

**REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2020  
6:00 P.M.**

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

**INVOCATION:** Mitchell Moore

**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, Aldermen Scott Stalnaker, Billy Retterbush, Antonio Carter, Walt Steward, Eric Gaither

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

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

Regular City Council Meeting on September 14, 2020; Public Hearing on September 14, 2020: Eric Gaither made a motion to adopt the minutes. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA:**

Billy Retterbush made a motion to adopt the formal agenda. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1- **Adoption of Tax Millage Rate – Mandy Luke, City Manager/Finance Director:** Mrs. Luke presented the Resolution to set the 2020 tax millage rate at 9.50 mills. Scott Stalnaker made a motion to adopt the Resolution to set the tax millage rate at 9.50 mills. Antonio Carter seconded the motion. Roll Call: Scott Stalnaker, Antonio Carter, Billy Retterbush and Walt Steward voted yes. Eric Gaither voted no. The motion carries four (4) to one (1).
- 2- **Columbus Day Holiday on October 12 – Mandy Luke, City Manager/Finance Director:** Mrs. Luke advised the Council the next regularly scheduled Council meeting date would be October 12, 2020 which is Columbus Day Holiday. Antonio Carter made a motion to cancel the regularly scheduled meeting of October 12, 2020. Scott Stalnaker seconded the motion stating if anything comes up, a meeting can be called. The motion carried unanimously.
- 3- **Format of Next Regular Council Meeting – Mayor Pro-Tem John Clayton:** Antonio Carter made a motion to continue with the same format strongly encouraging masks and social distancing, RingCentral teleconference, if available, and Facebook live stream via

The Berrien Press, if they wish to do so. Walt Steward seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**City Manager/Finance Director Report:**

None.

**City Attorney Report:**

Attorney Mitchell Moore explained the current Gas Portfolio (IV) with Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia (MGAG) is set to expire December 31, 2020 and he is in receipt of a supplemental contract to extend the term from the current twenty (20) year term to thirty (30) years, through 2050, with a provision for an additional ten (10) years, through 2060. He said he last contract was executed in 2014 by Resolution, with an amendment in 2015, although the current contract was received with an Ordinance, which requires two (2) readings to take effect. Mr. Moore has submitted an inquiry with Alston and Bird, LLP for the use of a Resolution which is effective immediately versus an Ordinance. The purpose of the contract is to buy or trade long term gas supplies at the best market prices. Scott Stalnaker made a motion to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the Portfolio V Supplemental Contract and Amendment to the Gas Supply Contract from Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia. Billy Retterbush seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Moore next reported receipt of a written proposal by email of an offer to purchase a piece of property from Nashville Downtown Development Authority (DDA) that was donated to the City of Nashville and currently under a lease. He explained real estate transactions are normally discussed in Executive Session but he wanted to make the Council aware of it and would circulate the proposal to the Mayor and Council with recommendations which could be discussed at a later date in an Executive Session and then the decision would be made and announced in an open meeting.

**Department Head's Report:**

Police Chief Edwards explained the first National Faith and Blue Weekend taking place Columbus Day weekend, where law enforcement host various events to bring citizens and police together in an effort to build bridges and improve relationships between law enforcement and communities. The Police Department will hold a fish fry due to an abundance of catfish in Tygart Park as a result of the cancellation of the annual Fishing Rodeo this year because of COVID-19 together with donations from Coyote Manufacturing, Chaparral, the Brown Bag and the Hair Shack hair salon. The event will take place October 10, 2020.

**Public Comments:**

The Council heard comments and answered questions from Barbara May, Janet Studstill, Earl Miles and Wayne May regarding various items including street repairs, the tax millage rate, Historical Preservation Commission, an auto collision with a train at the railroad crossing on Nashville Mills Road and the railroad crossing closure request by CaterParrott Railnet at the Public Hearing and Council Meeting on September 14, 2020.

**Council Comments:**

Walt Steward and Scott Stalnaker commented on public safety at railroad crossings. Antonio Carter mentioned the passing of Alapaha Mayor Benjamin Davis' wife.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Scott Stalnaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. Antonio Carter seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. September 28, 2020.

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Mayor Taylor Scarbrough

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Alderman John Clayton

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Alderman Antonio Carter

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Alderman Walt Steward

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Alderman Scott Stalnaker

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Alderman Billy Retterbush

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Alderman Eric Gaither

**ATTEST:**

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Jackie Jordan, City Clerk

DRAFT