

**PUBLIC HEARING  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN  
May 14, 2018  
5:30 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Michael Richbourg, Billy Retterbush, Mellisa Watson, Walt Steward, Eric Gaither

**STAFF PRESENT:** Henry Yawn, Mandy Luke, Jackie Jordan, Chief Edwards, Peter Schultz, Mitchell Moore

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Janet Studstill, John Black

The public hearing was called to order by Mayor Richbourg. City Attorney Mitchell Moore stated the publication ran in The Berrien Press advertising the public hearing and the proposed amendment to the current cemetery ordinance in regards to flowers, memorials and operations of the City of Nashville cemeteries. He explained the hearing is for public inquiries and nothing will be adopted tonight. John Black asked about the depth of vaults. Mr. Henry Yawn said the vault is supposed to be below ground. After brief discussion, Mayor Richbourg and City Attorney Moore explained this proposal is not the final proposal and is to be added to the existing ordinance and is specifically pertaining to memorials, statues, flags, lights, benches and extra items beyond the headstone or slab that impede maintaining the cemeteries. Chief Edwards explained the need to cover inappropriate items being left on grounds such as alcohol and tobacco products. City Attorney Moore explained the final ordinance has not been drafted yet and the purpose of the work session is for input from the public at large regarding other possible concerns; and, the public hearing and notice in the paper is to give ample notice of the necessary changes. The Mayor and Council further discussed the purpose to minimize the number of items so it is not necessary for personnel to continuously move personal items back and forth or cause damage to these items while maintaining the cemeteries along with the safety of certain items such as benches.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

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Mayor Michael Richbourg

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Alderman Eric Gaither

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Alderwoman 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