

**REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN  
AUGUST 8, 2016  
6:00 P.M.**

**INVOCATION:** Mitchell Moore

**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, John Reynolds, Peter Schultz, Chief Edwards, Jared Crosby, Lance Farris, Lance Phillips and Mitchell Moore.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Keith Stone, Margaret Price and Gerald Miller, Bob and Jo Lovein, Kyle Pearson, Scotty Hogan.

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS –** Billy Retterbush made the motion to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA –** Eric Gaither made the motion to adopt the formal agenda. Mellisa W. Brown seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Introduction of New Police Officers – Chief Edwards** – Chief Edwards introduced the three (3) newest members of the Police Department: Jared Crosby, Lance Farris and Lance Phillips.
2. **Beer and Wine Application for Nilay A. Patel dba SUCHI, LLC – Mayor Richbourg** – Mayor Richbourg presented the beer and wine

application for the business known as Pap's Store. Scott Stalnaker made a motion to approve the application. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

3. **Street Sweeper – Mayor Richbourg** – Mayor Richbourg asked if any bids had been obtained for a street sweeper. Peter Schultz said he received one bid from Elgin and talked to Tymco again today who is supposed to send one tomorrow so there will only be two (2). The Mayor also asked if there was grant money available for it. Peter said he spoke with Tonia Hendricks with RDC and she is looking for a grant pertaining to storm water and gutters. The Mayor said he would also speak with Kim Hobbs with RDC. He also asked where the nearest was located and Peter said Atlanta. Mellisa W. Brown made a motion for CM Mandy Luke to approve the lowest bid subject to any grant money that may be available or SPLOST or general fund money. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Scott Stalnaker mentioned he would like Mandy or Peter to check to see if we could contract street sweeping with someone in the interim due to the events lined up around town.
  
4. **Slum and Blight Policy – Mayor Richbourg** – Mayor Richbourg brought up the issue of abandoned properties or those in violation of code. He said we need a true slum and blight policy and asked Mandy to get with Adel, Tifton, Valdosta or other surrounding municipalities to get a sample of their policies. He asked about the status of some of the properties in question and Mandy and Mitchell confirmed it is a lengthy process and Henry Yawn had been working on these. Mitchell said we actually do have a slum and blight policy and nuisance order in place along with zones that have been identified as slum and blight areas and briefly discussed the process. The Mayor discussed properties with liens stating it seems to stop the process and asked about the tax commissioner placing some for auction due to tax liens. The Mayor said we seem to always hit a stopping point and mentioned asking the RDC to come in to advise the City how best to handle these situations. Mitchell explained if lenders are involved, notice has to be given to start the process and then there could be other repercussions which we would need to be prepared to deal with. Walt Steward asked if it would be possible to have Mr. Yawn create a spreadsheet that lists the properties along with what steps have been taken, whether there are liens, what liens and the current status. Mellisa Brown and Billy Retterbush stated that Mr. Yawn has made efforts, along with the Paul Stagner who previously worked in Code Enforcement, and they said they tried to speak with the lenders and the lenders would not

speak with them. The Mayor said there are plenty of them that probably do not have a lien. He also mentioned the Perkins Subdivision property asking where we stand on it. Mandy said Mitchell and John Hunkele were discussing the details to put it out for bid solicitation. Mitchell said he wanted to make sure the bid solicitation is detailed enough to know what they have to provide. Scott Stalnaker said a right of refusal needs to be included as well which Mr. Moore agreed with. Back to the slum and blight subject, Mr. Moore explained the isolated properties need to be dealt with on an isolated, prioritized basis. Mayor Richbourg asked the Chief if he could have the officers make note of addresses as they come across them when they are out on patrol. Mr. Moore mentioned they might also note other activities that may be going on to better prioritize these addresses as well. Mrs. Luke mentioned the person(s) driving the limb truck could help with that as well.

## **REPORTS**

5. **City Manager's/Finance Director's Report** – Mrs. Luke said Scott Stalnaker has been helping with the tennis courts and has requested information from two (2) companies. She said she wanted to make sure we got all the information we need when we put it out for bid and it is on the agenda for the next school board meeting. Scott said he talked with Mr. Ford and Mr. Powell, who are on the school board. He said he also spoke with Talbot Tennis out of Gainesville along with a couple of other companies, of which one is supposed to be here toward the end of the week, to get some figures to present to the school board hoping to get it before the next meeting. Mayor Richbourg mentioned asking the County to help. Billy Retterbush said he will approach the County about it. The Mayor asked about the audit report. Mandy said they have just finished the audit and are working to get the copies put together. She said she has emailed a copy to the state along with the necessary lenders. She also said he will be here to present it after they get the copies together and since they can't file another extension, they will be back around October or November to start the next one for FY 2016.
  
6. **City Attorney's Report** – Mitchell Moore said he got the plats from Wes Hand on the WINFAB project and is working on the legals on the easements for the sewer line, etc. He also mentioned the REDLG stating we have not heard back from the local lenders so Mandy sent a follow up letter to them asking for a response by Friday, the 12<sup>th</sup>, and stated we want to stay local but

if we are not able to, we need to explore other options. Mitchell said he would like to follow up with an inquiry as well contacting each local bank regarding the letter of credit. He explained the letter of credit stands good for the annual renewal, is for ten (10) years and is reduced annually to the outstanding balance. He said Mrs. Hendricks has been in touch with Milton Cochran requesting the EDA concurrence for the final disbursement and payout for the EDA portion of the loan because we need those final numbers to determine the amount needed for the REDLG letter of credit.

7. **Department Head's** – Jill Wise reminded everyone the opening of the Smithsonian Exhibit is August 13<sup>th</sup> at the Nashville Community Center and the exhibit is at the old Courthouse. She said the closing is September 24<sup>th</sup> and the Harvest Festival is also September 24<sup>th</sup> with a Lip Sync battle on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Scotty Hogan stated he lives in the County but has a rental house on Diane Street and his mother lives on Diane Street as well. He explained the overgrowth in and around the pond behind Cypress Wood Apartments across the street from them is causing a problem with snakes stating several moccasins had been killed nearby and there were beavers and otters as well. He asked the Mayor and Council if something could be done about this problem along with a fence enclosing the entire pond and some of the tenants and questionable activity that appears to be taking place there. The Mayor said we would find out who owns it and ask Mr. Yawn to check on any violations of code that may exist.

Margaret Price Miller asked the Mayor if he had spoken with anyone regarding questions from a Council meeting last month in connection to activity at the former Blue Club. The Mayor said he was told he could not talk to the Judge due to legal reasons but would attempt to speak with the Solicitor.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Scott Stalnaker extended his appreciation to the Chief and the Police Department for the efforts with the back to school traffic.

Billy Retterbush asked Mitchell about the progress with TTL Associates concerning the drum samples and Mitchell said the samples have been sent off.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Scott Stalnaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

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Mayor Michael Richbourg

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Alderman Eric Gaither

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Alderwoman Mellisa W. Brown

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Alderman Antonio Carter

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Alderman Billy Retterbush

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Alderman Scott Stalnaker

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Alderman Walter Steward

**ATTEST:**

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Jackie Jordan, City Clerk