

**REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE
COUNTY OF BERRIEN
August 14, 2017
6:00 P.M.**

INVOCATION: Mayor Pro-Tem Mellisa Watson

PLEDGE: Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro-Tem Mellisa Watson

WELCOME: Mayor Pro-Tem Mellisa Watson

ROLL CALL: Members of the City Council present included Mayor Michael Richbourg {late}, 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, Henry Yawn{late}, Mitchell Moore

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Sirmans, Bryan Shaw, Travis Harper, Keith Stone, Kyle Pearson

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

ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA – Scott Stalnaker made a motion to strike the item regarding personal items in City Cemeteries at this time. Walt Steward seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Eric Gaither made the motion to adopt the formal agenda with the change. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **FY 2016 Audit Report – Mike Sirmans, Meeks CPA, LLP –** Mr. Sirmans presented the report of the FY 2016 Audit to the Council focusing on the three (3) major funds: General Fund, Water/Sewer Fund and the Gas Fund.

2. **Ratification of Resolution to Renew Construction Loan Taken by the City for the Bi-Lo Project Building – Mandy Luke** – Mrs. Luke explained the original construction loan and resolution {March 2014} for the Bi-Lo project was based on a five (5) year amortization but the bank would only finance for three (3) years, at that time, and now needs to renew the loan for the remaining two (2) years. Billy Retterbush made a motion to adopt the resolution to renew the loan. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

3. **City Manager's/Finance Director's Report** – Mrs. Luke explained the Department of Transportation (DOT) previously remitted a list of roads and corresponding speed limits, which the Council approved, after Chief Edwards reviewed it. She said she received a replacement from DOT which reflected a couple of minor changes of the mile logs on SR 125. The 35 MPH speed zone that was originally listed as MP 11.89 to MP 12.16 was revised to 11.89 to 12.21. The 45 MPH speed zone that was originally listed as MP 12.16 to 12.54 was revised to 12.21 to 12.49. She said she needed the approval and signatures of the Mayor and Council. Eric Gaither made a motion to approve the corrections on the list of roadways and speed limits. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Luke said she had heard from Mrs. Little on the results for the grant/loan from USDA for the new fire truck and she told her she should be receiving the eligibility letter after August 10th and will then have a public hearing. After the public hearing, there will be four (4) items Mrs. Little will need from Mandy. Once that is done, Mrs. Little will send the package to the state office for funding. She said she checked with Steve Adams on the status of the completion of the new fire truck and he was told it should be ready in October or November. Mrs. Luke also said there will be an invitation for bids, advertised in the next two (2) weeks of the Berrien Press, for the TEA project on the sidewalks on Dogwood. The bids will be due by 11:00 a.m. on September 14th. Then, Rakestraw and Associates will review the bids and submit results. Mrs. Luke said a decision needs to be made concerning the damaged building {on the corner across from City Hall} of whether to tear it down and rebuild or renovate it. She said Peter received prices and to gut it and renovate it will be approximately \$50,000, but they will not know until they start if there is more damage than anticipated, or tear it down and build a new metal building which will be approximately \$90,000. Peter

explained, if they decided to renovate, the integrity of the exterior walls could not be determined until they start gutting it. Antonio Carter made a motion to tear down the existing building and rebuild. Walt Steward seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Billy Retterbush asked if it is considered to be in the Historic District and Bryan Shaw replied there is no historic relevance to those block buildings.

4. **City Attorney's Report** – Mr. Moore said he asked to do a new agreement contract for the new solid waste disposal agreement, since the last one was done in 2009 and extended through 2017 by addendum, in order to modernize it and clarify terminology. Mitchell gave an update on the Nashville Urban Redevelopment Agency project awarded to Elihue Donaldson Construction Company, LLC at the last Council meeting that Mr. Donaldson is still arranging financing. He said he is still finalizing the terms of the contract on the restrictions and recapture provisions. He said this also may affect the developer's ability to obtain financing. Mr. Moore said he was contacted by Henry Yawn and Buck Warren regarding a location for Jacob's Well Incorporated, a non-profit corporation, for a food service and clothing ministry on the square. He explained a church was inadvertently approved at one time but churches are not zoned or permitted in the central business district nor are special exceptions permitted for churches or places of worship. He said Jacob's Well is a non-profit charitable organization affiliated with Flatcreek Church but is a separate corporate entity. He explained the intent is to provide hot meals and clothing for the less fortunate and may qualify in the business district. Mellisa Watson asked if it would have to go through the planning commission. Mitchell said Mickey Lindsey acknowledged there would be a process that would have to be checked because they will have to install stoves and kitchen items. Some of the Council members mentioned the grease trap requirement as well. Mitchell said there was mention of possibility of them using the grease trap of the adjacent business, Off the Hook. After further discussion of the qualifications of the organization, intent, zoning, grease trap and other concerns, Mr. Moore was asked to follow up with Mr. Lindsey regarding these concerns. Walt Steward asked Mitchell about some of the terminology of the waste disposal agreement from the beginning of his report.
5. **Department Head's** – Jill Wise reminded everyone of the Harvest Festival and Lip Sync on September 29th and 30th and also mentioned the Berrien Rebel homecoming football game had been re-scheduled to September 29th. Henry Yawn said they are working with the contractor on the eighteen (18) unit housing project. John Reynolds reported they are still in the process of

replacing the water meters. Peter Schultz said they are working on overgrowth around the stop signs and right of ways asking if anyone sees any areas needing attention to let him know. Chief Edwards thanked the City Manager and Council for allowing him to go to the Chiefs conference explaining he had obtained a lot of valuable information. Chief Edwards also mentioned a wanted subject, wanted since 2005, is now in custody, thanks in part to the Berrien County Sherriff's Office. He also mentioned the completion of the FEMA assistance grant project declaring receipt of \$5,423 from it which has been credited to the appropriate accounts.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Keith Stone thanked the Mayor and Council for the speed bumps recently installed near the new apartment complex stating it has helped.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mellisa Watson commended Chief Edwards and law enforcement on controlling the school traffic.

Walt Steward said he was instructed by Windstream that they are prohibited from installing underground phone lines within the City limits. Henry Yawn said they are located in many areas but it is expensive to do. Peter said they would have to hire a contractor to do it.

Mayor Richbourg asked about discussing personal items in the City Cemeteries. Therefore, the Mayor and Council scheduled a 5:30 public hearing to take place before the next Council meeting on August 28th.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Billy Retterbush made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Michael Richbourg

Alderman Eric Gaither

Alderwoman Mellisa Watson

Alderman Antonio Carter

Alderman Billy Retterbush

Alderman Scott Stalnaker

Alderman Walter Steward

ATTEST:

Jackie Jordan, City Clerk