

**REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE
COUNTY OF BERRIEN
APRIL 11, 2016
6:00 P.M.**

INVOCATION: Bryan Shaw

PLEDGE: Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Michael Richbourg

WELCOME: Mayor Michael Richbourg

ROLL CALL: Members of the City Council present included Mayor Michael Richbourg, Aldermen Billy Retterbush, Scott Stalnaker, Eric Gaither, Walt Steward and Alderwoman Mellisa W. Brown.

STAFF PRESENT: Mandy Luke, Jackie Jordan, Jill Wise, Chief Edwards, John Reynolds, Peter Schultz, Buck Warren and Mitchell Moore.

OTHERS PRESENT: Paran Davis, Bryan Shaw, Kyle Pearson, Jerry Sutton, Ron Hamby

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING – Scott Stalnaker made the motion to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting. Mellisa Brown seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA – Eric Gaither made the motion to adopt the formal agenda with the addition of two items: Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia (MGAG) Voting Delegate by Scott Stalnaker and Vehicle Request for Nashville Fire Department (NFD) by Scott Stalnaker. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **SPLOST Resolution – Mandy Luke** – Mitchell and Mandy explained some items that were to have been included in the SPLOST Resolution that was left out. Therefore, the Council needs to ratify what was intended to be included initially. Billy Retterbush made a motion to approve the ratification

of the SPLOST Resolution. Walt Steward seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. **Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia (MGAG) Voting Delegate – Scott Stalnaker** – Scott explained the need to amend the voting delegate since Travis Harper is no longer with the City. Eric Gaither made a motion to leave Peter Schultz as the City’s voting delegate on the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia’s Election Committee and replace the previous Mayor, Travis Harper, with the current Mayor, Michael Richbourg, as the alternate voting delegate. Walt Steward seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
3. **Vehicle Request for Nashville Fire Department (NFD) – Scott Stalnaker** – Scott explained the problems with the vehicle Fire Chief Buck Warren drives to and from the fire scenes and how detriment it is to the Fire Department. He said he had spoken with local dealers to get prices for a replacement. They also discussed it needs to be a gas burning, 250 series with big brakes, heavy duty with weight capacity to hold the fire unit and emergency equipment, regular cab, long wheel base. Billy Retterbush mentioned asking the County to help since it responds to County calls as well and they also discussed how the City and County currently split expenses. Billy Retterbush made a motion to approve purchase of a vehicle for the NFD, up to \$29,000. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

4. **City Manager’s/Finance Director’s Report** – Mandy updated the Council on the online auction stating the amount dropped since the last update to \$30,195 due to some purchases that defaulted. She also passed information to the Council with the bank balances as of March 31st.
5. **City Attorney’s Report** – Mitchell explained he had received something from Mandy on the underground storage tank referring to location at McPherson and Dennis which needs to be researched further to determine exactly which tanks the sketch is referring to. Fire Chief Buck Warren indicated it is referring to a piece of property the City owned where the

doctor's office is but it was just a fire station and never had pumps or tanks. Mayor Richbourg asked where the letter originated from. Mandy said it was from Environmental Protection Division (EPD) and that Enviro Pro said EPD had contacted them about monitoring and samples. Mitchell stated there is no file on it because it is not one we have been monitoring. Mitchell also mentioned he is still working on the Urban Development renewal.

6. **Department Head's** – Peter stated they turned the gas on to DPP (Dupont Pine Products) in Alapaha today.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bryan Shaw asked the status of the situation with the pool across from his residence. Mayor Richbourg gave him an update explaining the City, Code Enforcement and Police Department are taking all the necessary legal steps and doing all that can be done at this time.

Bryan Shaw explained the address for Wiregrass was originally Marion Avenue but is now Bartow Street. He said they want to change the address on the sign and move it to the entrance of the parking area close to the road. He explained the Historical Preservation Commission needs to know where the right of way ends for the City street so they can determine where the sign can be placed. Peter Schultz said he would get the information and let him know.

Bryan Shaw asked about the sidewalk project at the courthouse stating there was a section they had them to leave in order to place about a dozen of the original 1914 tiles. Mayor Richbourg and Alderman Scott Stalnaker explained if there was no change order done in writing, they may not do it but the City would make sure it is done if they do not take care of it.

Jerry Sutton, of 904 Zimmerman Street, addressed the Council concerning a series of break in's in his neighborhood. He said he had spoken with the Chief and knows the Police Department is doing all they can. He said it is his understanding it is a group of six (6) kids aged fourteen (14) to fifteen (15) years old along with a twenty-two (22) year old mentally challenged individual and among the items reported stolen are several firearms. He said his biggest concern about these kids running around with firearms breaking into people's property at night is one of them or a citizen getting shot and the juvenile judicial system cannot seem to do anything about it. Mayor Richbourg explained everyone understands his frustration

and concern but unfortunately the City Council has no control over the juvenile judicial system.

Ron Hamby, of 802 Zimmerman Street, added to Mr. Sutton's complaints in their neighborhood, that the door to his residence along with a nearby neighbor had been found open where someone had used a screw driver to get it open. Mayor Richbourg and the Council encouraged them to call 911 or the police every time something was done no matter how small.

Chief Edwards updated everyone, although who could not go into all the details due to it being an ongoing investigation, that they have an adult mail in custody of which they have obtained a full confession of the robberies of the last three (3) months on Zimmerman Street, Taylor Street and others. He further explained there are others involved, more arrests are forthcoming and they are diligently working on recovering the firearms and other items. They also discussed a city ordinance curfew of midnight for minors. The Chief advised that citizens call 911 if they see minors out after midnight or if they see anyone who looks suspicious at any time.

Alderman Scott Stalnaker made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Alderman Eric Gaither and the motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:45 P.M. – 6:50 P.M.

RESUME REGULAR MEETING

At 6:50 p.m. a motion was made by Scott Stalnaker to come out of Executive Session. Eric Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mellisa Watson reminded the Council that business after hours will be held at her pool store on Thursday, April 14th, from 5:30-6:30.

Walt Steward brought up the parking situation on Jefferson Street in conjunction with the auction due to safety issues if fire trucks or ambulances need to get through that area and does not understand why the ordinance is not being enforced. Mayor Richbourg explained there have been several people contacted and who have discussed this. He further explained we do not want to do anything to discourage people from attending any function downtown, as a matter of fact we

encourage business as best we can, but the ordinances do need to be enforced regardless of what or where it is. This is a state road and Mellisa Watson mentioned they were having a problem with people parking in front of her business which is a state road. She further explained they contacted the State and the State put no parking signs there. There was further discussion and the Council decided someone needs to speak with the Department of Transportation (DOT) to get further information on it and to see if they can put signs up. Mayor Richbourg asked Mandy Luke to ask the Chief of Police to put cones out the next time they have an auction.

Mandy Luke asked the Mayor to address the issue if any Council member sees they will not be able to attend a meeting to let Mandy or Jackie know ahead of time to assure there is a full quorum before the meeting begins.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Scott Stalnaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Walt Steward seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Michael Richbourg

Alderman Eric Gaither

Alderwoman Mellisa W. Brown

Alderman Antonio Carter

Alderman Billy Retterbush

Alderman Scott Stalnaker

Alderman Walter Steward

ATTEST:

Jackie Jordan, City Clerk