

Town of Ashland City
Board of Mayor and Council
Ashland City, Tennessee
October 9, 2012

The Board of Mayor and Council met in regular session on October 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Present and presiding: Mayor Johnson.

Council present: Steve Allen, Alwilda Binkley, Lisa Walker, Jimmy Gill, Chris LaCrosse, and Roger Jackson.

Others present: Marc Coulon, Michael Armstrong, Billy Harris, Dwayne Noe, Eddie Lewis (Royal Oak Apartments), Melissa Womack, Jennifer Noe, Greg Edrington, Cindy Edrington, Candye Vick, Tony Young, Paul Gupton, Tim Adkins, Carol Macha, and Mary Glasgow.

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and declared we have a quorum.

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by LaCrosse to approve September 11th minutes as typed. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Public Forum:

Mayor asked if anyone would like to approach Council with any concerns or comments. Ms. Candye Vick came forward and told Council that she was there on behalf of her father's property at 101 Walnut Street. She said a faucet was left on and resulted in a water bill over \$500.00. Ms. Vick went on to explain that the house had been vandalized by some children and that an officer had been sent out to investigate and a report had been filed. Ms. Vick asked if Council would be willing to reduce the bill. Mayor asked the amount of a normal bill. Ms. Macha answered \$18.94. Mr. LaCrosse said an adjustment to a normal bill would leave a credit on the account for a long time. Mayor asked Ms. Vick if she was in agreement to leave the credit on the account. Ms. Vick agreed to this arrangement. A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Binkley to adjust the bill to a normal average bill with a credit going forward until it plays out. Chief Coulon told Council the City could take civil action to get the City's money back from the parents. Ms. Noe agreed this could be done. A discussion ensued over the fact that the bill had been paid by ACH direct payment and that it would take approximately 60 months for the credit to play out. Mayor said if we can we will refund the overpayment. Ms. Noe said she would look into a civil lawsuit and informed Ms. Vick she would be part of it. She told Council if we get a judgment then we will have to collect. Motion passed with a roll call vote of LaCrosse-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Mr. Eddie Lewis representing Royal Oaks Apartments approached Council next. He told them in July their water bill was \$5,915.41 and in August \$3,491.29. Mr. Lewis said we had tenants that let water run constantly and after we evicted them we found the water left on. He said he was here to ask if Council could adjust these bills. Mayor advised Council that the meter was misread in June and this customer was only billed \$148.00 where a normal bill is about \$2,000.00 so they were given a break of \$1,800.00 on that billing. He said if we adjust to normal we would take the \$5,915.00 high bill deduct \$2,000.00 for a normal bill and take \$1,850.00 for the credit already given and we could forgive them the

difference of \$2,065.00. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to adjust the July bill by \$2,065.00. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Jackson-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Reports:

Mayor asked Ms. Noe if she had anything to report to Council. Ms. Noe answered everything I have is on the agenda.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Mayor advised Council that Resolution 2012-08-Downtown Revitalization Grant was brought to us by the Chamber. He explained that this resolution allows the Chamber to apply for a \$15,000.00 grant to use to update the downtown. Mayor explained we need to adopt the resolution before 11-1-12. He stated there will be a steering committee set up that will include Valarie Dier, Jennifer Noe, Ginger Jarrett, Mayor McCullough, Chris LaCrosse, and me. Ms. Noe said the City would have control over the steering committee. After additional discussion over whether the City wants to participate in the grant, if we are even eligible since we did a grant for RAC, the fact that there is no money involved in applying for this grant, and if the resolution could be deferred to the Budget Committee, Ms. Noe stated if you accept the resolution it doesn't bind you to accept the grant. She told them they could pass the resolution contingent on someone from the Chamber explaining it. A motion was made by Allen, seconded by LaCrosse to pass Resolution 2012-08 – Downtown Revitalization Grant contingent on someone from the Chamber explaining it. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Mayor said next on the agenda is Resolution 2012-07 – Water & Sewer Revenue & Tax Refunding Bond Series 2012. He said we looked at this in our last budget meeting. Mayor said on the second page of this documentation it shows an adjustable rate. Mr. LaCrosse said the net savings is based on 2.26% interest rate to be locked in for the whole term. A discussion ensued over the interest rate being fixed or variable. Mayor asked for guidance on how to proceed. Ms. Noe said that the resolution could be passed contingent on the rate not being variable. She said we may need to have a special called meeting to discuss if the rate is variable or not. After more discussion on the documentation received on this bond refunding series and the different rates mentioned in them, Mayor asked for a motion. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to pass Resolution 2012-07 – Water & Sewer Revenue & Tax Refunding Bond Series 2012 contingent upon it not being a variable rate and Ms. Noe being comfortable with the document then Council will move forward. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Jackson-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Mayor said next we have the CT-0253 Form for Capital Outlay Refunding Note series 2012. He said it needs to be stated for the record that all Council members were given a copy of this form. A motion was made by Binkley, seconded by Allen that Council is aware of Form CT-0253. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, and Mayor-yes. For the record, Mayor and Council were given copies of the letter from the State on the \$226,000 capital outlay note (Series 2012 refunding note) and the letter from the State on the 2012 B Bonds refunding note that is not to exceed \$2,810,500.

Mayor said the Mid-Cumberland Community Action Agency Agreement is an agreement with Mid-Cumberland where they will pay water bills for utility customers that need assistance. Ms. Noe stated she reviewed the agreement and it is fine. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to accept

the Mid-Cumberland Action Agency Agreement. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Jackson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Mayor told Council it is time to renew our Blackhawk Bank Agreement. He said this is our agreement with Blackhawk Bank for our health savings accounts. Mayor said Tina Hoke with Pinnacle Bank brought in a proposal today for our consideration to bring the health savings accounts back to a local bank. He referred Council to her proposal that addressed problems our employees are experiencing with Blackhawk and the benefits Pinnacle can provide. Mr. Gill said he is interested in doing business with a local bank. Mayor said we need to make a decision on the Blackhawk agreement by 10/31/12. He said I have asked Jennifer to review the agreement and will have Pinnacle provide a contract. Mayor said I would like to accept a local bank if their contract is equal to or better than Blackhawk's. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to accept the Blackhawk Bank Agreement pending review by attorney which will determine who handles our HSA. Ms. Noe reminded Council that this is a contract and will need to come back before them for a vote. She said since it is a time sensitive issue a special called Council meeting would be needed. Ms. Noe said we need to hear from Phyllis on the Blackhawk agreement and we need a contract from Pinnacle. Mr. LaCrosse said we need to meet again on this, the downtown project, and resolution 2012-07. Mayor asked when can we meet. After additional discussion, Mr. Gill withdrew his motion and Mr. Allen withdrew his second so that this could be discussed at a special called meeting. The consensus was to defer the Blackhawk agreement and resolutions 2012-07 and 2012-08 to a special called council meeting Monday, October 22, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor asked Chief Walker to give a recap on the bid on the fire rescue boat. Chief Walker told them the boat is being purchased through a \$200,000.00 reimbursable grant from FEMA. He said the company has asked for \$50,000.00 down to be paid \$25,000.00 when ordering and \$25,000.00 in January. Chief said the rest will be due when the boat is delivered. Chief Walker said the company's name is Emergency Management out of Wisconsin. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by LaCrosse to accept the bid. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Jackson-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes. Mr. LaCrosse asked would we have to have a budget amendment for the payments. Chief Walker said payment on purchases with other grants are done out of a line item. Ms. Macha said the purchase order is done out of the system from the general fund then it is reimbursed to the grant number. Chief Walker said I have the signed contract by Mayor Dean and will review it one more time before Mayor signs it.

Mayor asked Chief Coulon to address the GHSO grant – police department. Chief Coulon said this is a grant for \$20,000.00 and I need your authorization to spend the money once the contract has been looked at by the city attorney. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to approve the GHSO grant. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, Jackson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, and Mayor.

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, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Jackson-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by LaCrosse to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

