

**REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE
COUNTY OF BERRIEN
MARCH 22, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

~Limited Access to City Hall ~ Facebook Live Stream on The Berrien Press~

INVOCATION: Travis Harper

PLEDGE: Mayor Pro-Tem John Clayton

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro-Tem John Clayton

ROLL CALL: Members of the City Council present included Mayor Pro-Tem John Clayton, Scott Stalnaker, Billy Retterbush, Antonio Carter, Walt Steward, Eric Gaither.

STAFF PRESENT: Peter Schultz, Jackie Jordan, Nancy Pesce, Police Chief Edwards, John Reynolds, Mitchell Moore

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING(s):

Regular City Council-March 8, 2021; Executive Session-March 8, 2021: Billy Retterbush made a motion to adopt the minutes. Eric Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA:

Walt Steward made a motion to adopt the formal agenda. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1- Affidavit and Resolution/March 8, 2021 Executive Session – Mitchell Moore, City Attorney:** Eric Gaither made a motion to adopt the Resolution {#R-05-21}. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- 2- Beer and Wine License Application – Mayor Pro-Tem John Clayton:** A beer and wine license application was presented for Justen Mathis dba Brooks Steakhouse. Having nothing to prevent approval, Billy Retterbush made a motion to approve the application. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- 3- Vehicle Cameras – Police Chief Edwards:** Chief Edwards said four (4) vehicles have broken in-car camera systems. He explained they are Digital Ally DVM-500 camera systems which were purchased ten (10) years ago and there is no repair support in the nation because they are obsolete. He further explained the current BASIC Digital Ally system is much more expensive which is why he presented the PATROLWITNESS-PW6-HD in-car camera systems. These are compatible with the current software system and support which would prevent additional fees for additional software or other items. They run \$3,250 each for a total of \$13,000 which is not in his current budget. There was a brief discussion if SPLOST funds could be used for the purchase, compatibility with

current software and whether to advertise for bids on other equipment. Scott Stalnaker made a motion to purchase the cameras presented by Chief Edwards using SPLOST funds. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

- 4- **Resolution on Police Vehicles – Mitchell Moore, City Attorney:** Mr. Moore presented information from KS StateBank for the financing of four (4) 2021 Dodge Chargers with Upfitting. The total purchase price of \$153,268 required a down payment of \$15,327 leaving the amount of \$137,941 to be financed over five (5) years with annual payments of \$30,244 due each December with the first payment due December 2021. Mr. Moore further explained the exhibits attached to the Government Obligation Contract which he had reviewed and also presented the Resolution {Resolution #R-06-21} which he had prepared in addition to Exhibit D Obligor Resolution included with the Government Obligation Contract. After a brief discussion of meetings and information regarding the approval of the purchase of the vehicles and the budget in which it was approved, Scott Stalnaker made a motion to adopt the Resolution to approve execution of the financing documents. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Scott Stalnaker, Billy Retterbush, Walt Steward, Antonio Carter voted yes; Eric Gaither voted no. The motion passed four (4) to one (1).
- 5- **Wiregrass Lease – Mitchell Moore, City Attorney:** Mr. Moore explained the Wiregrass lease agreement previously had three (3) successive annual renewals and the current lease is up for renewal this June 2021. The proposal from the State Properties Commission is a new lease agreement commencing July 1, 2021 providing for four (4) successive annual renewals with annual payments of \$9,000 which would carry the agreement through June 30, 2026 and monthly payments of \$750. He further explained items in the agreement containing standard agreement language for State use of the properties solely for the purpose of carrying out the occupying Agency's day-to-day services asking if the Council would like any changes. He also reported the Certificate of Occupancy on the building has been issued. After a brief discussion, Billy Retterbush made a motion to keep the previous terms and accept the proposed changes. Walt Steward seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- 6- **Format of Next Regular Council Meeting – Mayor Pro-Tem John Clayton:** Walt Steward made a motion to defer to the City Attorney to obtain the RingCentral login information from Mr. Taylor Scarbrough and keep the format the same. Eric Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

City Manager/Finance Director Report:

Peter Schultz explained a lease agreement with option to purchase with Frank Sutton is up for renewal. It is for Mr. Sutton's empty lot located at the corner of Marion and Jackson which is used for extra parking downtown for the City. The lease agreement would be for two (2) years instead of 1 (one) year for \$900/year with option to purchase and any funds paid would go toward the purchase price. The original agreement was October of 2019 through October 2020 so it would be retroactive to October. Billy Retterbush made a motion to continue leasing the property for two (2) years. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schultz presented pay request #4 for James Warren & Associates, which has been edited, approved and signed by John Hunkele of Coastal Engineering, in the amount of \$94,396.65. He said the project is approximately 65%-70% complete and he has been working with Mr. Hunkele on a proposal to cut time and expense from the project. City Attorney Mitchell Moore said he has been in contact with Hudson Surety who has the insurance bond on James Warren & Associates and explained although the City has grounds to terminate the contract, that is not the intention given the time line constraint because there would not be time to rebid the project and be finished in time to apply for the next CDBG application. Mr. Moore also confirmed the proposal by Mr. Schultz and Mr. Hunkele would cut a substantial amount of time from the project. After further discussion, Antonio Carter made a motion to approve pay request #4 for James Warren & Associates. Walt Steward seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schultz reported citations on several slum and blight properties are going through the Court system now and some of those have been ongoing for nearly a year. Chief Edwards explained there are currently twenty-four (24) cases with some form of legal action in process and 37 more in the initial stages. He said our Code Enforcement Officer, Loren Williams, is working very hard on these and Attorney Moore said she has several she is working on and determinations need to be made on the areas they wish to focus on more because of the depth of attention and fees some of these require legally.

City Attorney Report:

None.

Department Head's Report:

None.

Public Comments:

Mr. and Mrs. Justin Bickford explained an event his church has planned to provide barbeque plates and music to the public for free. Their desire is for the City to close the street on the South side of the Court House to allow them access to have the event in the street October 23. Mrs. Pesce stated that is the weekend of the Harvest Festival. Mr. Stalnaker suggested the Community Center and he said all the weekend dates for October were already booked so Mr. Stalnaker suggested the Farmers Market and Mrs. Pesce said they could certainly use the Farmers Market and the date of October 16 was suggested. They said they were going to use the grill from the Sheriff's office and Chief Edwards offered the grill owned by the Police Department, if needed. After brief discussion, Eric Gaither made a motion to allow them use of the streets on the East and South sides of the Court House on October 16 from 4:00 am to 4:00 pm with the City blocking those streets. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Stalnaker offered to show them the Farmers Market after the meeting to see if they might like that better.

Theodore Herrera addressed the Council regarding the Historic Preservation Commission explaining they had not been able to meet yet. They had planned to meet at the Library but the Library was closed and they did not have a quorum. Peter Schultz said he would check about the availability of dates for them to use the Community Center and also mentioned speaking with Bryan Shaw, who used to be on the Commission, and said he would be willing to meet with them to provide them with necessary information and training information. He also mentioned the training information is through the DCA and they are supposed to let him know when it is available again.

Council Comments:

Walt Steward said it was mentioned to him by a couple of people who rode the Azalea Sprinter excursion train and wanted to know if we could look at it to determine if it is in the City limits. Mayor Pro-Tem Clayton mentioned he was at the ribbon cutting for the Azalea Sprinter excursion train. He said the City may want to look into golf cart rentals or trolleys for passengers to access the down town square and Nancy Pesce, Main Street Director, said she was already looking into something like this.

ADJOURNMENT:

Scott Stalnaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
March 22, 2021.

Mayor Pro-Tem John Clayton

Alderman Billy Retterbush

Alderman Scott Stalnaker

Alderman Walt Steward

Alderman Antonio Carter

Alderman Eric Gaither

ATTEST:

Jackie Jordan, City Clerk