

City Commission – Etowah, Tennessee

Monday, October 25, 2021

6:30 PM

- 1) Call to Order
 - Mayor Burke Garwood called the meeting to order.
- 2) Roll Call
 - Mayor Garwood as well as Commissioners Misty Webb, John James and Diana Elrod were present. Commissioner Jim Swayne was absent. Also present was City Manager Russ Blair and Finance Director Alison Bull.
- 3) Prayer
 - Reverend Wayne Hickman gave invocation.
- 4) Approval of the Minutes
 - Regular – September 27, 2021
 - i. Commissioner Elrod made a motion. Commissioner Webb seconded.
 - ii. Bull said that she put the wrong name in the minutes for the Etowah Arts Commission Director and that she would fix it before they're finalized.
 - iii. All Ayes.
 - Workshop – October 5, 2021
 - i. Commissioner Elrod made a motion to approve. Commissioner James seconded. All Ayes.
- a. Selection of New DRC Chairman/Appointment of New Member
 - Blair said that he would be stepping down and that position needed to be replaced. He gave the qualifications required and reviewed how that position is replaced.
 - Mayor Garwood said that anyone who has suggestions of people to serve should send to Russ or himself.
- b. Approval of SM&E - \$6,737.50
 - Blair said that this should be the final closeout for the South Industrial Park engineering.
 - Mayor Garwood made a motion. Commissioner James seconded. All Ayes.
- c. Approval of TDEC Invoice - \$3,000
 - Blair said that this is Related to the South Industrial Park site readiness study.
 - Commissioner James made a motion to approve. Commissioner Elrod seconded. All Ayes.
- d. Approval of Plaster Repair to Gem Theater - \$5,300
 - Blair said that Parks and Recreation Director, Bryan Dalton, did a good job at soliciting bids and repairs for \$5,300 especially since there are very few plaster contractors. He said that the only one they found was the one that bid the job and that it would fall within the single source exception. We checked with the auditors, and they were okay with it at management's discretion.
 - Commissioner Elrod asked if this would be covered by insurance.
 - Blair said that it is but that we'd pay the \$1,000 deductible.
 - Commissioner Elrod asked if the \$1,000 out of the total \$5,300 is all that would be paid.

- Blair said that the total is the \$7,080 figure and of that the \$6,080 will be covered and the City would pay the \$1,000.
 - Commissioner Elrod made a motion to approve the plaster repair at the Gem Theater for \$5,300. Commissioner James seconded. All Ayes.
- e. Consideration and First Reading of Ordinance 871: An Ordinance to Increase the Court Costs for the Etowah Municipal Court
- Mayor Garwood read through the amounts that will be changing.
 - Mayor Garwood made a motion to approve. Commissioner James seconded. All Ayes.
- f. Consideration and Passage of Resolution 1268: A Resolution Authorizing the Distribution of the Etowah Utility Board's Natural Gas in Lieu of Tax Payments
- Mayor Garwood read through the resolution.
 - Commissioner Elrod made a motion to approve Resolution 1268. Commissioner James seconded. All Ayes.
- g. Consideration and Passage of Resolution 1269: A Resolution Authorizing the Distribution of the Etowah Utility Board's Electric In Lieu of Tax Payments
- Commissioner Elrod made a motion to approve. Commissioner James seconded. All Ayes.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Current Pay Ranges and Discussion of Employee Bonuses/Pay Raises
- Commissioner James asked if we could do another workshop. Mayor Garwood agreed. The date was set to November 1, 2021 at 5:00 PM.
- b. Two Additional Employee Paid Federal Holidays (Juneteenth and Veteran's Day)
- Mayor Garwood asked if we need to carry this over to the workshop.
 - Blair said that it's up to them but it's pretty straightforward.
 - Commissioner James asked if they could do items a through d in old business in the workshop. All agreed to table these items.
- c. Firefighters Sleep Time
- Tabled for discussion at workshop.
- d. Changing Accrual Hours for Sick Time/Vacation in Police/Fire Departments
- Tabled for discussion at workshop.

8) City Manager's Report

- Blair gave his report.
- DR Horton has had our Letter of Intent for a couple of weeks now. DR Horton is the actual homebuilder. Eagle Bend is the developer. Eagle Bend, upon completion, would sell the lots to DR Horton. They want us to enter into a letter of intent with Eagle Bend and then they will enter into a LOI with Eagle Bend. The 90-day inspection period only applies to Eagle Bend so this doesn't affect us. After 90 days, we would know if they plan to proceed with the project. This letter proposed by DR Horton is informational and has no tangible significance to us. Blair presented to the board that they can proceed as planned or review the new information more thoroughly before deciding.

- Mayor Garwood asked what Blair's recommendation was. Blair said that, at first glance, he would just go ahead but if he had an opportunity to read more thoroughly, he may notice something that he hadn't otherwise. Mayor Garwood suggested that Blair look over it and to wait.
- Blair discussed the budgeted item – a salt dog – and said that it is under budgeted. He said that they can be ready to salt the roads this winter. My suggestion would be to repair our existing equipment, operate that this year, and then budget for the new piece of equipment in 2022-2023.
- Commissioner Elrod asked if it was safe to be used. Public Works Director, Gary Hicks, said that it can be used. Commissioner Elrod asked how much it is to repair the current one. Hicks said about \$5,000-\$6,000 to get it really working but to get us through he could probably keep it under \$1,000. Elrod asked what the \$5,000 would entail. Hicks said that it would include engine work, hydraulic cylinder, etc. Commissioner Elrod asked if the plan was to get it usable and then sell it on GovDeals to make up the \$9,000 difference in the spring. Blair said that if it has value afterwards then we would certainly put it on GovDeals. He said that his concern is that even if we order it now, we wouldn't have it when we needed it.
- Blair discussed various other issues including striping that was being done by public works, Gene McConkey filling in as Codes Enforcement, Library Director replacement, FTM check being paid and the Development District check being issued, among other issues.

9) Citizens Comments

- There were none.

10) Unscheduled Items

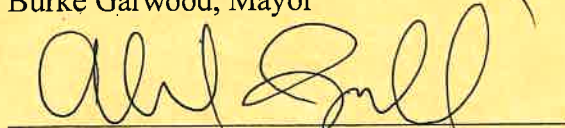
- There were none.

11) Adjournment

- Mayor Garwood moved to adjourn. Commissioner Elrod seconded. All Ayes



Burke Garwood, Mayor



Alison Bull, Recording Secretary

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