

REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN  
January 11 , 2010

INVOCATION: Brother Larry Daughtry delivered the invocation.

PLEDGE: Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Travis Harper

WELCOME: Mayor Harper welcomed all in attendance.

ROLL CALL: Members of the City Council present included Aldermen, Scott Stalnaker, Dick Perryman, Michael Richbourg, Darrin Davis, Billy Retterbush, Bill Turner and Mayor Harper.

STAFF PRESENT: Tina Haughton, Mandy Luke, Henry Yawn, Tommy Davis, Chief Clayton, John Reynolds, Peter Schultz and Mitchell Moore.

OTHERS PRESENT: Randall Milton, Fern Turner, John Hunkele, Keith Stone, Larry Daughtry, Phillip Read, Joe Watts, Tina Stalnaker, Summer Stalnaker ,Wanda Retterbush and William Marks.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: Alderman Richbourg made a motion seconded by Alderman Stalnaker to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion was carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA: Mayor Harper requested that Nashville Service Center be added as item # 3 on the Agenda and item #4 regarding the committee appointments for the Council for the year 2010. Alderman Richbourg made a motion seconded by Alderman Turner to approve the Formal Agenda with these changes. Motion was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2010 RENEWAL OF BEER & WINE LICENSE FOR CREW'S IN – MAYOR HARPER  
Mayor Harper noted that the applications for the renewal of alcohol licenses were approved at the December 14th meeting. This application from Crew's In for William F. Marks, Sr. was submitted on December 31, 2009. Mayor Harper remarked that since the vote on the approval of these licenses has to be conducted at a regularly scheduled Council Meeting, the vote on the approval of this one for Mr. Marks could not be done until this meeting. He informed the Council that the \$1,000.00 application fee has been paid and a background check performed with "No Record" showing. Following these remarks, Alderman Stalnaker made a motion seconded by Alderman Davis to approve the application. Motion was carried unanimously.

2. QUIT CLAIM DEED FOR DDA – ATTORNEY MOORE  
Attorney Moore informed the Mayor and Council that a Quit Claim Deed has been signed and recorded deeding the "Blakes" property to the Downtown Development Authority.

3. NASHVILLE SERVICE CENTER - MAYOR HARPER Mayor Harper informed the Council that the State has made some cuts on Behavioral Health Services and the Department of Human Services which affects our local service center. He further informed them that they were thinking of closing it and moving the consumers to Adel and Valdosta. He remarked that a group of concerned citizens have met twice so far to come up with some ideas to help keep the local center open. He told the group that the local center serves some nineteen (19) consumers on a daily basis and employs five to six people. He added that it is important to those involved to try to keep this open. He stated that Attorney Paul Hamilton has spear headed the negotiations and has discovered that some \$21,000.00 is needed to help keep it open for the rest of the year which is through June. Mayor Harper stated that the Center had a private donation made of \$5,000.00. He said there is approximately \$16,000.00 more needed and that he thinks the City and County could split this amount to help keep the Center open until the end of June. He added that sometime before the end of June they would need to come together to see what it would take to keep it open for the next fiscal year. He told the total is actually \$7,947.31 for each the County and the City. He remarked that the County has talked about this at their last work session and will bring it up tomorrow night at their meeting. He said the County was wondering if the City would be interested in doing the same thing. Mayor Harper explained the City still has \$10,000 set aside from last fiscal year. He added that he believes this will help save these five or six jobs and nineteen consumers that use this on a daily basis. There was some discussion among the group on what the Center actually does and what is done with the stuff they work on. Mayor Harper explained that this is somewhat like a work program. There was also some discussion among the group about the Center selling some of the items to help generate some of their own income. Mayor Harper stated he thinks they are going to vote tomorrow on whether to keep it open. Following these discussions, Alderman Perryman made a motion seconded by Alderman Stalnaker to donate the \$7,947.31 to keep the Center open until the end of June. Mayor Harper discussed with the group about the closing of the Lanier County Center and the meeting that was held with different officials which included Representative Penny Houston and himself. There being no further discussion the motion was carried unanimously.

4. 2010 COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – MAYOR HARPER Mayor Harper made the following recommendations for the 2010 Council Committee Appointments: Alderman Retterbush, Mayor-Pro Tem; Alderman Perryman, Economic Development; Alderman Turner, Parks & Recreation and Cemeteries; Alderman Stalnaker, Gas and Public Safety; Alderman Retterbush, Water and Sewer; Alderman Davis Streets and Sanitation. Public Safety Committee: Aldermen Retterbush, Stalnaker and Mayor Harper. Following these recommendations for the 2010 Committee Appointments, Alderman Richbourg made a motion seconded by Alderman Retterbush to approve these recommendations. Motion was carried unanimously.

## REPORTS

5. CITY MANAGER/FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – MANDY LUKE Ms. Luke updated the Mayor and Council on the new QS1 utility billing software and the installation of the occupational tax software. She explained about some of the bugs that we are trying to work out of the system. She stated that we have not had but a few people to complain about the debt

service. She also stated that we have had a lot of people to call or come in and ask what it is and we explained it to them and reminded them of the notices that were sent out previously. She told the Council that as soon as we get the Occupational tax software installed the system would be complete and that we could come off TBS within a couple or three months.

6. ENGINEERS' REPORT - JOHN HUNKELE Mayor Harper asked John Hunkele of Coastal Engineering to address the Council. Mr. Hunkele reminded the Mayor and Council about a letter that was received from Jack Kingston's office a few weeks ago concerning the Georgia RCAP. He stated that he had tried to get Mr. Phillip Read of Georgia RCAP at the last meeting in December but Mr. Read had a conflict with that date. He added that Mr. Read is present tonight and thought this would be a good opportunity for him to tell what his agency does and how he can or can't help the City of Nashville. Mr. Hunkele told the group that he had sent Mr. Read a copy of all the engineer reports. He stated that they are still working on the USDA and are half way through the environmental process. Mr. Hunkele introduced Mr. Phillip Read to the group. Mr. Read offered apologies for not being able to be here sooner. He then distributed a hand out to each of the group regarding his agency. He began by explaining that they are federally fund through a contractual relationship with the US Department of Agriculture Rural Development. He their agency also receives funding through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as well as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources. He told the group that his agency provides on-site technical assistance, primarily to small rural local governments in Georgia under 10,000 in population. He added they are trying to restrict that number down to 3,300, but they have not done that yet so the City of Nashville is still eligible for their free help. He informed the group that they don't do engineering so therefore they don't compete with Coastal Engineering. He added that they do have a Civil engineer in their group. He told the group that he is coming in very late in the process. He added normally when his agency comes in they are talking about doing something. He explained to the group what his agency does and how their services are accessed. Following some discussion regarding their services and how they could assist John Hunkele and the City, Alderman Richbourg made a motion seconded by Alderman Retterbush to allow Phillip Read and his agency, Georgia RCAP, to assist Coastal Engineering and the City with our wastewater treatment project. Motion was carried unanimously.

7. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT Attorney Moore brought up the matter regarding policies for city cemeteries. He told the group that Henry Yawn has spoken with him regarding some issues. He also told the group that once the City sells a grave site that they do not take it back. He recommended that the Council conduct a work session to discuss coming up with some policies on City cemeteries. Attorney Moore updated the group about the pending Solid Waste Contract with Griffin Waste. He stated he is presently waiting to hear back from the attorneys. He discussed with the group what GMA has to say regarding independent contractors pertaining to certain businesses, i.e. beauty shops. Attorney Moore also discussed with the group concerning the parking lot to be paved. It was also discussed about the possibility of having two parking spaces reserved for Jody and John Hogan.

8. DEPARTMENT HEADS' REPORT None

PUBLIC COMMENTS/GENERAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Dawn Morrison reported to the Mayor and Council that the bank had donated the Blakes' property to DDA. There was some discussion regarding the sale of this property by DDA. Ms. Morrison stated that the property has been appraised by Johnny Lovein. She discussed with the group about an auditorium. She stated they have two plans for the auditorium. She reported that the auditorium committee had been working really hard in November. She informed the group that a meeting to discuss the auditorium will be held on Thursday, January 21st at 11:30 a.m. at the Cadillac Ranch. She invited the city officials to come and participate. Ms. Morrison mentioned to the group that the bathrooms in the old Badcock building need to be repaired. She went on to say that Nathan Stone, who does the auction, is a plumber and has agreed to repair them and furnish the material. Following some discussion on this, Alderman Richbourg agreed to allow him to do this as long it is done according to code.

Joe Watts approached the Mayor and Council concerning cleaning up the Eastview Cemetery. He asked the City to furnish dumpsters and he will get someone to help with cleaning it up. Alderman Richbourg suggested that the City place trash cans over there and let the State prisoners pick them up. Alderman Retterbush commented that we might work something out with Griffin Waste and get a seven (7) yard dumpster over there. There was some discussion if there is an ordinance on how many flowers can be placed on a grave. Mayor Harper remarked that this is a little touchy subject.

Mr. Randall Milton inquired about the new charges on the water bill. It was explained there is an administration fee of \$2.00, a sewer debt service of \$7.00 and water debt service is \$1.95. It was also explained that the rest was the same. It was suggested that this information be placed in the paper.

Alderman Davis recommended that the City might contact D.O.T. regarding putting up barriers where the accident occurred at the corner of Dogwood Drive and the Tifton Highway that resulted in a fatality. Alderman Richbourg suggested that they could possibly install flashing lights or red lights to help prevent another fatality occurring there. Alderman Stalnaker told the group that he would get in touch with someone from D.O.T. about these recommendations. Alderman Stalnaker commended the Nashville Police Department and the Enigma Police Department for the job they did in rescuing the victim of the accident.

Alderman Perryman asked that all express Happy Birthday wishes to Alderman Richbourg.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to discuss, Alderman Richbourg made a motion seconded by Alderman Turner to adjourn. The motion was carried unanimously. Meeting was officially adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

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Mayor Travis Harper

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Alderman Michael Richbourg

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Alderman Darrin Davis

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Alderman Dick Perryman

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Alderman Billy Retterbush

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Alderman Scott Stalnaker

ATTEST:

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Alderman Bill Turner

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Johnny Hall, City Clerk