

**REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN  
JANUARY 27, 2020  
6:00 P.M.**

**INVOCATION:** Richard McNair

**PLEDGE:** Mayor Taylor Scarbrough

**WELCOME:** Mayor Taylor Scarbrough

**ROLL CALL:** Members of the City Council present included Mayor Taylor Scarbrough, Aldermen Scott Stalnakar, Billy Retterbush, Eric Gaither, Antonio Carter and John Clayton

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

**OTHERS:** Richard McNair, Thomas Pate, Jeff Wilson, Terry Danforth, Harriette Sutton, Mireya Solis, Brenda Thomas, Janet Studstill

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Eric Gaither made a motion to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA:**

Billy Retterbush made a motion to adopt the formal agenda deleting an Executive Session and adding Nashville Fire Department Mutual Aide IGA between the City and County. Scott Stalnakar seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **House Bill 397/Open Meeting Act – Thomas Pate:** Mr. Pate addressed the Mayor and Council regarding House Bill 397 regarding the open meetings act. He mentioned open records requests and stated he was recording the meeting with his personal video camera and if anyone wanted a copy of the recording, they could email a request to him. He also mentioned the City's website and the information available on the website. Attorney Moore explained the requirements under this act which is to have a summary of actions taken within two (2) business days after the meeting and the actual minutes are to be available after approval which is take place at the next meeting. He further explained there is no requirement for either to be posted on the website and the City actually provides more than is required. Additionally, members of the public are allowed to video or record in open meetings and the City records the meetings as well.
2. **Our Place Hotel Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Appeal – Terry and Lisa Danforth:** On behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Danforth, Harriette Sutton presented the July 19<sup>th</sup> COA denial of a metal awning. Eric Gaither made a motion to hear the appeal. Billy Retterbush seconded the

motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Sutton explained their reasons for wanting a metal awning versus a fabric awning. Jeff Wilson explained the basis of Nashville Historic Preservation Commission's (Commission) decision. There was a brief discussion of the information presented and the Nashville Historic District Design Guidelines. Attorney Moore discussed the previous appeal presented by Our Place Hotel at the October 28<sup>th</sup> Council meeting along with his findings from the Department of Community Affairs, the appeal process and the process of modification of the District Guidelines. Eric Gaither made a motion to allow the metal awning requested by Our Place Hotel. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Billy Retterbush, Eric Gaither and John Clayton voted yes. Scott Stalnaker and Antonio Carter voted no. The motion passed three (3) to two (2).

3. **Rancho Alegre Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Appeal – Mireya Solis:** Mrs. Solis presented a letter from the Nashville Historic Preservation Commission (Commission) which explained work had commenced without applying for a COA causing the issuance of a Cease and Desist order and the subsequent denial of the COA afterward. Eric Gaither made a motion to hear the appeal. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Solis explained the appeal request. Jeff Wilson explained the basis of the Commission's decision and other acceptable suggestions offered by the Commission. After a brief discussion, Eric Gaither made a motion to allow the completion of brick on the left side of the building and to allow painting the left and right side to match the current building. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Billy Retterbush, Eric Gaither and John Clayton voted yes. Scott Stalnaker and Antonio Carter voted no. The motion passed three (3) to two (2). There was further discussion of the Guidelines regarding the number of days for the application and appeal processes.
4. **Residential Utilities Policy – Mayor Taylor Scarbrough:** Mayor Scarbrough mentioned the decision at the previous Council meeting allowing Johnny Browning's request to put up a \$2,000 deposit in lieu of providing his social security number for temporary water services for cleaning purposes of the property he recently purchased known as Cadillac Ranch. John Reynolds, Water Superintendent, provided information regarding water usage and the number of gallons of water that could possibly be used, depending on the water main at the source. He also reported checking with Lowndes County stating their policy requires the last four digits of the social security number with no exception. There was a brief discussion of the radio read water meters and usage monitoring. Attorney Moore briefly discussed policy and exceptions.
5. **Discussion of Possible City Retreat – Mayor Taylor Scarbrough:** The Mayor asked if the Council would be interested in a City Retreat including the Mayor, Council, City Manager, Department Heads, Police Chief, Fire Chief. He said he spoke with GMA and found they provide services at a charge of \$500 plus hotel accommodations for two nights, mileage reimbursement and possibly meals. The Mayor asked for a motion and Scott Stalnaker said the budget is tight and they would need more specific information in order to make a motion.
6. **Business License Requirements – Mayor Taylor Scarbrough:** The Mayor inquired about requirements of businesses who are required to have professional licenses if they are granted a business license without proof of the professional license. Attorney Moore explained there are

some that it is not allowed to impose the requirement but most of them do require proof of a professional license and he would provide more specific information to him.

7. **Absence of Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Meeting February 10<sup>th</sup> – Mayor Taylor Scarbrough:** The Mayor explained he and Mayor Pro-Tem John Clayton would be attending classes for newly elected officials in Tifton on the date of the next scheduled meeting and may not be back in Nashville by 6:00. Eric Gaither made a motion to post pone the time to begin the meeting at 6:30 instead of 6:00 on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously
8. **Nashville Fire Department Mutual Aide IGA between the City and County – Scott Stalnaker:** Mr. Stalnaker explained the Fire Department currently assists the County up to a 5-mile radius and the Berrien County Commissioners voted on January 7<sup>th</sup> to have the Fire Department automatically be paged out as mutual aide to all unincorporated areas in the County. He said Fire Chief Buck Warren is in agreement and asked if the City Council would be willing to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the County to provide mutual aide at no cost to the City. Scott Stalnaker made a motion to enter into an IGA to allow the City’s Fire Department to be utilized in the County at no cost to the City. John Clayton seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## **REPORTS:**

### **City Manager’s/Finance Director’s Report – Mandy Luke:**

None.

### **City Attorney’s Report – Mitchell Moore, Attorney:**

Mr. Moore reported he is awaiting the contracts for the 2019 CDBG. Also, he and Mr. Hunkele are in the process of addressing the non-responsive items with the bidder on the NURA project bid.

### **Department Head Reports:**

Eric Gaither asked Henry Yawn about something for Cecil Hill and Mr. Yawn explained he is going to present it to the Planning Commission and provided information for them to review.

John Reynolds reported they are 2020 CDBG surveys and someone tampered with fire hydrants the night before causing problems of which the Water Department had to tend to most of the night and day.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Brenda Thomas thanked Chief Edwards and the Police Department for their assistance to the MLK Day parade.

Janet Studstill asked about the CHIP Grant. Mr. Yawn said they are working on current applications which have to be completed before others can be considered. This is handled through SGRC.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Antonio Carter said the Council has to make tough decisions and try to do the right thing but the City has policies in place and the policies need to be followed.

Mayor Scarbrough asked about an office, financial reports, statuses of projects and a key to City Hall.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to conduct, Billy Retterbush made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Eric Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

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Mayor Taylor Scarbrough

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Alderman Scott Stalnaker

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Alderman Billy Retterbush

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Alderman Antonio Carter

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Alderman Eric Gaither

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Alderman Walt Steward

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Alderman John Clayton

**ATTEST:**

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Jackie Jordan, City Clerk