

**REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN  
June 26, 2017  
6:00 P.M.**

**INVOCATION:** Bryan Shaw

**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 Walt Steward, Scott Stalnaker, Eric Gaither, Antonio Carter, Billy Retterbush and Alderwoman Mellisa Watson.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mandy Luke, Jackie Jordan, Jill Wise, Chief Edwards, John Reynolds, Peter Schultz, Mitchell Moore

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Bryan Shaw, Amy Swails, Courtney Sheeley, Kyle Pearson, Rodrick Smith

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

**ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA** –Mellisa Watson made the motion to adopt the formal agenda. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Zika Virus – Courtney Sheeley, South GA Health District** – Courtney Sheeley, communication specialist with South Health District, Georgia Department of Public Health, Valdosta, explained the Zika virus. She explained it is primarily spread through mosquito bites although it can be spread through sex. She said it can also be transmitted from a pregnant woman to her unborn child. She further discussed avoiding the travel to areas with risk of Zika and

the urgency of protection from mosquito bites and elimination of mosquito breeding areas such as standing water. She said there is currently no vaccination and she also left leaflets to educate the public on this subject.

2. **GEFA Modification of Loan Agreement – Mandy Luke** – Mrs. Luke explained that due to the delay in beginning the installation of the radio read meters, the promissory note and loan agreement had to be extended from April 1<sup>st</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup> and she now needs the Council to approve the execution of the modification. Scott Stalnaker made a motion to approve the execution of the modification. Eric Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
3. **Dogwood TEA Project Agreement – Mandy Luke** – Mrs. Luke explained the agreement from the DOT on this TEA project {sidewalks on Dogwood project} has been discussed over a long time. Mitchell said they are very time consuming and this one began in 2015 and the Resolution he has authorizes the Mayor and/or the City Manager to execute the documents. He said from the time he submits it, it takes the DOT approximately twenty-one (21) days to begin the process of bid requests. Antonio Carter made a motion to approve the execution of the adoption of the Resolution and the TEA Grant documents. Mellisa Watson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

## **REPORTS**

4. **City Manager's/Finance Director's Report** – None.
5. **City Attorney's Report** – Mitchell gave a brief summary of his attendance of the GMA's attorney breakfast in Savannah the previous weekend including the Calhoun decision in municipal courts. He said he is awaiting a response from the State legal department regarding the radio tower lease agreement. He said the contract expires the end of June and has communicated the City is willing to renew it with some modification of the language of the contract and asked for permission to move forward when he hears back. The Mayor and Council granted permission for Mitchell to move forward once he gets a response. Mitchell also updated that he spoke with John Hunkele on the Perkins Subdivision bids and it will be the end of the week before he will have completed the review so he should have more information for them by the next meeting.

6. **Department Head's** – Jill Wise mentioned the unveiling of the Memorial Wall at the Nashville Community Center on Friday. She also said the new store, Shops on Davis, in the Downtown Center will open on July 5<sup>th</sup> and will have a grand opening on July 15<sup>th</sup>. She also explained renovations that have taken place. John Reynolds said they are still working on the project at Nashville Mills. He also said they are in the process of installing the radio read meters which has been time consuming. He said they started about one and half months ago and the contract allows for the process to take up to one hundred eighty (180) days. Peter Schultz said he spoke with Georgia Power about the light mentioned at the last meeting on Cecil Road and they temporarily fixed the old one and have put in to have a new LED light installed. He also said the lenses and bulbs for the lights at Quail Run have been replaced. He also reported for the Gas Department that everything is set to go with the tobacco barns that Carson Perkins is putting on Enigma highway and are just waiting to hear back from him. Chief Edwards said he received a letter of appreciation from Colonel McDonough, Commissioner of GSP, for the City's donation of a new dual radar system to Post 13 and he thanked the Mayor and Council as well. Chief Edwards explained his concern with the PD building's construction and protection regarding the recovery of the computer reporting system data base in the event of a catastrophic event as well as ransomware and other computer threats. He said he is pleased to have found an off-site back-up system in place to allow for complete recovery of the database, up to the prior day, which will cost \$200-\$500 annually depending on the volume. Chief Edwards next reported the activation button at the 911 center has been replaced and is operating properly. He said the phone activated back-up to the warning siren system is in place and he had meetings with Captain Knowles, Steve Adams, Peter Schultz and Angie Rutland, Berrien EMA director, to review and confirm the tornado/severe weather warning response protocol but they are still working on some details for automated options. Chief Edwards explained the recommendation of FEMA/GEMA for routine siren tests should be limited to the first Wednesday of each month between 11:00 a.m. and noon in conjunction with the weekly NOAA weather radio test but if a local jurisdiction desires more often, a frequency of not more than once weekly should be adopted and asked the Mayor and Council for their input on this issue. Antonio Carter made a motion to change to the FEMA/GEMA recommendation. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion. After very brief discussion, the motion failed with Mellisa Watson, Billy Retterbush, Eric Gaither and Walt Steward voting against changing the siren from going off daily at noon. Chief Edwards next mentioned that at the last meeting, Council approved Rodrick Smith's request for using Beetree Park's water and electricity for a July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration and he now

requests to block off Beetree Street by the park and John Street to Seventh Street by the park and requested an officer remain in the area. Chief Edwards said he cannot accommodate an officer to remain in the area due to staff conflicts. Scott asked if it would be shut down by dark because last year the roads were blocked by others that came up there afterwards which was a problem. He also said they wanted to do fireworks. Rodrick said he just wanted to block the roads while the event was taking place and Chief Edwards said that was not a problem but his concern is it growing out of control and not having the staff to take care of it. Scott said they will have to let them know it is over and to clear the roadways. Mayor Richbourg said for him to make everyone aware at dark. The Mayor and Council told him it has to be over at sunset/dark (10:00 p.m.) and they cannot shoot off fireworks in the road or in the park due to local and state ordinances but both allow for private fireworks on private property. They also said the fireworks show done by the City is done by certified firemen at Heritage Park which is open to the public. Antonio Carter made a motion to allow them to utilize Beetree Park on July 4th continuing until 10:00 p.m. in the park with no fireworks and no alcoholic beverages. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Walt Steward commended the department heads on their briefings.

Scott Stalnaker made a motion to go into Executive Session @ 6:53 pm. The motion was seconded by Walt Steward and the motion carried unanimously.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:53 P.M. – 7:08 P.M.**

### **RESUME REGULAR MEETING**

At 7:08 p.m. a motion was made by Antonio Carter to come out of Executive Session. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Police Chief Edwards also discussed the officer salaries and starting salaries in surrounding areas along with how the State plans to begin handling their law

enforcement salaries. He also mentioned how overwhelmed his office is administratively discussing the staff duties along with the number of citations, reports, subpoenas, warrants, and etcetera.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, Scott Stalnaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Eric Gaither 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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Alderman Mellisa Watson

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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