

**REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN  
JUNE 22, 2020  
6:00 P.M.  
-VIA TELECONFERENCE-**

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Taylor Scarbrough

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

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

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S):**

**Regular City Council Meeting on June 8, 2020 via Teleconference:** Eric Gaither made a motion to adopt the minutes. John Clayton seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA:**

Mayor Scarbrough requested the addition of two (2) items: Reimbursement of GMA Training expense to the Mayor and Fourth of July Fireworks. Eric Gaither made a motion to adopt the formal agenda with the additions. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

After discussion began for original Agenda item #1: Approval of Affidavit and Resolution for March 9<sup>th</sup> Executive Session, Antonio Carter made a motion to amend the Agenda by switching the first two items as follows: item #1-Policy regarding Executive Session Affidavits; item #2-Approval of Affidavit and Resolution for March 9<sup>th</sup> Executive Session. Eric Gaither seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1- **Policy regarding Executive Session Affidavits – Mitchell Moore, City Attorney:**  
Under the current policy, the Executive Session Affidavit only requires the signature of the Mayor or Presiding officer, which is attested by the City Clerk and the Resolution requires the signatures of all participating governing officials, as required by Open Meetings law. After discussion of a possible change to the policy that the Executive Session Affidavit be signed by all governing officials participating in the Executive Session rather than the Mayor or Presiding officer only, Antonio Carter made a motion to leave the policy as it is regarding Executive Session Affidavits. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion. John Clayton, Walt Steward, Antonio Carter and Billy Retterbush voted in favor of the motion. Eric Gaither voted against the motion. The motion passed four (4) to one (1).
- 2- **Approval of Affidavit and Resolution for March 9, 2020 Executive Session – Mitchell Moore, City Attorney:** Eric Gaither made a motion to approve the Affidavit

and Resolution. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 3- **Format of July 13, 2020 Regular Council Meeting – Mayor Scarbrough:** Antonio Carter made a motion to have the meeting in the Council Chambers at City Hall as long as everyone in attendance wears a mask and practices six-foot social distancing. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, Antonio Carter revised his motion to have the meeting in the Council Chambers at City Hall as long as everyone in attendance wears a mask and practices six-foot social distancing; only those on the Agenda be allowed inside; check the temperature of everyone entering the building; offer the meeting through RingCentral teleconference along with livestreaming the meeting on Main Street's Face Book page for the general public; and, disinfect the meeting area before and after the meeting. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- 4- **Reimbursement of GMA Training to Mayor – Mayor Scarbrough:** Eric Gaither made a motion to reimburse Mayor Scarbrough for the expense of GMA training in the amount of \$780 with a paid invoice. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- 5- **Fourth of July Fireworks – Mayor Scarbrough:** Mrs. Luke explained she had discussed this with the City Attorney, Police Chief and Fire Chief regarding the current Executive Orders by the Governor and although many surrounding Cities have cancelled their events due to COVID-19, she suggested postponing the celebration to a later date such as Labor Day since the City has already purchased the fireworks. Billy Retterbush made a motion to postpone the fireworks celebration to Labor Day. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

## **REPORTS:**

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

None.

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

Mr. Moore discussed a request from CaterParrott Railnet (CPR) to close the railroad crossing on Clark Street but upon discussion with Peter Schultz there is a concern of access to utilities, gas lines, storage buildings and emergency vehicles. Mr. Moore explained no official action can be taken at this time and further discussion and research would be necessary before action can be taken, if necessary.

Mr. Moore updated the group on the ongoing NURA project regarding the tax credit and application.

### **Department Head Reports:**

Peter Schultz mentioned the railroad closure request from CPR adding there are water, sewer and gas mains at the location and if there is a problem with either, the citizens there would have no other access.

Mr. Schultz also mentioned he contacted DOT regarding a problem at the intersection at Highway 125 and Enigma Road.

Jill Wise reported a new owner for Hayley's Coffee Shop, Ali Gibson, who also owns Wire Rack Bakery and hopes it opens in about a month; the Farmer's Market is doing very well; and, Harvest Festival is tentatively set for October 24, 2020.

Chief Edwards informed the group of the passing of Bob Mikell this morning. He was the Assistant Director of 911 and a Ray City volunteer firefighter.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Eric Gaither asked about the budget. Mrs. Luke explained she and the department heads are actively working on the budget and normally the budget workshop is scheduled the end of June or first of July with the Public Hearing approximately a week before the budget is adopted which is usually at the second meeting in July.

Antonio Carter, Mrs. Luke and Billy Retterbush expressed appreciation to all the City personnel. Mayor Scarbrough asked if there was an anticipated date of re-opening City Hall to the public and Mrs. Luke explained it is yet to be determined but we have been checking with local banks and other businesses as to what they are doing but services have not been hindered, penalties have not been assessed, there has been very few cut-offs, there is a door bell at front door and all needs have been accommodated.

Mayor Scarbrough asked about due dates of water bills in relation to the date they are received in the mail and Mrs. Luke explained the due date is the tenth of each month but people have until the twentieth to pay without a penalty and penalties are not assessed until the twenty-first which is all explained on the bills. She further explained we have encouraged people to continue to remain current on the bills, although penalties have not been assessed in months due to the pandemic, to avoid a past due bill to be paid when the state of emergency is lifted and there are accounts that are up to five months behind.

Mayor Scarbrough said he has received complaints about noise from fireworks going off. Chief Edwards explained the State law {OCGA 25-10-2} on this and the State law mandates that fireworks cannot be further mandated by our noise ordinance. Mr. Moore commented on this legislation as well and said he would look at it.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Antonio Carter made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Billy Retterbush 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 Antonio Carter

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Alderman Walt Steward

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Alderman Billy Retterbush

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Alderman Eric Gaither

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Alderman John Clayton

#### **ATTEST:**

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Jackie Jordan, City Clerk