

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

June 7, 2016

CALL TO ORDER:

The City of Bristol Tennessee City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Lea Powers on Tuesday, June 7, 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:

Mayor Lea Powers gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR CHANGES: None.

PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS:

World Blood Donor Day – Councilwoman Feierabend read a proclamation designating June 14, 2016, as World Blood Donor Day. Representatives from Blood Assurance were in attendance to accept the proclamation.

Men's Health Week – Vice-Mayor Keen read a proclamation designating the week of June 13 - 19, 2016, as Men's Health Week. Mr. Mike Leventhal, Executive Director, Tennessee Men's Health Network, was in attendance to accept the proclamation.

Bristol Traffic Safety Ambassador – Major Matt Austin and Officer Nathan Greene explained the Bristol Tennessee Traffic Safety Ambassador Program. The program is in its tenth year and is designed to give children in school an opportunity to participate in highway safety in Bristol. Children competed by drawing a poster with a traffic safety theme that will be utilized in a public highway safety campaign during the 2016-2017 year time frame featuring the first place poster that was determined.

Officer Nathan Greene presented a plaque to Nyssa Warren for winning first place. Certificates were presented to Bradley Owens for second place and Elliott Jones for third place.

Communiversity – Citizen’s Municipal Academy – Mayor Powers recognized the recent graduates of the Citizen’s Municipal Academy (CMA). The graduates recognized were Ron Crockett, Brittany Fleenor, and Nicholas Stickley.

PRESENTATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Ordinance 16-3 An Ordinance to Establish the Property Tax Rate, Adopt a Budget, and Appropriate Funds for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

City Manager Sorah reviewed this Ordinance for formal adoption of the Fiscal 2017 Budget and appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. The Fiscal 2017 Budget totals \$99,015,974. This reflects an increase of \$2,199,545 from the Fiscal 2016 Budget. In addition, the ordinance establishes the property tax levy at the current rate of \$2.25 per \$100 of assessed value. The municipal government portion of the budget stands at \$56,336,707 an increase of \$718,981 from the Fiscal 2016 Budget. This increase includes a modest employee cost of living increase of 1.2% and a merit increase of up to 2% based upon the employee’s annual evaluation. The proposed budget maintains the current level of 332 full-time staff. In addition, the budget includes significant capital projects such as the construction of a new fire and emergency medical services station on West State Street near the entrance to The Pinnacle development, the reconstruction of East Cedar Street, and major improvements at the water filtration and wastewater treatment plants. The proposed budget maintains the current property tax rate, solid waste fees, stormwater fees, and sanitary sewer fees. The budget does include a water fee increase of 3.5%, which was approved last year as part of a two-year water rate adjustment. The school system portion of the budget totals \$42,679,267, an increase of \$1,480,564 from the Fiscal 2016 Budget.

Ordinance 16-4 An Ordinance to Amend the Appropriation of Funds and Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

City Manager Sorah reviewed this Ordinance to amend the Fiscal 2016 Budget appropriations for the General Fund and Capital Equipment Fund. The amendment is

necessary to account for increased expenditures in the amount of \$478,891 in the General Fund. This increase in appropriation is primarily related to additional costs associated with the management of winter weather events, an allocation formula cost error for sharing of economic development expenses, and an increased disbursement of Tax Increment Financing funds related to the Pinnacle TIF. The increased costs will be offset by an increase in sales tax. The Capital Equipment Fund will also be amended by an increase of \$64,449. This is necessary due to increased costs associated with the new Geographic Information System server. Funds are available for transfer from the General Fund. In addition, the State of Tennessee Office of State and Local Government requested that budget and appropriation ordinances reflect inter-fund transfers and payments-in-lieu-of-tax that are received during the year.

APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS: Mr. Mahlon Luttrell, President of Bristol Baseball, Inc., reminded council and staff that members of the Pittsburgh Pirates would be returning to the City for the summer. He announced that the “Pirates Fest” would be held on June 22. The first game will be on June 26. He introduced, Mr. Trevor Gooby, the Senior Director of Florida Operations for the Pittsburgh Pirates Organization. Mr. Gooby thanked the Mayor and City Council for their support of Bristol Baseball.

APPOINTMENTS: None

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

A. First Reading of New Ordinances:

Ordinance 16-6 An Ordinance to Amend the Rezoning Map of Bristol, Tennessee by Designating Certain Property as R-3, Multi-Family Residential (856 E. Mary Street)

City Manager Sorah stated this Ordinance proposes to amend the zoning designation for a portion of the property located at 856 East Mary Street. The property is currently zoned as M-1. The owner, Mr. Kenneth Dunn, has submitted a site plan for the operation of a landscape business at this location. This type of business activity is permitted in the M-1 zoning designation. In addition, Mr. Dunn proposes to subdivide the lot and operate his business on the eastern portion of the property while constructing a single family residence for his personal use on the western portion of the property. The M-1 zone restrictions do not permit new residential structures within the zone. The existing residential zoning surrounding the captioned property is R-3. The *Land Use Plan and Policy* forecasts this area to be a low density, single family use consistent with R-1

zoning. While the R-3 zoning designation permits more intense development than forecast in the *Land Use Plan and Policy*, it is consistent with the existing residential zoning and deemed to be the most appropriate residential zone for this property. The Planning Commission reviewed this request at their May 16, 2016 meeting. Mr. Sorah stated that there was comments from neighbors both for and against the rezoning. The Planning Commission voted unanimously to forward the rezoning to the City Council. He stated that if Ordinance 16-6 is passed on first reading it will be placed on the June 21, 2016 City Council Works Session agenda.

Councilman Young made a motion to approve Ordinance 16-6 on First Reading, seconded by Councilwoman Feierabend. Councilman Young stated that some of the neighbors were concerned about the use of R-3 zoning. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

B. Adoption of Ordinances (Second Reading):

Ordinance 16-3 An Ordinance to Establish the Property Tax Rate, Adopt a Budget, and Appropriate Funds for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

City Manager Sorah reviewed the ordinance as part of the public hearing portion of the meeting. Councilwoman Feierabend moved to approve this ordinance on second reading, and Councilwoman Denise seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Ordinance 16-4 An Ordinance to Amend the Appropriation of Funds and Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

City Manager Sorah reviewed the ordinance as part of the public hearing portion of the meeting. Councilwoman Feierabend moved to approve the ordinance on second reading, and Councilwoman Denise seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Ordinance 16-5 An Ordinance to Rename a Portion of 8th Street to Windsor Avenue

City Manager Sorah stated that the renaming of a portion of 8th Street was necessary due to the permanent removal of the bridge over Beaver Creek between Anderson Street and

Volunteer Parkway. Due to the isolation of a portion of 8th Street a proposal was made to rename the section south of the removed bridge from 8th Street to Windsor Avenue. The property owner of 334 8th Street had no objections to the name change and attempts were unsuccessful to contact the owner of the vacant property at 329 8th Street. Mr. Sorah said that the Planning Commission, at its meeting on April 18, recommended the renaming the portion of 8th Street to Windsor Avenue. Mr. Sorah stated that if the Ordinance was approved on second reading it would become effective on October 3, 2016.

Vice Mayor Keen made a motion to approve the ordinance on second reading, and Councilwoman Feierabend seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

C. Resolutions: None

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 May 3, 2016 City Council Meeting,
- Resolution 16-31 A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Software Support for Computer Aided Dispatch System
- Resolution 16-32 A Resolution Approving a Grant Agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation for the utilization of Federal Highway Administration funds for the Bristol Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Resolution 16-33 A Resolution Approving a Contract with the Tennessee Department of Transportation for the Maintenance of State Highways
- Resolution 16-34 A Resolution Awarding a Contract for Engineering Services for the East Cedar Street Improvements Amendment
- Resolution 16-35 A Resolution Awarding a Contract for Engineering Services for a Transportation Planning Report for the Volunteer Parkway to Exit 74 Connector Road

- Resolution 16-36 A Resolution Awarding a Contract for Mobile Telephones and Data Services
- Resolution 16-37 A Resolution Awarding a Bid for the Purchase of a Front End Loader
- Resolution 16-38 A Resolution Awarding a Proposal for Re-insurance for the Self-Funded Health Insurance Plan

BOARD OF EDUCATION LIASON REPORT:

Dr. Gary Lilly stated that renovations are being made to the new Frank Winston Auditorium at Tennessee High School, as well as, a new gate, which will be known as Shamus' gate. There are also some renovations taking place at Haynesfield Elementary School and Vance Junior High School this summer. Summer school and the summer feeding program have begun. He stated that they are feeding approximately 200 students a day during the summer.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Sorah informed everyone that there was still time to participate in the Greenway survey. He said there would be an opportunity for City Council and Board and Commissions members to have their input on June 16 and an opportunity for public input on June 23 at the Slater Center. Mr. Sorah reminded City Council and the public of the Full Moon Jam Concert Series that will run through October. He said that the Farmer's Market is in full swing on Saturday morning and will be open on Wednesday afternoon beginning in July. The Police Department will be hosting their "Summer Camp Challenge" July 11 – 15 and July 18 - 22. The July 4th Parade will begin at 5:00 p.m. downtown with the "Star Spangled Celebration" that evening.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilwoman Feierabend thanked the Celebrate Bristol group for their work on the 4th of July celebration. She thanked everyone that attended the "National Train Day" on May 14. She stated that the newly renovated teen space opened at the Bristol Library. She said that the Bristol Virginia School System as well as the community had lost a dedicated and passionate leader and partner in education in Rex Gearhart.

Councilman Young clarified the bond approval by the Industrial Development Board for the Pinnacle development. He stated it was not a City bond but needed approval by the Industrial Development Board. This moves the risks from the developer to the investors. He said none of the risk is to the City.

Vice-Mayor Keen thanked all the veterans and current military service members.

Councilwoman Denise stated that she wanted to represent the small business owner. She said that she hears from small business owners about the cost of fees and regulations. She stated that she felt the City was lacking in customer service. She asked Terrie Talbert if she could come up with a way to educate staff on customer service.

Mayor Powers stated that May was an outstanding month for Bristol. She spoke about the success of the "Hiring Expo". She commented on the "Bristol Exchange" meetings in May and that she had presented the information at three different speaking engagements as well.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.



Mayor



Tara E. Musick,
City Recorder