

**CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE  
COMMISSION MEETING**

**Record of Minutes of** Special Called **Meeting Date** November 09, 2011 **Sheet No.** \_\_\_\_\_

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A special called meeting of the Etowah City Commission was held on Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 723 Ohio Avenue, Etowah, Tennessee. Members present were Mayor Burke Garwood, Vice Mayor Charles Slack, Commissioner Ann Abbott, and Commissioner Dennis Morgan. Also present were City Manager Matthew Gravley, Finance Director Melissa Henderson, and Recording Secretary Jamie Davis. Absent was Commissioner Matt Goodin.

Mayor Garwood called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**NEW BUSINESS**

a) Discussion and approval of USDA Rural Development grant/loan to replace Public Works equipment.

Resolution No. 1044 – Application for USDA Grant/Loan Fund read by Mayor Garwood.

**Resolution No. 1044  
A RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION  
FOR A USDA GRANT/LOAN FUND**

City Manager Matthew Gravley explained that the equipment at Public Works is in bad condition. We are almost at the point where we are not able to perform essential duties. We want to go to a system that has a roll off system and replace the pride wagon system. The second piece of equipment to replace would be the leaf collection truck because the transmission went out today on it. We will rig an old dump truck for now. Third would be a dump truck or two because all of ours have a limited lifetime left. A lot of our trucks are going to be scrapped, they are not worth selling. The fourth piece would be a bush hog of some kind with a side arm and maybe a rear arm too because we have a lot of right of ways to keep up in the city. Fifth would be a knuckle boom truck for brush/junk pickup and with all equipment we should gain about 3 employees being able to perform other duties instead of being on the trucks. We figure each piece would be about \$30,000 to \$50,000 each for a good used piece of equipment for a total of approximately \$200,000. Rural Development can process pretty easily and it depends on population, household income, financial situation, etc and it will help our chances if we can give the 5% (\$10,000) up front. This is a non-binding application; we can change our mind at anytime. We could receive between \$40,000 and \$80,000 in grants with an interest rate of 3.75% for up to 20 years. We are very close to needing the equipment soon in order to keep operating. Commissioner Dennis Morgan ask what the deal was with the street sweeper. City Manager Gravley said he and Billy Ingram, Director of Public Works, are going to see if they can trade with the company we bought it from because they will give us a better trade in. Mayor Burke Garwood said this Resolution No. 1044 just gives you the authorization to apply for the

grant, is that correct? Will we check with BB&T, SunTrust, and other banks for the loans? Melissa Henderson, Finance Director, said we can apply at the bank but if we do not get the loan through Rural Development we will not get the grant. City Manager Matthew Gravley said we have to get other estimates in order to satisfy the grant process. Commissioner Dennis Morgan ask if the Pride Cars replacements would be like a hopper like Seatons? Billy Ingram said yes. Billy Ingram said it's a hook lift truck so the wheels are further away from the debris.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Ann Abbott and seconded by Vice Mayor Charles Slack to approve applying for the USDA Rural Development grant. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.*

b) Discussion and approval of LSTA Technology Matching Grant for the library. Lori Waters, Librarian, explained that the library wants to apply for a 50/50 matching grant from LSTA for new wireless computers. These computers will include a laser printer, wireless cards, warranty, and USB mice and keyboards. We would be applying for up to an \$8000.00 grant with up to \$4000.00 being the matching portion which has already been budgeted for in FY 11-12.

*A motion was made by Vice Mayor Charles Slack and seconded by Commissioner Dennis Morgan to approve applying for the grant. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.*

c) Discussion and approval of Police Department automotive repairs for approximately \$2500.00. City Manager Matthew Gravley said we want to keep this car running for 2 more years; it's the old K9 car. The car is knocking and blowing water from the number 8 cylinder. In the long run it's cheaper to purchase a new engine than to repair the old one because of the warranty. To repair the old engine it would be about \$2300.00. The new engine would be \$2000.00 and the labor would be about \$500.00. Commissioner Dennis Morgan ask when the two new cars will be here, Eric Armstrong, Chief of Police, said it should be next week sometime. Commissioner Dennis Morgan ask what year the car is that we are repairing and how many miles does it have on it, Eric Armstrong said 2006 with about 100,000 miles. Mayor Burke Garwood said we need to get rid of everything that we can if its not in use. Eric Armstrong said yes we have gotten rid of everything except the car the detective is driving and it will be next. And after that it will be the Ford Explorer.

*A motion was made by Vice Mayor Charles Slack and seconded by Mayor Burke Garwood to approve purchasing a new engine for police car. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by Mayor Burke Garwood seconded by Commissioner Dennis Morgan to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.*

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E. Burke Garwood III, Mayor

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Melissa Henderson, City Recorder

Respectfully submitted by:

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Jamie L. Davis, Recording Secretary