

Regular Meeting of the
Board of Mayor and Council
Ashland City, Tennessee 37015
June 12, 2012

The Board of Mayor and Council met in a regular session on June 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Present and presiding: Mayor Rick Johnson.

Council members present: Steve Allen, Alwilda Binkley, Lisa Walker, Jimmy Gill, Jim Yates and Chris LaCrosse.

Others present: Roy L. Smith, Jr, Michael A. Foster, Wade A. Reed, Donna Bradley, Blake Waffird, Chuck Walker, Marc Coulon, Anita Justice, Billy Harris, Dwayne Noe, Michael Armstrong, Melissa Womack, Eileen Moore, Paul R. Gupton, Tony Young, and Tim Adkins.

Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and said we would begin with a public hearing on Ordinance #394 the 12/13 budget. After the ordinance was read Mayor Johnson said the copy is on file in the clerk's office if anyone wanted to see the entire ordinance. Mayor asked the Council and public if there were any comments. There being none Mayor Johnson closed the Public Hearing and commenced with the regular meeting.

The same people at the public hearing were present for the regular meeting.

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Gill to approve the May minutes as typed. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Public Forum:

Eileen Moore came forward and said she had an issue with her water bill. Ms. Moore said the last 3-4 months her water bill has gotten higher and higher. She has spoken with the landlord and refuses to fix any leaks. Ms. Moore has had 2 plumbers come out and she has paid one of the bills from the toilet leak but the problem in the yard with the plumber saying the line was crushed by tree roots is too expensive for her to pay. She is asking the Council with help on her bills. The property is not hers and she can't afford the plumber or the bills and she is moving June 21st. After more discussion on the leak and what the plumbers and landlord said a motion was made by Allen, seconded by Yates, to adjust her bill to an average. The second and motion was withdrawn and restated that her current bill would be adjusted to an average as well as the next month's bill. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Allen-yes, Yates-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Mr. LaCrosse asked if Dwayne could keep up with this; Dwayne said when she moves he would pull the meter; that it really was a codes issue but he would pull the meter and see if the line was fixed before replacing the meter. Mr. LaCrosse said he didn't want the landlord to rent to the next one without resolving the issue.

Donna Bradley came forward also with a water bill issue. Ms. Bradley explained that she is on section 8 housing and she had the water turned on May 9th for an inspection. The Section 8 people inspected on

the 14th and said she did not have any leaks and then Ms. Bradley said she was given the key and moved in on the 1st of June. She received a bill and it was \$276.76 with no one living there. She does not know what happened but she cannot afford the bill. Ms. Schaeffer said they arrived at an average bill of \$71.38 from a previous address Ms. Bradley resided in. A motion was made by Allen, seconded by LaCrosse, to adjust the bill to an average of \$71.38. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Yates-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Old Business:

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Binkley, to approve ordinance #394 12/13 Budget on 2nd reading. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, Yates-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes. Mayor said we are all set for next year.

New Business:

Ms. Schaeffer said she had a request from an out of state 3rd party payer on 2 business's here in town due to the new deadline their bills were late. Ms. Schaeffer said since 2006 the bills have only been late 3 times. A motion was made by Binkley, seconded by LaCrosse, to waive the penalty for both businesses. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Binkley-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Yates-yes, Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-no, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Yates to approve the request to write off the uncollectible water accounts. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Yates-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes. Mr. LaCrosse stated this was down from last year. Ms. Schaeffer said yes, by \$6,239.62.

Mayor Johnson said that he and Phyllis took the time to look over all 4 of the proposals Smith Benefits has been with us since 1989 the other 3 were worth looking at. Ms. Schaeffer said one was not experienced with governmental agencies, some not up on H S A's, as close as we are to July 1st it is hard to get everything in place. A motion was made by Yates, seconded by Allen to stay with Smith Benefits (Five Points). Mayor said this is for 3 years this is a good deal. Unless in the 3 years we have a problem with them he would like an insurance committee formed over the next 3 years made up of employees and Council to look at this. Mr. Allen said they have always guided us in the best direction; that means a lot. Mr. LaCrosse said they shop it well. He has read the proposals and thinks we bring them in one at a time to interview them. Maybe the next time we could start the process in January. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Yates-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Gill-yes, LaCrosse-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Dwayne Noe said the paving bids were opened last Tuesday Four Star was lowest bid with Gibbs Brothers right behind them. Gibbs was cheaper in the paving they have done a good job for us the last 8 years without the milling Gibbs Brothers was cheaper, will have to leave it up to you. We have had a good relationship with Gibbs Brothers and have never worked with Four Star. The references he has on Four Star were good but he has not worked with them he knows what we have with Gibbs it is always a gamble to change. Mr. Allen asked Dwayne about the sealing bid for Fire Station II. Dwayne replied parking lot was cracked due to the flood and he was hoping to use some flood funds to repair. Mr. Allen said he thinks that since they have worked for us and they have helped us out in the past he would like to make a motion, seconded by LaCrosse, to award the paving bid to Gibbs Brothers. Mr. Gill asked why we were not milling all of Stratton Blvd. Mr. Noe replied that all of Stratton does not need to be milled. Maybe he will be able to mill on Caldwell and Eisenhower as well. Ms. Binkley said if we mill Stratton they will be able to pull into the driveways without any problems. Mr. Noe said they would be contoured. Ms. Walker asked if there would be anyone there to direct traffic. Mr. Noe replied they

would have a flag man. Mr. Noe was asked if the scraps could be taken to the walking track. Mr. Noe said if it needs it he can take cold mix down there tomorrow but we would be able to keep the milling. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-yes, Yates-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Other:

Mr. LaCrosse asked Tony how Summerfest was shaping up. Tony replied that it being an election year he has had a lot more phone calls and money. With the sponsorships and booths he thinks they will bring in about \$10,000 and the carnival another \$6-7,000. Mr. LaCrosse said good; the city has subsidized it in the past it sounds like it will be a good year.

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Gill to pay the bills. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Gill-yes, Yates-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes. Mayor said on page 10 of the bills the new police car is being paid for and the old car will be going to the Mayor to use. Mr. Gill asked for an update on the farmers market and the stage. Mayor advised the temporary stage has been put up with a temporary canopy on it. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Gill-yes, Yates-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Mayor said in his hand with great regret was letter from Jim Yates resigning tonight. Mayor continued to say he has done a great job. Mr. Yates was given a standing ovation Mr. Yates said it has been his pleasure. Mayor said before we get off this subject Jim did this so we can have a special election on August 2nd along with the county elections. Mr. LaCrosse asked if it will be advertised. Ms. Schaeffer replied Sandy has put it in this coming Wednesday's paper and the notice is up in City Hall. Candidates will have one week to get their petition in and qualify. Mr. LaCrosse asked if we can run a radio ad Ms. Schaeffer replied she believes Sandy is going to do that. Tim Adkins said there would also be an ad on the front page of the paper.

Mr. LaCrosse asked if Blackhawk had been installed. Mayor replied yes, twice. Billy Harris explained the 1st time it was installed it was in front of the soft start now it has been rewired, placed behind the soft start and is running smoothly.

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Gill to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Rick Johnson, Mayor

Phyllis Schaeffer, City Recorder