

**REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE
COUNTY OF BERRIEN
August 28, 2017
6:00 P.M.**

INVOCATION: Mickey Lindsey

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, Henry Yawn, Mitchell Moore, Chris Youngblood, Justin Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Mickey Lindsey, Blair Joiner, Keith Stone

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Eric Gaither 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 – Antonio Carter made the motion to adopt the formal agenda with the addition of Jacob’s Well by Mickey Lindsey. Eric Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Commendation of Two Officers – Chief Edwards** – Chief Edwards briefed the Mayor and Council on the details concerning an armed robbery that took place at a convenience store in Ray City on Saturday, August 19th, along with the pursuit and capture of the two suspects which involved the Nashville Police Department, Berrien County deputies and Cook County deputies. He

commended Sergeant Chris Youngblood and Officer Justin Smith for their courage, tenacity and professionalism.

2. **Personal Items – City Cemeteries/5:30 Public Hearing – Mayor Richbourg** – Mayor Richbourg explained a public hearing was held at 5:30 p.m. today to discuss benches, coping and personal/decorative items in the City cemeteries which may be against code and inhibit the City's ability to maintain these cemeteries. The result of the hearing was to further investigate the ordinance prior to 1990 mentioning these items, the surrounding counties rules and regulations pertaining to this subject, and ownership and right of way surrounding the plots.
3. **Jacob's Well – Mickey Lindsey** – Mr. Lindsey explained Jacob's Well is registered with the State as a 501C3 non-profit business and their desire is to provide hot meals and minister to families in the community and briefly spoke about the economic plight in our community. He said the first ministry to come out of Jacob's Well is the King's Table which is a ministry to feed children and families in our community and help make their life better. Their intention is to operate out of the old B. C. Moore's building on the square because it has been given to them. He said they are trying to make changes in the building to accommodate this mission. He said it is not a homeless shelter nor will it be open for three (3) meals per day or seven (7) days per week but the intention is to close the gap when children are home from school. He said he had met with Mr. Yawn and Mr. Reynolds concerning the necessary grease trap and one would be installed as required. He said they are asking for the blessing of the Council. Walt Steward asked about the requirements and legalities concerning the type of business around the square, being the Central Business District. Mitchell said he spoke with Amanda Thacker with Code Enforcement who is not a voting member of the Commission but is Secretary and she agreed at this point it was not a rezoning matter before the Planning Commission if characterized as a food preparation and food catering service which is allowed in the Central Business District. Mitchell further explained presenting it to the Council at the last meeting and when the question of the impact upon economic development arose, he returned to Mr. Lindsey, as instructed, and relayed to him that it was not a zoning issue as characterized but there were concerns regarding the impact on the economic development around the square. Mr. Steward said he was more concerned with legal concerns regarding rules and ordinances since it is clearly established as a ministry.

REPORTS

4. **City Manager's/Finance Director's Report** – Mrs. Luke said she is still waiting on the letter from the USDA on the fire truck grant/loan regarding approval and other necessary items. She said they are still working on finalizing the renewal of the loan renewal for the Bi Lo Project. She also said she is preparing for the beginning of the FY 2017 audit within the next month or so.
5. **City Attorney's Report** – Mr. Moore mentioned a piece of property located on the west side of Davis Street and the north side of Avera Avenue, being two tracts of land, was recently acquired by the Bank of Alapaha where they intend to build a new bank. He also mentioned a drainage ditch on the property of which they may end up giving an easement to the City in order for it to continue to be maintained. He said he has drafted and made revisions to the solid waste contract of which he needs to review a couple of items with the City Manager. He also said he is still waiting to hear back from the lender on the Urban Redevelopment project.
6. **Department Head's** – Henry Yawn mentioned the Griffin property on Avera, of which the City has received several complaints on, is currently running in the paper by the bank that has it financed. Jill Wise reminded everyone of the Lip Sync contest on September 29th and the Harvest Festival on September 30th. She said the theme this year will be Home Grown Harvest Festival and t-shirts are available for purchase. Jill said the Chamber and Main Street have signed up for a three (3) year retail academy. John Reynolds said they are still working on the new water meter project. He also said they took the first set of samples to Alachua. Peter Schultz said they are still working on clearing right of ways and replacing street signs. Chief Edwards said the four (4) new patrol cars are still in production.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mellisa Watson said she is accepting items at her store for the LEAP program and mentioned other donations at her business to help others. Mayor Richbourg asked about bidding out extra work that was discussed a few months ago. Peter Schultz said he had asked for bids but no one seems to be interested. He said he does have some bids for the floors in the community center. Mayor Richbourg asked if he could advertise further.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Antonio Carter made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 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