

**REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN  
OCTOBER 11, 2011**

**INVOCATION:** Mayor Harper

**PLEDGE:** Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Travis Harper

**WELCOME:** Mayor Travis Harper

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

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Randall Melton, Frank Watts, John Black, Bonnie Simmons, John Hunkele, Lynn Shaw and Jerry Morris, and Brenda Thomas.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:** Mitchell Moore pointed out a correction on the Council minutes. On page 3, paragraph 4; the date should be September 22<sup>nd</sup>, not October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Alderman Richbourg made the motion to approve the minutes with the change. Alderman Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**ADOPTIONS OF FORMAL AGENDA-** Mayor Harper ask the Council to add as old business, the reschedule of Nashville's emergency siren, to the formal agenda. He also asked that they add as item number four, update from Coastal Engineering, John Hunkele on the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mitchell Moore requested a brief Executive Session. Alderman Richbourg made the motion to adopt the formal agenda with the changes. The motion was seconded by Alderman Retterbush, and the motion carried unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Reschedule the testing of Nashville's Emergency Siren-** Mayor Harper said he was unable to attend the last Council meeting, but wanted to share his thoughts on the Council's ruling to stop the emergency siren's daily alarm. He said he is against the idea because it reminds him of his childhood and sentimental reasons.

Alderman Retterbush stated he has heard lots of negative feedback from the public about the Council's decision to test the siren once a month and not every day at noon. Alderman Retterbush made the motion to change the testing back to every day at noon. Alderman Richbourg stated for the record, "you voted for this item at the last meeting and now you want to change it back". Alderman Retterbush said he regrets his decision at the last Council meeting and would like to make a motion to change the schedule for the alarm back to every day at noon. Alderman Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried three to two, with Alderman Richbourg and Perryman voting no.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Beer Application for Discount Corner-** Mayor Harper told the group Jayantibhai K. Patel with Akshay Corporation, owners of Discount Corner has applied for a beer license. All fees were paid and a criminal history was pulled with no records found. Alderman Perryman made to motion to approve the beer license for Discount Corner. The motion was seconded by Alderman Stalnaker and the motion carried unanimously.

**2. Post Office One Way Street** Mayor Harper told the group he would like to bring this item up one last time and if no motions are made the item will be postponed until further notice. The request was to turn a section of the street between McKinley and South Bartow, which is a section of McPherson; into a one way street and painting the parking spaces at an angle so that parking at the post office would not pose a potential hazard. Mayor Harper, explained the one way street a little more and told the group, the one way street will be heading towards the West, and traffic will have a sign to take a "left turn only" when traveling North on Bartow. Mayor Harper called for a motion on the item and no motion was made. The item will be postponed until further notice.

**3. Workman's Compensation Insurance Bid Opening-** Randy Lane told the group the City's Workman's Compensation insurance will expire on November 24, 2011. The City started advertising for closed bids in the local news. All pertinent information on the process for bidding was given and the ad was placed for four weeks in the Berrien Press. The bid process was closed on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at noon. Randy opened the only bid turn in for Workman's Compensation. The bid was from Morris and Shaw Insurance Agency, Inc. The agency quoted the bid given to them by the carrier, Lion Insurance Company for a policy term of one year, 11/24/2011 to 11/24/2012. The total estimated annual premium for the City of Nashville will be \$40,538.00. Alderman Richbourg made the motion to grant Morris and Shaw Insurance Agency the City's Workman's Compensation Insurance as of November 24, 2011 through November 24, 2012. Alderman Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**4. Update from Coastal Engineering-** John Hunkele updated the group on the construction site for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. He said actual construction will not begin until sometime next week. John Hunkele also informed the group that they were approached by a representative of Multivista, which is a media group that wants to do a video documentation of the construction on the Waste Water Treatment Plant as the construction proceeds. He began giving the Council details on how the group will document the construction and how useful this documentation could be if this group is allowed to video the construction. John informed the group that the company has a web site which will give all the information needed about the company. He said the group at Multivista will create a comprehensive, time-indexed permanent record of your entire construction project, from ground-breaking through completion. John told the group Multivista would like to come and make a presentation before the Council at the next Council meeting or at a work session. Alderman Richbourg asked John Reynolds and John Hunkele what are some of the advantages we will have if we allow them to document and what is the cost. John Hunkele said he estimated the cost to be around 10,000 to 15,000. The site plan has been forwarded to them so they can make a proposal. One advantage we will have by allowing this documentation is the possible money it will save the City one day if a problem arises. Alderman Richbourg agreed that the money spent would be worth it if it saves the City the cost amount or more in the future. Mayor Harper stated this would be a cheap insurance policy on a six million dollar project. Mayor Harper told John Hunkele to contact Multivista and let them know the Council will hold a Work Session on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. to hear their presentation.

## REPORTS

**5. City Manager/Finance Director Report-** Tina Ward, City Clerk told the group, per our auditors we are to get Council's approval on all checking accounts opened for the City of Nashville. Mandy was contacted by Whitney Justice from Southern Regional Commission last week and was told she needed confirmation a non interest checking account was opened for the new CDBG in order for the funds sent by DCA to be deposited. We need Councils approval to open a checking account for the new CDBG. Alderman Stalnaker made a motion to approve the checking account for the new CDBG. Alderman Perryman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Randy Lane told the group since the Council is choosing to keep the Emergency Siren he wanted to check into moving it to the 911 center's location. He also said he will be checking to see if a remote can be set from the 911 center to City Hall so that the siren can remain at its location. He said the 911 center has employees there twenty four hours a day and if an emergency arises someone is there to set off the alarm. If a problem arises now there may be a delay on setting off the alarm. For example, if a severe thunderstorm warning or tornado warning has been sent out on a weekend or during the night or maybe on a Holiday; and an officer is not available to set off the alarm there is a delay before someone is able to do so, and that delay in some situations could save someone's life.

**6. City Attorney Report-** Mitchell Moore told the group he needs the Mayor to sign off on a contract for the Hogan Project on the walkway. He said in order to send the application they need an optional contract signed by the Mayor on behalf of the City of Nashville. Mitchell also stated this is contingent upon the application and granting of the funds. Mayor Harper asked Mitchell to table this item for Executive Session, since it falls under the category of land acquisition. Mitchell agreed but said the item needs to be approved once Council comes out of Executive Session.

**7. Department Head Reports-** Peter Schultz told the Council the new gas line is complete and on line with the Cotton Gins in Enigma. We are also working on a few more potential customers.

## **Public Comments/General Comments from Council**

Bonnie Simmons wanted to inquire about the cemetery plots at West View Cemetery. She had talked to Henry Yawn and asked him if the City would ever consider turning some of the land into cemetery lots. She said there is about twenty feet of land in the back corner that could be used for cemetery lots and per Henry Yawn the land will need to be surveyed first. Ms. Simmons wanted to buy a couple of the lots, if the City will consider her request about the land. After some discussion about the setbacks, Mitchell Moore told Ms. Simmons he will get with Henry Yawn and he will let her know the decision. Bonnie Simmons also wanted the Council to ask the street department to smooth out the road at Dennis Avenue. The water lines were repaired on that street and the repairs need to be smoothed out. Mayor Harper asked Jeff Bristol to see about smoothing out the road on Dennis Avenue.

Brenda Thomas questioned the rates at the Community Center and why the Council decided to raise them. Mayor Harper told her the decision was made to help meet the operating cost for the Community Center.

Frank Watts asked the Council if someone could cut the grass that is growing on the sidewalks along East Marion.

## **Executive Session**

Alderman Stalnaker made the motion to go into Executive Session at 6:30p.m. Alderman Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Alderman Carter made the motion to come out of Executive Session at 6:44p.m. Alderman Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

## **Regular Session Reconvened**

Alderman Stalnaker made the motion to accept the sales contract contingent upon the grant amount is \$30,000.00 or the fair market value. Alderman Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to conduct, Alderman Gaither made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:46pm. Alderman Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

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Mayor Travis Harper

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Alderman Eric Gaither

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Alderman Dick Perryman

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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 Michael Richbourg

**ATTEST**

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Tina Ward, City Clerk