

REGULAR SESSION

August 9, 2016

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of McMinnville, Tennessee, met in regular session at its regular meeting place, City Hall, Tuesday, August 9, 2016, at approximately 7:00 p.m. Adequate public notice of the agenda was given by notices posted at City Hall, articles in the Southern Standard newspaper and news reports on the local radio stations. Present were: Mayor Jimmy Haley; Vice Mayor Ben Newman; Aldermen Jimmy Bonner, Everett Brock, Ryle Chastain, Steve Harvey and Mike Neal. Absent: None. Others present: Bill Brock, Acting City Administrator, Shirley Durham, City Recorder; Tim Pirtle, City Attorney and members of the news media and press. The meeting was presided over by the Honorable Mayor Jimmy Haley, with Shirley Durham, City Recorder, recording the action taken at the meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Mayor Haley stated that written copies of the minutes of the regular session of July 26, 2016 had been sent to each member of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen previously. He asked if any member of the Board wished to make any corrections, additions or modifications to the minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. Chastain to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Neal and carried.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Haley recognized Senator Janice Bowling who stated she was present tonight to give special honor and recognition to Martin Grissom and his family. She asked Martin to introduce his parents and grandparents. His parents are Mike and Holly Grissom and his grandparents are David and Judy Grissom.

Senator Bowling recognized Col. Thomas Vaughn who read a Tennessee Senate Proclamation honoring Martin Grissom on receiving the Tennessee FFA State Star Farmer Award and his many other achievements.

Martin thanked the Board, his family and the citizens of Warren County for their support.

Mayor Haley recognized Mandy Eller, who reported their second annual McMinnville Mountain Crawl held on August 6th was very successful. They doubled the number of participants this year with over half being from out of town and two from out of state. She thanked the Board and all of the volunteers who helped with the event.

COMMUNICATIONS

Motion was made by Mr. Neal to approve a request from Monti Hillis, Principal Bobby Ray Memorial Elementary School, to host a 5K Walk/Run fundraiser “Kids ‘n Caves” on Saturday, September 10, 2016. She has met with Police Chief Bryan Denton about the route and will follow all of the guidelines. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chastain and carried.

PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1992, a resolution of the City of McMinnville, Tennessee to hold a voluntary election, as allowed by state law, for the registered voters in the City of McMinnville to determine whether the City shall issue general obligation bonds in the amount of not to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) for the renovation of the McMinnville Civic Center; to provide how the indebtedness shall be paid; to request the Warren County Election Commission to place such question on the November 8, 2016 ballot; and to set the effective date of this resolution was introduced for adoption.

Motion was made by Mr. Neal to adopt Resolution No. 1992. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bonner.

In discussion Mr. Neal stated that he had heard rumors that he brought this up in an effort to kill the funding and/or this project and that is not true. He believes in the health and wellness of our citizens. It is a substantial amount of money. Four years ago at least two members of this Board voted to take a \$2,000,000 project to the voters. If this was only about renovations, upgrades, maintenance he was totally in favor of those things as long as they did not go over \$2,000,000. He did have some problems with some of the things when it comes to stepping on the feet of the private sector. He was of the opinion that government should limit itself to providing only those services which are needed and the public sector cannot or will not provide. This is one of those things where we have people that make a living in these businesses and it puts our government in competition with them.

Tonight he has asked the Board to look at and consider this. The \$5,000,000 amount, he felt, was something we should ask the blessings of our citizens before we spend that type of funds.

In discussion Aldermen Newman, Chastain, Harvey and Brock all stated they were elected by the people to make these difficult decisions.

It was pointed out the city had the money to cover the debt service and it did not involve a tax increase. Currently we do not have a good estimate on what the cost of the project will be.

Mayor Haley stated the priority was ADA compliance, fire codes and safety of our citizens.

Following discussion and upon call of the roll Aldermen Bonner and Neal voted Aye. Voting Nay: Aldermen Brock, Chastain, Harvey, Newman and Mayor Haley. Motion failed.

Resolution No. 1993, a resolution of the City of McMinnville, Tennessee to hold a voluntary election, as allowed by state law, for the registered voters in the City of McMinnville to determine whether the City shall issue general obligation bonds in the amount of not to exceed Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000) for the renovation of the Franklin P. Blue Municipal Building; to provide how the indebtedness shall be paid; to request the Warren County Election Commission to place such question on the November 8, 2016 ballot; and to set the effective date of this resolution was introduced for adoption.

Motion was made by Mr. Bonner to adopt Resolution No. 1993. Mr. Neal seconded the motion but said he did not totally understand why we are considering this again but he would second it so the Board could take action on it.

He pointed out that four years ago this same question was brought to the voters and they said NO. The \$6,000,000 included parts that have now been torn down. The number would not be this big now.

Mr. Bonner stated he had this put on the agenda. Everyone thinks he is down on the Blue Building. He was elected in 2004 and he served in that building. He was not for tearing it down then but he now favors tearing it down. City Hall moved out of the building in 2008 and the Police Department moved in 2009. It was put on the ballot in 2012 and the voters said NO. Why spend \$6,000,000 on the building when you could tear it down and build a new police department building for \$2,000,000.

Mr. Harvey asked why the question was worded this way. It is the same thing they voted on before. It sounded like Mr. Bonner wanted to tear it down. Seems like there should be a resolution for a referendum to tear it down.

Mr. Bonner stated that if they did not want to spend \$6,000,000 on it, the best thing to do is tear it down.

Following discussion and upon call of the roll Alderman Bonner voted Aye. Voting Nay: Aldermen Brock, Chastain, Harvey, Neal, Newman and Mayor Haley. Motion failed.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 1731, an ordinance of the City of McMinnville, Tennessee adopting the annual budget and tax rate for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017 was introduced for second and final reading.

Motion was made by Mr. Neal to pass Ordinance No. 1731 on second and final reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chastain.

In discussion, Mr. Brock, Chairman of the Finance committee, pointed out that this budget shows no tax increase. The tax rate remains at 2.0804%. The City also has a good surplus.

Upon call of the roll Aldermen Bonner, Brock, Chastain, Harvey, Neal, Newman and Mayor Haley voted Aye. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Fire Chief Kendall Mayfield reported there were two days left for people to bid on the fire truck. Currently the highest bid is \$2,200. The Safety Committee set the minimum bid at \$2,500. He asked if the Board wanted to take the highest bit if it was under \$2,500.

Motion was made by Mr. Neal to amend the agenda to consider under Departmental Reports the fire truck bids. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chastain and carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Neal to accept the highest bid on the fire truck. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brock and carried.

Scott McCord, Parks and Recreation Director, gave an update report on the Smokin' in McMinnville scheduled for August 12th and 13th.

Bill Brock, Acting City Administrator, thanked all of the Department Heads for their work on the budget.

Tim Pirtle, City Attorney, reported all of the local property owners on Sunnyside Heights have signed off on their deeds. JRN will deliver their deeds within two weeks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Haley announced that the City has been selected to receive a Clean Tennessee Energy Grant in the amount of \$13,000 for lighting and insulated doors at the civic center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

City Recorder

Mayor