

MINUTES
OF THE
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Henderson, Tennessee met in regular session on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber of the City of Henderson City Hall. Present and presiding was Mayor Robert W. (Bobby) King and the following:

Aldermen: Robert C. (Bobby) Barnes, Johny R. Farris, Tim Faulkner,
Buel Maness, Michael Phelps and Keith Smith.
Absent: None.

There also present were: City Attorney Jerry Spore (arrived late), City Recorder Jim E. Garland, Police Chief Tommy Davis, Public Works Director Carter Scales, Fire Chief Glenn Bryan, Utility Director Mark Elkins and Building and Zoning Official Brent Beshires.

Alderman Buel Maness gave the invocation and Alderman Tim Faulkner led the Pledge to the Flag. The following proceedings were entered here-to-wit:

The minutes of the previous meeting of the city board were presented for approval. There being no questions or corrections, motion was made by Ald. Barnes, duly 2nd by Ald. Faulkner to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

The accumulated accounts were presented for informational purposes and the board was asked if they had any questions concerning the accounts. There being no questions concerning the accounts, the meeting continued.

Delegations were called for by Mayor King, there being none the meeting continued.

Mr. Jason Bramlett addressed the board on behalf of the Henderson Arts Commission with a very open ended question on what the city's plans were for Front Street and the parking area there. The Arts Commission would like to work with the city to revive the Front Street area and he just wanted to start a dialogue with the city on this matter. Mayor King explained that the recently awarded Downtown Enhancement Grant would not be used on Front Street. He did state that a new Civil Wars Trails Marker would be erected at Front Street. The area owned by the city as well as the railroad was also discussed. The city would be happy to work with the Arts Commission on the Front Street Project. Mayor King and Jason Bramlett would work together on ideas for improvements to the Front Street area.

Bids were finally received on the Old Jacks Creek Sanitary Sewer Extension were finally taken after many months of hurdles. The bids are as follows:

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- 1) Trey Construction, Inc -----\$214,763.00 (revised)
- 2) ENSCOR, LLC -----\$233,674.00
- 3) Marbury Construction Company LLC -----\$256,813.55
- 4) Eubank Construction Co. Inc -----\$286,351.00
- 5) R. Jones Underground Inc. -----\$355,592.49
- 6) Tidwell & Associated Const Co. Inc -----\$362,632.50

The low bidder of Trey Construction Inc. was recommended by the Barry Alexander of Neel-Schaffer, Engineers. The bid award would be contingent upon final approval by TN ECD. Motion was made by Ald. Farris, duly 2nd by Ald. Smith to award the bid to Trey Construction Inc for \$214,763.00 contingent upon approval of TN ECD. Motion carried.

Bids were received on a new backhoe for the Utility Department and the results are as follows:

- 1) Liles Bros and Son ----- CASE 580SN 4WD -----\$78,500.00
Less Trade of Case 580 SL --- (25,600.00)
Final Price -----\$52,900.00
- 2) Stribling Equip LLC ----- John Deere 310SL 4WD -----\$78,354.00
Less Trade of Case 580 SL --- (25,000.00)
Final Price -----\$53,354.00

UD Elkins addressed the board recommending the low bid of Liles Bros and Sons. The funds for this purchase would come from cash reserves and would be split into three departments (water, sewer and gas). The entire price would have to be depreciated and the trade value would be counted as revenue in each respective department. Mr. Ashley Culpepper, salesman for Stribling Equipment LLC asked for permission to address the board. Mr. Culpepper stated that the difference between his warranty and that of the Case would more than make up for the \$454 that he was higher on the bid. This difference was discussed in depth by the board but the recommendation of the Utility Department was the low bidder, Liles Bros for the Case machine.

Motion was made by Ald. Farris, duly 2nd by Ald. Faulkner to purchase the Case 580SN for \$52,900 (with trade-in) from Liles Bros and Sons. Motion carried.

The Utility Department policy concerning extensions before being cut off was discussed. The current policy allows people to call in for an additional seven day extension before being cut off. The same customers are using this every month to keep from being cut off. The recommended revision is as follows:

The Red Card (Final Notice) will still be mailed as before. The Final Notice Cutoff Date would always be set on Friday of each billing cycle. This would give customers a few extra days and would be on a payday for most people. This would allow city forces to begin the actual cutoff of customers on the following Monday.

After due discussion, motion was made by Ald. Farris, duly 2nd by Ald. Phelps to approve this change effective December 1st. Motion carried.

The Recorder's Office wished to begin the process of accepting credit and debit card payments for fines and taxes. The Utility Department had done this for several years and about a year ago started taking the card payments over the phone. When reviewing the process for the utility department, it was determined that the credit cards fees cost the city between 2.5% to 3% of the total credit card payments per month. The month of August the fees were \$984.29 for 256 transactions and this was not in the winter heating season. It was noticed that now several large accounts were being paid by credit card. The city feels that is practice will grow in the future. Mayor King stated that the city has two options in this matter; 1) just cover the cost as a cost of doing business and to budget an amount of up to \$20,000 annually to cover the fees or 2) pass this fee on to the customer using the service. If we pass the fee on the customers, the receipting process and maybe even the software may have to be changed. The county trustee does levy a fee for paying online of 2.75% for all payments. This matter was discussed in depth. The board members wanted the administration to work out a procedure to pass these fees on to the customers that use credit/debit cards and to report back.

The speed limit on Westside Drive was discussed. A request had been made by the Principal of West Chester Elementary for a 15 MPH Zone on this street during school. Upon further investigation, Chief Tommy Davis stated that there is a 20 MPH speed limit sign (when children are present) on one end of the road but not on the other. Chief Davis recommended that the speed limit be left at 20 MPH and for a new sign to be installed at the other end. No action was needed by the board.

Recorder Garland explained that the City Employee Health Insurance was going to increase January 1st by approximately 7%. He presented a report showing the figures and coverage options. As with previous practice, the city plans on paying 80% of the premium for Employee Only Coverage for BCBS Standard PPO which is (603.50 x 80%) \$482.80 per month per employee. The necessary funds are budgeted for this increase. The employee can then decide what coverage he/she purchases. They have three options and four tiers to choose from. Depending on what plan the employee chooses, most employees will receive a 7% increase in what they are paying. No action was needed by the board.

A committee appointed to study the practice of utilizing shipping containers (PODS) as accessory buildings reported to the board. Ald. Farris, a member of the committee, stated that the pods looked much better than many storage buildings. After due discussion, motion was made by Ald. Farris duly 2nd by Ald. Barnes to send this matter back to the Planning Commission and ask them for an amendment to the policy to allow the use of shipping containers (PODS) as accessory buildings. Motion carried.

Mayor King presented a proposed resolution supporting an application by the Chester County Sanitation Department for a grant to operate a Recycling Hub at their site off Talley Store Road. The resolution states in the last sentence; "Any financial or in kind participation will be debated and approved by separate resolution or through the appropriate department budget through existing programs." Motion was made by Ald. Farris, duly 2nd by Ald. Phelps to adopt the Resolution (No. 2011-007). Upon a roll call vote, the following was cast:

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Ayes: Robert C. (Bobby) Barnes, Johnny R. Farris, Tim Faulkner, Buel Maness,
Michael Phelps and Keith Smith.

Noes: None.

Therefore Mayor King declared Resolution No. 2011-007 duly adopted.

Fire Chief Glenn Bryan addressed the board on his staff shortage. Greg Hearn is off and had used up all his sick leave and was now using his vacation time. He has about 4 more weeks of leave and the city is under the impression that he has plans on filing for retirement. Derek Holloway is off work due to an on the job injury and his return date is unknown at this time. Greg Lipford is recovering from surgery and it is hoped he will return in about 3 weeks. Chief Bryan and two part time employees are covering all the shifts at the department. If a vacancy does come available in the department, Chief Bryan plans on promoting a part time employee Doug Acred to full time status. Chief Bryan also stated that he has a fully trained Jackson firefighter that was willing to work part time during this shortage. He asked the board to approve using this gentlemen part time. Motion by Ald. Farris, duly 2nd by Ald. Barnes to hire the Jackson firefighter on a part-time basis. Motion carried.

PWD Carter Scales reported that he planned on paving Mifflin Ave from Main to Steed Street as soon as possible.

Recorder Garland addressed the board advising them that the city must adopt a “Debt Policy” by the year end under new rules of the TN Comptroller’s office. A model policy was prepared by MTAS and this document would be used as a basis for the city policy. The proposed policy would be given to the board in plenty of time before they were asked to consider it for passage.

Mayor King commended the utility department employees for their hard work on installing gas mains. UD Elkins reported that the gas main on State Route 197 from Mifflin to Mount Pleasant Church was installed in five days with two more days for testing and cleanup. Then the crews moved to Hwy 200 and plan on running from Glendale Road back to Needmore Road. This section is needed for the operations of the system to loop back to an existing main. The vibratory plow was rented for one month is being paid for and as such more materials were purchased for this project. UD Elkins also mentioned a problem on Sanford Street where another tie in needed to be made. This may be installed also if rental time on the equipment (plow) is still remaining.

There being no other business, motion by Ald. Barnes, duly 2nd by Ald. Phelps to adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed: Robert W. King

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Signed: Jim E. Garland

CITY RECORDER