

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF BRISTOL, TENNESSEE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

April 5, 2016

CALL TO ORDER:

The City of Bristol Tennessee City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Lea Powers on Tuesday, April 5, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Slater Center Auditorium.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Lea Powers, Vice-Mayor Chad Keen, Councilwoman Margaret Feierabend, Councilman Jack Young, and Councilwoman Michelle Denise.

Others Present: City Manager William L. Sorah; City Attorney Danielle Kiser, City Recorder Tara Musick; and members of City staff.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Bill Houck of Northstar Baptist Church gave the invocation, and Mayor Lea Powers led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR CHANGES: None.

PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS:

Bristol Arbor Day/Earth Day Proclamation – Vice Mayor Keen read a proclamation designating April 29, 2016, as Bristol Arbor Day/Earth Day. Mike Musick, Parks and Recreation Department, was in attendance to accept the proclamation.

National Library Week Proclamation – Councilwoman Feierabend read a proclamation designating the week of April 10 - 16, 2016, as National Library Week. Amy Kimani, Executive Director of the Bristol Library, was in attendance to accept the proclamation.

Sanitary Survey of Community Water System Recognition – The City of Bristol recently received a rating of 99 out of 100 from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Supply, for this year's sanitary survey of our water system. This rating is one of the highest in the state. The City met all of the standards and requirements of the Division of Water Supply in the areas of system management and operation, operator compliance,

source of supply, treatment, monitoring and data verification, finished water storage, pump facilities and controls, and distribution system and cross connections. Director of Public Works Tim Beavers, and other members of the Department of Public Works were in attendance.

PRESENTATIONS:

Introduction of New Canine Staff “Sonny”

Officer Chesney Griffin introduced “Sonny”, the Police Department’s new canine staff member, to City Council and the public. She stated that she and Sonny had completed their training the previous week and that Sonny was already responsible for four arrests. Sonny is dual trained in narcotics and missing persons. Mayor Powers commended Officer Griffin for all of her good work.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS:

Rev. Barbara Doyle, Anderson Street United Methodist Church, 128 Sparger Road, stated she was concerned about the number of break-ins in homes in the area. She asked if City Council could ask staff to place more lights on Sparger Road and Vance Drive. She stated she and her neighbor were interested in forming a Neighborhood Watch in her area. Mr. Sorah stated that anyone interested in forming a Neighborhood Watch should contact the Police Department and they would be glad to assist them through the process. Councilwoman Feierabend said that the City Council encourages the Neighborhood Watch program in all neighborhoods.

APPOINTMENTS:

Bristol Housing Board – City Council addressed the vacancy of one seat on the Bristol Housing Board. Mr. Patrick Manning was unanimously appointed to the Bristol Housing Board to serve a term of office ending March 31, 2021.

Community Development Advisory Committee - City Council addressed two vacancies on the Community Development Advisory Committee. Ella Kane and Daniel Witcher were unanimously appointed to the Community Development Advisory Committee to serve a term of office ending April 30, 2019.

Tree Board - City Council addressed one vacancy on the Tree Board. M. C. Bullock was unanimously appointed to the Tree Board to serve an unexpired term of office ending June 30, 2017.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

- A. First Reading of New Ordinances:** None
- B. Adoption of Ordinances (Second Reading):** None
- C. Resolutions:**

Resolution 16-20 A Resolution Approving the Submittal of a Grant Application to the U. S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness, for SAFER Grant Funds

City Manager Sorah presented the resolution to Council for approval. He stated that additional staff will be required at the new fire station that is to be built at Exit 74. The grant would support 100% of the wages and benefits for a period of two years. The grant would require that the City submit a Letter of Commitment to retain the employees after the two-year period. Councilman Young made a motion to approve the resolution, and Vice-Mayor Keen seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution 16-22 A Resolution Awarding a Bid for the Construction of the Nature Center Addition

City Manager Sorah presented the resolution to Council for approval. Mr. Sorah stated that the low bid of \$1,000,000 was received from Burwil Construction Company, Bristol, Tennessee. Terry Napier, Parks & Recreation Director, shared photos of the plans for the Nature Center addition. He stated that the addition would double the square footage of the Nature Center and add a parking lot.

Dr. Robin Feierabend, representing the "Friends of Steele Creek Park" stated that they were committed to raising the funds to furnish the exhibits and other furnishings in the Nature Center addition. Mayor Powers asked how much they expected to raise in funds. Dr. Feierabend stated that the "Friends of Steele Creek Park" have a target of \$250,000.

Councilwoman Feierabend made a motion to approve the resolution, and Councilwoman Denise seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution 16-24 A Resolution Authorizing an Application for Grant Funding to the United States Economic Development Administration under the Economic Development Assistance Programs

City Manager Sorah presented the resolution to Council for approval. Mr. Sorah stated that Council had approved Resolution 15-77 authorizing staff to apply to the U. S. Economic Development Administration for funding assistance under the Public Works Program. The funding included a motor control center at the water filtration plant and improvements in the secondary treatment process at the regional wastewater treatment plant. The total cost is \$4,262,000 with federal funding providing \$1,500,000. He stated that the EDA had requested a Letter of Commitment from the City for the balance of \$2,762,000.

Vice-Mayor Keen made a motion to approve the resolution, and Mayor Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

CONSENT AGENDA:

City Manager Sorah presented the Consent Agenda to Council. Councilman Young made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and Councilwoman Feierabend seconded the motion. The following items were approved by unanimous Council vote:

- Minutes March 1, 2016 City Council Meeting,
- Minutes March 22, 16, 2016 City Council Work Session,
- Resolution 16-21 A Resolution Approving the Adoption of the Sullivan County Basic Emergency Operations Plan,
- Resolution 16-23 A Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of an Application for the Highway Safety Grant,
- Resolution 16-25 A Resolution Awarding Bids for Water Plant Treatment Chemicals, and
- Resolution 16-26 A Resolution Awarding Bid for the Purchase of Refuse Containers.

BOARD OF EDUCATION LIASON REPORT:

Dr. Lilly stated the schools were open during Spring Break for “Intersession”. It is a program that offers enrichment and remedial studies for those that want to attend. He stated that they plan to expand the program next year. He reported that math teachers had been participating in a program sponsored by Eastman called “Eastman Scholar Mathletes”. Teachers that participate receive \$700 for their classrooms. They will be expanding the program this year to include science teachers which will be called “Eastman Scholar Scienceletes”. He said that the ACT tests are coming up and will be held at Tennessee High School. He spoke of the “Tennessee Promise” program and how all students had to have a mentor to participate in the program.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

Mr. Sorah wanted to remind City Council members of a few dates to add to their calendars, 1) the spring race at the Bristol Motor Speedway on the weekend of April 16 & 17th; 2) the representatives from Cubic, Inc., would be visiting the week of April 11th to commence the city branding program; 3) City Council Work Session on Tuesday, April 19, at the Lodge at Steele Creek to discuss the Fiscal 2017 budget; and 4) the quarterly meeting of the Economic Development Boards and Commissions on Tuesday, April 26.

Mr. Sorah made an announcement of the new Community Grant Program. The grant is in the amount of \$5,000 and will be awarded to a neighborhood that brings forth a project that benefits a public space within community. He hopes to make the award at the July 2016 City Council meeting.

Terry Talbert introduced Jon Luttrell, Public Relations Specialist, with the Community Relations Department.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Young commented that Gerald Holmes, a member of the Bristol Housing Board had passed away. He also announced that May 5th was the National Day of Prayer. He remarked that employment opportunities are opening up in Bristol.

Councilwoman Feierabend said that she felt the “Breakfast with Council” held at The Pinnacle had gone very well. She wanted to remind people about “National Library Week” and that there would be a luncheon on Monday, April 11. She stated that she was very excited about a Poverty Simulation program taking place in the next week. She thanked Mary Lee Williams,

Administration Director, for the presentation on the proposed in-house health clinic for city employees and their families.

Mayor Powers reminded everyone of the half marathon to take place on Saturday, April 9th. She congratulated King University on their 150 year anniversary.

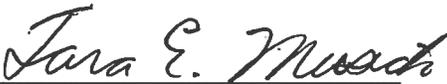
Vice-Mayor Keen stated we have many job openings in the area. He asked that everyone get the word out that there are work and career opportunities in Bristol. He announced that he will be seeking the 1st District House seat.

Councilwoman Denise stated she feels the Nature Center is well worth the investment because of the education component. She stated that Bristol was a college town and feels that we need to embrace King University.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.



Lea Powers,
Mayor



Tara E. Musick,
City Recorder