

Town of Ashland City  
Board of Mayor and Council  
October 14, 2014

The Board of Mayor and Council met in regular session on October 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Present and presiding: Mayor Rick Johnson.

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

Others present: Raymond Barnes, Eddie Lewis, Royal Oak Apts, Billy Harris, Michael Armstrong, Paul R. Gupton, ?, Sammy Hale, Hillcrest, Susanna Warren, Marcella Bryant, Hillcrest, Tony Young, Brandi Ghergia, Melissa Womack, Dwayne Noe, Chuck Walker, Tim Adkins, Shatoya Cartwright, Gordon Mockridge, Wade A. Reed, Mary Glasgow and Phyllis Schaeffer.

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order and began with the public hearing on Ordinance #421 – budget amendment. Mayor advised there were copies available to the public if anyone wanted to look at it. Mayor asked if there were any comments. There being none the Mayor closed the public hearing and commenced with the regular meeting. All those present for the public hearing were in attendance for the regular meeting.

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

Public Forum:

Mayor asked anyone that had business with the Council to come forward.

Eddie Lewis came forward as the manager of Royal Oak Apartments saying that the water bill was \$2,000 higher than normal. He found that toilets were left running. Mayor asked Mr. Lewis to fill out an affidavit. Mayor advised Council that an average bill was \$1,894.04. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to adjust to an average bill. Mr. LaCrosse said we do this as a relief for hardship this is a big deal for us; we don't mind helping if help is needed can you write something into the contract. Mr. Lewis said that the owner in California is making an addendum to the agreement if the tenant knows something is running and does not advise that they would be responsible for the bill. Mr. LaCrosse asked Mr. Lewis when he received this addendum to bring a copy of it to City Hall. Mr. LaCrosse said he would like to amend the motion to include the addendum. A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Binkley to add an amendment to the original motion. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, Jackson-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes. The original motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Jackson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Susanna Warren came forward and said she was present on behalf of Gary Lee regarding his water bill. Ms. Warren said a pipe had burst underground and has been repaired. They had two high bills. Mayor said they had a signed affidavit. A normal bill is 113.03. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to adjust to an average bill. Second and motion were withdrawn and re-stated by Gill and Allen, to adjust both bills to an average bill. Mr. Gill asked if the leak had been fixed. Ms. Warren said yes. Motion

passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Jackson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Mayor Johnson said we have Brandi here tonight; the new Chamber director. Would you like to come up and introduce yourself? Ms. Brandi Ghergia approached and said she would like to thank the city for the decorations on Main St. Ms. Ghergia said she would like the Council to know they would be recruiting for Tennessee Promise for seniors if there was a scholarship. They need 50 mentors and right now she has 29 mentors. Mayor asked how much time this would entail. Ms. Ghergia replied 12-15 hours a year keeping them on target with guidelines for turning in paperwork and through their 1<sup>st</sup> year in college. The deadline is November 1<sup>st</sup> anyone that would like to mentor please come see Ms. Ghergia. Mayor Johnson said he appreciates the events committee including Alwilda and Lisa, and the volunteers who decorated. Melissa listed all the volunteers. Mayor added that Josh donated the pumpkins. Ms. Womack said Johnny Borum donated the corn stalks.

Mayor asked if there was anyone else that wanted to speak with the Council.

Attorney:

Ms. Noe advised she had a couple of things that fall under attorney- client privilege. Mayor asked if those present from Hillcrest would like to address Council then they would recess for the attorney meeting.

Ms. Vicki Harthway from Hillcrest said they are in a situation and need to replace their sprinkler system she discovered that they didn't have accurate water pressure to work the sprinkler system. Through her research she found that originally Hillcrest purchased a water tower specifically for Hillcrest that was placed at the end of Valley View St. and then donated it to the city and the city was to maintain the tank. Later a new tank was put in by the city but the height of the tank does not give them correct water pressure for the sprinkler system. They are asking for help with the water pump to increase their water pressure. They have found out that they can put the pump in the kitchen area without having to house the structure which will reduce the cost. That is their request. Mayor asked Chief Walker if he had gotten another quote. Chief replied they are still working on it. Ms. Harthway said they had sent a letter to Chris Cherry in 2004 in regards to the water pressure in general and they had to put in a booster pump to boost the existing pressure; but their concern is for water pressure for fire protection. Mr. LaCrosse asked when Hillcrest was built. Ms. Harthway replied in 92 or 93. Mr. LaCrosse asked when the tank was installed. Mr. Noe replied 2004. Mr. Allen asked if there was an even flow. Mr. Noe replied yes, the flow was even it is not enough pressure.

Mayor Johnson thanked Ms. Harthway and said now was a good time for Council to recess and meet with Ms. Noe.

The Meeting reconvened at 7:17 p.m.

Mayor Johnson advised that the attorney needed more investigating done this would be a top priority as they understand Hillcrest needs an answer and time is of the essence. They would call a special called meeting if they had to. Ms. Harthway said they had a little time they have submitted paper work to the state for their permits.

Mayor advised Council that a citizen had come in regarding a water bill. Mr. Mockridge said he is here tonight for Alex Evans they had a leak between the shop and house. He has fixed the problem and explained that he had dug the line and found two valves and turned the valve off to the shop. Also, Mr. Mockridge advised that the shop is now closed down so there would not be any more water going to the shop. Mr. Gill asked Mr. Mockridge to tag the valve so anyone else going up there would not turn the

valve on and would let them know it was leaking. A motion was made by Allen, seconded by Gill to adjust the high bill to an average. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Allen-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.

#### Old business:

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Gill to approve Ordinance 421- amended budget on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Mayor advised there would be no action on the Health Cost Solution contract our attorney will be in touch with them. At this time the Health Cost Solution contract has been deferred.

#### New Business:

Chief Walker said they had received the Governor's Highway Safety grant for car seats. This would pay for advertising and they purchased a canopy to continue with checkpoints when it was raining. This is a no match grant. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to approve this grant. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Jackson-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Ms. Schaeffer said she had received a letter from the Comptroller's office that was ensure the Council was aware of depreciation in the enterprise fund that the Council had to make sure there was long term sustainability in the enterprise fund. This letter will be attached to these minutes. Mr. LaCrosse said he also wanted the minutes to reflect an email from Ms. Schaeffer to the Comptroller's office reflected in its entirety in the minutes for contemporaneous reasons. Mr. LaCrosse read the email. Mr. LaCrosse said the Council is aware.

Chief Coulon said the Ricoh contract is their renewal on the copier. Ms. Noe said she looked it over and it was fine. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Jackson to approve the copier contract. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Gill to pay the bills. Ms. Binkley said before the vote she wanted to ask Mr. LaCrosse if he could move money that the events committee needs a line item for money for expenditures. Mr. LaCrosse replied there are wants and needs but that would be up to the budget committee. Mayor Johnson replied that they probably overfunded the capital improvements in water/streets and can move it from one to the other. Ms. Binkley said Melissa has spent some money already on ribbons and Ms. Womack said they would need money for Christmas.

Mr. Jackson asked about our pump and clarifier as the odor is bad. Mr. Harris explained; and said right now they were making more sewer that normal. Mayor Johnson said we need to pay the bills.

Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Jackson-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Allen to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

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Rick Johnson, Mayor

Phyllis Schaeffer, City Recorder