carter County Relay for Life Event & Glow Run 5k on Friday, June 24th, 2016, with the requested police department assistance, be passed.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Jiggy Ray's Bike Night

City Manager Kitchens presented a special event request for consideration and action on by Jiggy Ray's Downtown Pizzeria for closure of last block of Elk Avenue and use of the Bicentennial Walkway for live music on Monday nights throughout the summer for Smith Brother's Harley Davidson Bike Night.

City Manager Kitchens stated that there had been large crowds so far for this event and asked the representatives from Jiggy Ray's to come and talk about this request. Discussion between City Manager Kitchens, several council members and the Jiggy Ray's staff included actual time frame, weather, police presence, and other parking options. Mayor Alexander expressed his gratefulness of what Jiggy Ray's had been accomplishing for the downtown area and their willingness to keep adding new ideas.

Motion by Mr. Cable, Second by Mr. Shipley, approving the request by Jiggy Ray's to host Bike Night on Monday's from 5:45 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. until September 26th, 2016, closing the last block of Elk Avenue and use of the Bicentennial Walkway for live music.

Passed by voice vote of 6 ayes and 1 nay.

Budget Ordinance Appropriation Amendment

City Attorney Day caption read an ordinance for consideration and action on an amendment to the FY 2015/2016 budget for the General Fund.

Mayor Alexander opened the meeting for public hearing.

There being no one present wishing to speak, Mayor Alexander closed the meeting for public hearing.

Motion by Mr. Shipley, Second by Mr. Cable, approving an ordinance to amend the budget appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016 and further referenced as Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budget Appropriations Ordinance Amendment, be passed on second reading.

Roll call was unanimous and the motion carried.

East Tennessee Foundation Agreement
City Attorney Day caption read a request for consideration and action on an agreement with the East Tennessee Foundation to purchase the Bonnie Kate in the name of the City of Elizabethton.

Motion by Mr. Treadway, Second by Mr. Carter, accepting the agreement with the East Tennessee Foundation to purchase the Bonnie Kate in the name of the City of Elizabethton, be passed.

Mr. Treadway asked for City Manager Kitchens, to walk the council through this agreement. Mr. Kitchens introduced John Huber and Kris Yarett with the East Tennessee Foundation to help with any questions that council might have, as well. Mr. Kitchens explained there was an updated document given to each member and this was an agreement with the foundation to move forward, not actual purchase of the building or parking lot. That action would require a resolution and approval by council.

The Foundation cannot hold property so the \$111,000 raised will be given to the City for purchase of the building and the City will pay \$25,800 to purchase the parking lot making the entire purchase price \$137,500. Mr. Huber thinks that it will take a total of \$750,000 to get it back to an original state.

Mr. Huber has possible tenants for the front part of the building who may be ready to move in as early as August. This part of the building was updated with the restaurant/cafe that was there. Councilmembers questioned if the building would be up to code by then, who would be handling the day-to-day operations and where the money would be coming from for the updates. Mr. Kitchens explained this was an agreement that would give the Foundation at least 3 years to complete the project and significant progress ongoing during that time. It also includes the City being able to sell the property if things didn't work out so there is a way out. Mr. Huber discussed the ways the Foundation would raise money and the goal of creating a performing arts facility and music theater and restoring as much as possible back to a 1960's footprint. There have been discussions with Senator Rusty Crowe concerning some State funds being available.

Mr. Kitchens stated that there is a lot of support for the Bonnie Kate restoration project and even though this is not tied up in a red bow, this would be the best chance it would happen.

Roll call was unanimous and the motion carried.

Biennial Municipal Election
City Attorney Day caption read a resolution for consideration and action on the Regular Biennial Municipal Election to be held.

Motion by Mr. Carter, Second by Mr. Frazier, that, a resolution calling for the Regular Biennial Municipal Election of and for the City of Elizabethton, Tennessee, to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, for the purpose of electing three (3) members of the City Council, three (3) members of the Board of Education and one (1) Municipal City Judge for regular terms expiring in November, 2020, and requesting the Carter County Election Commission to do what needs to be done to see that said election is officially called and held, be passed.

Roll call was unanimous and the motion carried.

CBIZ Financial Solutions Agreement

City Attorney Day caption read a resolution for consideration and action on a consulting contract with CBIZ Financial Solutions.

Motion by Mr. Shipley, Second by Mr. Treadway, that, a resolution approving a consultant services agreement with CBIZ Benefits and Insurance Services, Inc. to provide the City of Elizabethton with GASB 45 actuarial/accounting services to determine the actuarial valuation of the City's postemployment non-pension benefits at a total contract cost of seven thousand five hundred (\$7,500.00) dollars, be passed.

Roll call was unanimous and the motion carried.

Diverse Computing, Inc. Agreement

City Attorney Day caption read a resolution for consideration and action on a software license and maintenance agreement with Diverse Computing, Inc. (DCI).

Motion by Mr. Shipley, Second by Mr. Treadway, that, a resolution authorizing the City of Elizabethton, Elizabethton Police Department, to enter into a software license and maintenance agreement with Diverse Computing, Inc. (DCI) to provide certain computer software and systems for the Elizabethton Police Department to gain access to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Tennessee Information Enforcement System (TIES) under a one (1) year contract which will automatically renew for successive one (1) year periods at a total cost for the first year of two thousand one hundred sixty dollars (\$2,160.00) and a renewal fee each year thereafter in the amount of three hundred ninety dollars (\$390.00), be passed.

Roll call was unanimous and the motion carried.

Chris Mitchell Management Consultants Agreement

City Attorney Day caption read a resolution for consideration and action on a rate consultant contract with Chris Mitchell Management Consultants (CMMC).

Motion by Mr. Shipley, Second by Mr. Cable, that, a resolution authorizing the City of Elizabethton, Elizabethton Electric Department, to enter into a service agreement with Chris Mitchell Management consultants (CMMC) to provide consulting services to the City of Elizabethton, Elizabethton Electric Department, regarding electric rates, the wholesale rate structure, cost of service and retail rates and, further, financial forecasting analysis, attending meetings and general support for a period ending June 30, 2017, at a total contract price of sixteen thousand one hundred and fifty (\$16,150.00) dollars, be passed.

Roll call was unanimous and the motion carried.

Purchases, Expenses & Bids

Purchasing Director Gerald Harrell requested approval of purchases, expenses & bids in the total amount of \$171,699.43.

Motion by Mr. Shipley, Second by Mr. Treadway, approving the following:
Purchases: (A) Fuel - \$23,601.46; Expenses: (A) Tree Trimming – EED, \$30,425.46;
Bids: (A) Office Cubicles – EED, \$69,175.01; (B) Carpet – Library, \$16,309.00; (C) Paving Twins Parking – P&R, \$32,188.50; all from the recommended sources not to exceed \$171,699.43.

Roll call was unanimous and the motion carried.

There being no other business to come before Council, Mayor Alexander declared the meeting adjourned.



City Clerk



Mayor