

**REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE
COUNTY OF BERRIEN
SEPTEMBER 12, 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, Antonio Carter and Alderwoman Mellisa W. Brown.

STAFF PRESENT: Mandy Luke, Jackie Jordan, Jill Wise, Peter Schultz, Chief Edwards, Timmy Jernigan, Fred Busbin, John Carter, Richard Varn, Larry Marshal, Anthony Hughes and Mitchell Moore.

OTHERS PRESENT: Angie Jernigan, Margie Tygart, Cleon Knight, Evelyn Vinson, Lurena Collier, Hayward Collier.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. **“Pin-On Ceremony” – Officer Promotion/Timmy Jernigan – Chief Edwards** – Chief Edwards asked Timmy Jernigan to the front of the room. He gave the following speech, “There are two times a badge is presented to a peace officer. The first is usually upon appointment or graduation of the police academy and the second is upon promotion. For Timothy Raymond Jernigan, known by most everyone around Nashville simply as “Timmy,”

the road to this promotion started a long time ago. In fact, Timmy's first badge was a star, which he pinned on almost 33 years ago, when he started as a deputy with the Berrien County Sheriff's Office, November 1983. In 2004, he traded his star for a shield when he joined NPD full time. But whether in the shape of a star or a shield, the badge is a tangible symbol of authority. And as that authority increases with rank, so does responsibility. With this increased responsibility also comes increased personal sacrifice. Sacrifice not only by the officers but by their families as well. The "pin-on" ceremony, all be it brief and simple, is steeped in tradition and is an exciting and prideful moment, not just for the officers but also their loved ones. And so we invite loved ones to participate in the ceremony, not only to celebrate the promotion, but also to show that they too accept the officers increased responsibility and their own sacrifice to support it. Chief Edwards proceeded to take Timmy's old badge presenting him with the new badge representing the promotion from Sergeant to Lieutenant. The new badge was pinned-on by his wife, Angie Jernigan. As the attending officers left the room, Scott Stalnaker thanked them for a job well done especially during the recent storm along with all the City employees especially Peter Schultz and the street department.

2. **Amended and Restated Gas Supply Contract – Mandy Luke** – Mandy explained receipt of an amended and restated gas supply contract from Municipal Gas which describes eleven (11) changes. Ten (10) of the changes were designed to limit the membership's exposure to a dispute by an individual member. The eleventh (11th) change simply provided for an extension of the term to coincide with current and future long term supply of pre-payments. Scott Stalnaker made a motion to adopt the Resolution and give the Mayor authorization to sign the contract. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
3. **Resolution – Tymco Street Sweeper – Mitchell Moore** – Mitchell stated in connection with the purchase of the street sweeper which was discussed and passed in the meeting of August 8th. The documents have to have certain language to comply with Georgia law. Mitchell has a Resolution referenced in a legal opinion he must provide. Eric Gaither made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Mellisa W. Brown seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
4. **Rehiring State Prison Work Detail – Mayor Richbourg** – Mayor Richbourg said we have had trouble keeping the streets, neighborhoods,

parcs, right of ways, around the square, etc. clean and in years past, we did away with state prison work detail and he would like permission to authorize and ask Mrs. Luke to investigate the costs in doing this. Scott Stalnaker said he is in favor of it but would rather the City stick with Patten Detention Center in Lakeland. He explained when inmates are pulled from the jail, you are responsible for medical, etc. but with Patten, they take care of that responsibility and liability along with the fact that those inmates are not as hard core criminals as compared to those out of Valdosta. He also said he is still in favor of the City Judge getting community service workers to help. Antonio Carter asked about the cemeteries and Scott Stalnaker said they do not go into the cemeteries. Antonio Carter made a motion for Mandy Luke to investigate this. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

5. **City Manager's/Finance Director's Report** – Mrs. Luke said she spoke with our auditor, Mike Sirmans, and he would like to come to the first meeting in October to deliver the FY 2015 Audit Report. She also said if it can be advertised as it is supposed to be, it is again time to adopt the millage rate. She is proposing staying with 8 mills as it was budgeted and looking at adopting the millage rate September 26, 2016 so the bills can go out by October 20, 2016. Mayor Richbourg asked if everything is still in motion concerning the electronic read meters with the engineers and Mrs. Luke said the engineers were getting with John about more precise numbers for the meters. Billy Retterbush asked if the drums had been picked up and Mitchell said they were to be picked up on September 14, 2016 at 10:00.
6. **City Attorney's Report** – Mitchell Moore said he has sent a blight and derelict, two-prong, ordinance to Henry Yawn for review and that Mrs. Luke had forwarded him some statutes from other jurisdictions. The one he has proposes for a community tax incentive increase on properties designated as blight and a tax reduction or rollback once the properties are taken off the blight list and it is the one recommended by GMA (Georgia Municipal Association). Mitchell said there is another version without the tax increase incentive but the Mayor and Council said they preferred the one with the tax increase incentive. Mayor Richbourg asked Evelyn Vinson, whom he invited to this meeting and lives next to the residence on Honeybee that has been in question, how long the residence has been falling down and she said about

ten (10) years. Mitchell said the SPLOST IGA (Inter-Governmental Agreement) has been signed after he revised it to say the savings as a result of the refinancing by the County, the City's portion of that would be directed toward development of this industrial park. Mitchell said Adel has sent back what had to be sent back on the REDLG loan and they are drafting the loan documents. He also said we are trying to get approval of the letter of credit in connection with it although we have a proposal that is better than anything else we have had and we are trying to get a final version of the letter of credit to send in. Mitchell said concerning the WinFab project, one easement had to be tweaked and one has already been signed by Southern States.

7. **Department Head's** – Jill Wise reminded everyone of the Lip Sync battle on Friday, September 23rd and the Harvest Festival on September 24th around the square downtown. She also reminded everyone to help out with keeping the City clean by picking up trash as they see it and use some of the new receptacles that have been placed around the square. Chief Edwards said the list of blight property that was requested has been completed and given to Mr. Henry Yawn.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lurena Collier of 201 Mitchell Street asked the Council about her account that was discussed previously. Mayor Richbourg said he spoke with Mrs. Luke and April. She said she had already paid the bill but wanted a refund on what she thinks was an overcharge. It was explained that she was not overcharged but there was an error where it was not read one month. The Mayor and Council voted to give a refund of part of the charges. The motion was made by Billy Retterbush for the refund. Eric Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Margie Tygart mentioned Westview Cemetery stating the entrance could use some work but it did look very nice at a recent funeral she attended. She also asked about water at Memorial Gardens Cemetery saying it could use some new landscaping but there is no water available.

Evelyn Vinson mentioned the St. James Cemetery and said it needed more cleaning up.

Cleon Knight said he live nears Westview Cemetery and he thinks the City does a great job keeping them up. He also said he thought the police department was doing a good job patrolling Dogwood as there is still a school located on Dogwood. He also mentioned to Jill Wise that it would be a good idea to advertise and post on social media reminding people that trash and furniture placed on the

curb is not going to be picked up. He also suggested having a good stature as to what constitutes blighted property.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Walt Steward asked how it works pertaining to street lights as to what the City pays. Scott Stalnaker said the City pays approximately \$8.00 per light. The Mayor mentioned Georgia Power is currently changing them to LED lights. Billy Retterbush asked if that is the same for Colquitt EMC because his neighborhood has a combination of both and asked if we could write Colquitt EMC a letter about it.

Mayor Richbourg read a letter dated September 6th he received from Governor Nathan Deal stating the City has been selected to receive a commitment of a CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) for \$500,000 for the multi infrastructure improvement proposed by your community and is conditional upon the State receiving the property executed grant award package that will be distributed at the DCA fall conference on October 6th and 7th. He said this will be for streets, drainage, water and sewer. He said the City had previously received \$500,000 for the WinFab project. Mayor Richbourg explained this is Federal grant money of which there was a total of \$37.7 million in 2016 of which only seventy-four (74) communities received money with Nashville and Berrien County receiving a total of \$1.5 million. Mayor Richbourg extended his thanks to the Governor, Department of Community Affairs, Penny Houston and South Georgia Regional Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Scott Stalnaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 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