

**REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE
COUNTY OF BERRIEN
APRIL 23, 2012
6:00 P.M.**

INVOCATION: Mayor Travis Harper

PLEDGE: Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Travis Harper

WELCOME: Mayor Travis Harper

ROLL CALL: Members of the City Council present included Aldermen Eric Gaither, Scott Stalnaker, Michael Richbourg, Billy Retterbush, Antonio Carter, Dick Perryman, and Mayor Travis Harper.

STAFF PRESENT: Tina Ward, Mandy Luke, Randy Lane, Henry Yawn, Tommy Davis, Peter Schultz, Chief Clayton, April Copeland, and City Attorney Mitchell Moore.

OTHERS PRESENT: Randall Milton, John Black, Frank Watts, Allen Davis, Peter and Donna Meyers, Cheryl Bonham, and Margie Tygart.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: City Attorney Mitchell Moore wanted to make a correction on the minutes. Under the Attorney's Report the word should be Quit Claim Deed not Quick Claim Deed. Alderman Richbourg made the motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting with the change. Alderman Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTIONS OF FORMAL AGENDA- Mayor Harper asked the group to add as item number one, utility billing extensions. Also move item number one to item number four. Alderman Richbourg made the motion to adopt the formal agenda with the changes. The motion was seconded by Alderman Stalnaker and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Utility Bill Extensions- Randy Lane told the group he would like for the Council to reconsider the amount of extensions and the price for each any customer can receive throughout the year. A few years ago the Council increased the number of extensions and reduced the cost for the extensions. Due to the increased problems and hours spent on extensions, the Utility Billing Clerk, April Copeland has urged the Council to rethink this decision. April Copeland told the group the total amount of extensions each month has more than doubled since the Council's decision to allow eight extensions per year. And because of the price decrease from \$25.00 to \$7.50 the extensions are being abused. April suggested the Council increase the cost for extensions and decrease the amount of extensions a person can receive each year. Randy Lane pointed out no other Municipality allows extensions except under extreme circumstances such as a death. Alderman Richbourg made the motion to decrease the amount of extensions to five a year and increase the cost per extension to \$15.00. He added the change must be advertised in the local paper for at least two weeks. Alderman Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. A One Way Street by the Post Office- Mayor Harper made a second attempt to one way the street by the Post Office. The one way street will start at Bartow and run down McPherson to McKinley. The Council discussed this idea during the August 24th, 2011 work session. The idea was advertised in the local paper on September 22nd, 2011, and brought to a vote on September 26th, 2011. The motion died due to lack of a second. The group had some discussion about the one way street and the restriping of the parking area beside the Post Office. Alderman Perryman made the motion to one way the street beside the Post Office from Bartow to McKinley. Alderman Stalnaker seconded the motion and added the decision for the one way is on a six month trial basis. The motion did not carry, after the roll call vote of four to two the motion failed.

3. Nashville Royalty Agreement from Deep South Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and request for Alderman Retterbush- Alderman Retterbush told the group The City of Nashville was awarded \$11,752.49 at the last meeting with Deep South. This money can only be used for solid waste management. Alderman Retterbush wanted the group to earmark this money for repairs to the existing limb truck or toward the purchase of a new or used limb truck. Alderman Retterbush made the motion to accept the agreement and the funds from Deep South and earmark it towards the repairs or the purchase of a new or used limb truck for the Sanitation department. Alderman Stalnaker seconded

the motion. Alderman Richbourg asked if the money is earmarked can it be used for anything else. Mandy Luke told the group the invoice must be specific before any money is released by Deep South, so if we don't do anything to the limb truck for three years then we won't receive any funds. Mayor Harper suggested the Council not earmark this money, since the money must be used for the solid waste management. After some discussion Alderman Retterbush withdrew the part of his motion on earmarking the money. Alderman Retterbush told the group the motion still stands as far as accepting the agreement and the royalty payment from Deep South. Alderman Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Water Meter Replacement Project- Mayor Harper told the group at the last Work Session Chris Pose spoke to the Council about replacing the City's water meters. At the time the cost estimate was about \$800,000.00. We now have a revised cost estimate of around \$550,000.00. Financing through GEFA's green water effort at 1.13% interest rate, we would receive 20% principle forgiveness which would be around \$110,000.00 and would leave \$440,000.00 to finance. Mayor Harper asked Mandy Luke to run the figures on the payback. Mandy said she ran the figures for 20 years and the payment per year would be around \$24 to \$25,000.00. The money for this payment will have to strictly come from the Water and Sewer fund. We are paying \$140,000.00 each year for the existing water and sewer loan. The loan was for forty years and we have around 20 years left on the loan. The new loan we are paying on is around \$380,000 per year. We will have to combine the \$25,000.00 with the new loan because the payments will have to come from the Water and Sewer fund. Mandy said she has not had time to really crunch the numbers but judging from the low side of the figures we have we should be ok because if the Council chooses to change the meters then the accuracy in the reads will increase as well as the revenues. Mandy said again we should be ok if the Council decides to approve this project, but the decision would be up to them. Mayor Harper said he spoke with John and if the City replaces the meters with no help it could be completed in two years. Three years ago this project had 50% principle forgiveness and now it has dropped to 20% forgiveness. If we wait another year or two the principle forgiveness may be cut all together, and the project will cost us an extra \$110,000.00. The group had some more discussion about the project. Alderman Richbourg made the motion to replace the water meters according to G. Ben Turnipseed Engineers and with the stipulation John Reynolds is 100% on board, and the conversion does not exceed two years. The motion died due to lack of a second motion.

REPORTS

3. City Manager's/Finance Director's Report-Mandy handed the Council a copy of the bank balances for March 2012. She also told the group she is working on the "where we are now Budget" and will have a copy for Council as soon as it is complete. Mandy told the group to be thinking about a date after the first week in June for a Budget Workshop.

4. City Attorney's Report- Mitchell told the group he has some paperwork for Mandy Luke and Tina Ward to sign on the Hogan project which should close this project out. Mitchell also updated the group on the new police building. He said Mr. Hogan is working on the survey of the property and he is investigating the problem with the current Warranty Deed. Mitchell also updated the group on the removal of the beavers. All the agreements are signed except for one. John Reynolds has tried on several occasions to get these individuals to sign the agreement and they declined. Mitchell told the group unless he is otherwise instructed these individuals should not receive the benefits of what the City is trying to do for them unless they sign the agreement. Mitchell also encouraged the Council to read the "Key Proposed Changes to Georgia's Open Meeting and Open Records Law". GMA provided a summary of these changes and he encouraged the Council to become familiar with it.

5. Department Head's Report- None

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC/COUNCIL

Allen Davis asked the Council to reconsider the "no" decision on the one way street by the Post Office. He said this area is very dangerous and is worth looking into. Mayor Harper agreed and said this is a public safety issue, and will have to be postponed for another year due to the Council's decision.

Donna Meyers wanted to request the Council do something about the some of the trailers and property located at the Air Port Trailer Park. Mayor Harper told her the City Code enforcer is in the process of doing something about this problem. Ms. Meyers told the Mayor the property is an eye sore and needs to be cleaned up and mowed. Mayor Harper suggested Mr. Henry look into putting the landlord on a ten day plan to clean up his property.

Frank Watts told the group the red lights by the Downtown Center and by the Post Office need to be checked and repaired. Randy Lane told the group that DOT will be changing the light at the Downtown Center intersection in August or September.

Mayor Harper asked Randy to get in touch with DOT about the red light by Citizens Bank.

Alderman Perryman told the group he is resigning his position tonight. He is running for another office and cannot do so while serving as a Councilman. The Board of Elections advised me to resign before qualifying for the other office so that the position can be placed on the July 31st primary ballot. Alderman Perryman told the group it has been an honor to serve as one of the City's Councilman. He thanked the Mayor and Council and the City Employees. He stated, Nashville's strength is its people, and the City's strength is its employees.

Mayor Harper thanked Alderman Perryman for his service to the City of Nashville, and called for a motion to adopt a Resolution to accept Alderman Perryman resignation and call for a Special Election to fill the unexpired term of Dick Perryman. Alderman Richbourg made the motion to adopt the Resolution.

Alderman Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Richbourg told Dick Perryman thank you and it has been a pleasure serving with him. Alderman Retterbush thanked Dick Perryman for his service.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Alderman Richbourg made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm. Alderman Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Travis Harper

Alderman Eric Gaither

Alderman Dick Perryman

Alderman Antonio Carter

Alderman Billy Retterbush

Alderman Scott Stalnaker

Alderman Michael Richbourg

ATTEST

Tina Ward, City Clerk