

**REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE
COUNTY OF BERRIEN
February 12, 2018
6:00 P.M.**

INVOCATION: Keith Stone

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, Billy Retterbush, Antonio Carter and Alderwoman Mellisa Watson.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Ron (Rico) Lewis

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Eric Gaither made the motion to adopt the minutes from the previous meetings. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA – Scott Stalnaker requested an additional Agenda item: Ron (Rico) Lewis – Utility Bill. Mellisa Watson made the motion to adopt the formal agenda with the addition. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Berrien County Development Authority Request of Annexation of New Industrial Park – Mitchell Moore/Henry Yawn** – City Attorney, Mitchell Moore, continued discussion of this item from the last meeting stating there was an application submitted in December from Berrien County Development Authority for annexation of the new industrial park and the application as

submitted qualifies under the 100% method. His recommendation is for the Council to approve the application as is under the 100% method with only the industrial park owned by the Berrien County Development Authority at this time and if the other county property owners west of the proposed site wish to be annexed they can go through the proper process. He further explained if Council approves the application to move forward, the application would first go before the Planning Commission to consider the application and zoning requests and then back before the Council to accept, revise or reject the Planning Commission's recommendation. He also explained the annexation application will not create any islands of County property. Billy Retterbush made a motion to approve the application as submitted to go before the Planning Commission. Walt Steward seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously with Scott Stalnaker abstaining due to serving on the Development Authority Board.

2. **Utility Bill Extensions – Mayor Michael Richbourg** – Mayor Richbourg explained the number of utility bill extensions currently allowed are five (5) per year which seems to be creating more problems than it is solving. Mrs. Luke explained the purpose is for life emergencies and most cities do not allow extensions stating she previously worked for the City of Tifton and Tifton did not allow extensions. After brief discussion, Antonio Carter made a motion to reduce the number of extensions allowed per year from five (5) to three (3). Mellisa Watson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
3. **Nashville Urban Redevelopment Agency/Perkins Subdivision Project Status – Mayor Michael Richbourg** – The Mayor asked City Attorney Moore for an update on this project regarding the high bidder's funding for the project. Mr. Moore explained the high bidder never met the financial requirement to secure funding along with other details and his recommendation is for the project to be re-bid with further clarification regarding the necessary documentation of sufficient financial commitment to complete the project and restating that the City wants to give private enterprise an opportunity to develop this project. Antonio Carter made a motion to move forward to re-bid the Perkins Subdivision Project. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
4. **Ron (Rico) Lewis Utility Bill** – Mr. Lewis explained that he thinks there is a discrepancy in the amount due for his utility bill after his extensions and payments. Mr. Lewis was advised to get his records and receipts together and

contact Mrs. Luke, City Manager, to set up an appointment for Mrs. Luke, April Copeland and himself to compare the records.

REPORTS

5. **City Manager's/Finance Director's Report** – Mrs. Luke explained the old (1968) fire truck could not pass the pump test which is why the new fire truck was purchased and the new fire truck passed the pump test last Friday. Billy Retterbush made a motion to declare the 1968 fire truck surplus and put it out for auction. Mellisa Watson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Luke also explained inspections for the ISO fire ratings are normally done every five (5) years but with the extra fire stations in the county, they will be in the area to inspect those so they will also inspect the City's fire station this Friday and they are preparing for that.

6. **City Attorney's Report** – City Attorney Moore explained the pre-construction conference for the 2016 CDBG project for streets, drainage, water and sewer improvements of sixteen (16) residences on Bay Lane and Bay St took place on the February 8th and the project is to commence on February 19th. He also said he has the temporary easements ready for signatures. Mr. Moore also mentioned the grease trap for Jacob's Well has not been resolved yet. He explained the City has done all it can to help but this is an issue between the property owners and not an issue the City employees can resolve since all the City can do is determine whether the grease trap is compliant after installation. Mr. Moore also gave an update on the Gas certificates of deposit (CD's) and he will continue his efforts to secure release of the CD's funds above the loan amount owed.

7. **Department Head's** – John Reynolds said they are steadily working on the water meter replacement project and have completed all of the small ones. Henry Yawn and Peter Schultz asked about a workshop regarding cemetery issues. The Mayor and to schedule a meeting before the next Council meeting on February 26th at 5:30. Jill Wise reminded everyone of the Chili Cook-off on February 24th at Connie's Park. She also mentioned continued renovations on the McLamb building, the closing of Fulp Jewelers which was purchased by Dr. Jonathan Wade who intends to renovate the building, and a new photographer has moved downtown. She also mentioned Rancho Alegre is ready to move forward on new signage for their building which she will keep them posted on. She said Mainstreet Salon sold and is now Cotton Creek Salon and Market.

Miss Wise also briefly explained a new tax credit program which began January 1st centering around job creation targeting rural downtown areas and asked for help in promoting this and to refer anyone who may be interested or able to take advantage of this program to her. Chief Edwards gave an annual report of department activity for 2017 of 10,951 responses, stops and calls which consisted of 1,618 incident reports, 1,695 supplemental reports, 2,462 vehicle stops, 1,387 citations, 1,957 warnings, 57 drug arrests, 87 DUI arrests. He also reported 122 fights in progress calls, 242 domestic disturbances, 658 returned telephone call requests, 683 meet with person requests, 634 suspicious persons and vehicles reports, 513 funds escorts, 113 medical welfare checks, 81 additional medical call assists, 289 business and residential alarm responses and 654 vehicles unlocked along with many other items such as traffic and private property vehicle accidents, noise complaints, unruly juveniles, 911 hang-up calls, child custody issues, reports of gunshots and so on. Chief Edwards also stressed that with the exception of himself, the Captain and the detectives, this was with the effort of five (5), sometimes four (4), officers each twenty-four (24) hour period. He also reported on the annual Uniform Crime Report that is sent to the FBI along with the Investigations Division case load and superior court warrant activity. Chief Edwards mentioned he will not be able to attend the next Council meeting and possibly the first meeting in March.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Scott Stalnaker asked the status on bids for the spray field. John Reynolds and City Attorney, Mitchell Moore, are working on it. Scott Stalnaker also thanked Drew Smith for his help in getting the spray field in the condition it is in now.

Billy Retterbush reported that he attended the Deep South Regional Waste Management Authority meeting last week and said we are to receive a \$21,500 check in six (6) to eight (8) weeks for the royalty disbursement.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Scott Stalnaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Antonio Carter 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