

MINUTES
OF THE
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

APRIL 13, 2017

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Henderson, Tennessee met in regular session on Thursday, April 13, 2017 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. City Recorder Jim E. Garland called the roll with the following being present:

Aldermen: Donna R. Butler, Johnny R. Farris, Buel Maness and Keith Smith.
Absent: Mark A. Barber and Michael Phelps.

There also present at the meeting were: City Attorney Jerry Spore, City Recorder Jim E. Garland, Police Chief Wilton Cleveland, Public Works Director Carter Scales, Fire Chief Glenn Bryan, Building Official Brent Beshires and Utility Director Darryl Green.

Mayor King called the meeting to order at the appointed time. Alderman Keith Smith gave the invocation and Alderman Buel Maness led the Pledge to the Flag. The following proceedings were entered here-to-wit:

The minutes of the previous regular meeting were presented for approval. There being no corrections to the minutes, motion was made by Ald. Farris, duly 2nd by Ald. Maness to approve the minutes as prepared. Motion carried.

The accumulated accounts were presented for informational purposes. Ald. Butler made some comments concerning the accounts. Those comments were addressed. There being no other questions on the accounts, the meeting continued.

Police Chief Cleveland asked to make a presentation at the meeting. He started a program for an "Officer of the Quarter" in the department. The award tonight would be the first. The officer selected performed well in the department and Chief Cleveland gave statistics on his calls and well as instances of going above and beyond his responsibilities especially when dealing with children. Chief Cleveland awarded the first "Officer of the Quarter" to Officer Jerry Paul Stansell. Officer Stansell came up to accept the award and was presented a plaque and a gift card.

Mayor King asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the board.

Mr. Phillip Mullins, VP of Operations for Southwest Tennessee Electric (STEMC) addressed the board pertaining to STEMC request to fence in some property they own just south of the Water Plant and adjacent to their pole yard. STEMC purchased a strip of land from the West TN Railroad in the 1980's along the track from West Main south along the track. Some of the land was used immediately to expand their lot. But the southern end was left unused and contained a railroad spur and a road/alley from the rear of the water plant to Mill Street. This road had been

open and used by the public and the area businesses as long as anyone can remember. The road had been paved by the city twice in the last 30 years. As such, the city feels it has an easement by prescription that predates the ownership of STEMC. The railroad spur had been abandoned and is unused by the railroad and STEMC wants to use some of the land for expanding its pole yard. The proposed fence would encroach on the paved road but would leave enough area for the alley to remain open to vehicular traffic. The board had discussed this matter at a previous meeting (see April 14, 2016 meeting minutes). After considerable discussion, motion was made by Ald. Butler, duly 2nd by Ald. Smith to allow them to put up the fence for the pole yard as long as the property remaining west of the fence was enough for two-way traffic and did not encroach on the property of FHU (which owns to the west). Motion carried.

The city had been in discussion with STEMC to replace all the city street lights with LED Fixtures to make all lighting more uniform and to save money due to lower energy cost. The city also hoped to improve overall lighting levels during this project. Mr. Mullins addressed the board on the status of the project. He explained that the first phase of the project included replacement of 46 to 50 fixtures on East Main from Cason to SR100. They also planned on installing a few on one residential street also. This would give the city a good test area to review the lighting level and the color of the lights. STEMC was going to do these 50 to 60 fixtures at no current investment but they would be added in when the total project was completed. The total cost to the city was approximately \$165,000 but that would be paid back in energy cost savings in about 3 years.

The city took bids on the removal and disposal of the Bio-Solids from the North Lagoon on March 30th. The bids were presented in a report from Mr. Jim Hilborn, Engineer of GRW Engineering and are as follows:

1) Denali Water Solutions -----	\$ 388,570.00
2) Bio-Nomic Services Inc. -----	\$ 578,800.00
3) Synagro South -----	\$ 618,600.00
4) Merrell Bros., Inc. -----	\$1,246,500.00

Utility Director Darryl Green reported to the board on the bids stating that the low bidder Denali Water Solutions had a project going in Oxford, MS and he had visited the project and met with the supervisor who would be over the North Lagoon Project. UD Green feels that Denali was qualified to complete the project and if time allows, they hoped to move the process from Oxford directly to Henderson thus making their bid very competitive. UD Green recommended the low bidder for the project. Motion by Ald. Farris, duly 2nd by Ald. Butler to award the bid on the North Lagoon to Denali Water Solutions for \$388,570.00. Motion carried.

Recorder Garland addressed the board members concerning the matching retirement rate effective July 1, 2017 for TCRS. The reports received from TCRS were included in the board member's agenda packets. The Actuary Report for June 30, 2016 requires the minimum matching rate to remain the same as the current rate which is 14.0% of salaries. Recorder Garland stated he would recommend matching at 15% instead of the minimum of 14%. Numerous long term retirements in the city workforce as well as lower than expected investment returns of the retirement system will put considerable upward pressure on future rates. Matching at a higher rate now may hedge off greater increases in the future.

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After due discussion, motion was made by Ald. Butler, duly 2nd by Ald. Maness to approve the Retirement Matching Rate of 15% for the budget year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Motion carried.

Police Chief Wilton Cleveland asked permission to purchase 15 Microsoft Surface III small laptops with removable keyboards for the officers to use in the patrol cars. The estimated initial cost is \$10,000. The laptops will have cellular wireless cards to provide access to the internet as well as future access to the police server. Chief Cleveland explained the benefits of having the laptops in the cars. He also plans on moving toward E-citations and digitize that process using these laptops. Motion was made by Ald. Farris, duly 2nd by Ald. Butler to authorize the purchase of the Surface laptops as long as the funds are in the police budget. Motion carried.

Recorder Garland presented a letter from Neil Segars requesting a refund of the penalty for a 2015 and 2016 property tax. The letter gave no reason for being late other than they failed to pay the tax on time. Recorder Garland had advised Mrs. Segars that only the city board could authorize a refund and that to his knowledge that had never taken place but she insisted that their request be presented to the city board. Recorder Garland recommended against the refund due to the fact that many other property owners had paid the penalty as outlined by state law and that refunding this one would seem unfair and might even start numerous other requests. Motion by Ald. Farris, duly 2nd by Ald. Butler to deny the request for a penalty refund by Mr. and Mrs. Segars. Motion carried.

A preliminary budget meeting to discuss the General Fund Budgets was set for May 1st at 5:00 PM. The city council would meet with each department head during the meeting.

UD Green advised the board that the water system recently underwent a TDEC Sanitary Survey and the system scored 98 out of 100. He expressed his thanks to the employees for the work they do for the department. He also mentioned the major water main break that took place on West Main just west of Church Ave. They were waiting for that area to settle then the street would be patched.

Recorder Garland advised the board that he had laid at their desks a revised cost estimate for the Chester County Library Addition at the request of Librarian Nancy Canada. Ms. Canada was planning on appearing at the Budget Meeting about this request.

Chief Cleveland advised the board that he recently purchased a piece of equipment called a "Speed Spy" that mounts on a pole and collects information on traffic counts and speed over time. This piece of equipment will allow the department to determine if problems exist in an area without dedicating officer hours. If a problem does exist, then the officers can better address it at the proper time of the day.

Chief Cleveland also updated the board on the recent homicide that took place in the Baughn Ave area. He wished to commend the officers on their professionalism and the additional help he received from the Sheriff's Department. The suspect has been identified and hopefully he will be captured soon.

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Ald. Smith asked about purchasing an extra downtown lamppost to have available in inventory that could be used the next time one gets damaged. Mayor King stated he would get a cost of a replacement pole and fixture and report it back to the board.

Ald. Smith also asked about the mowing dates on the cemetery. PWD Scales stated they mow every 7 to 10 days. Recorder Garland advised the board that he has asked that the exact dates of the mowing be included on all future invoices.

Ald. Butler asked if any progress had taken place on the proposed truck routes. PWD Scales and Chief Cleveland said they were still working on this project. Ald. Butler also addressed beautification and clean up in our town. This was discussed and several ideas were shared.

There being no other business, motion was made by Ald. Farris, duly 2nd by Ald. Butler to adjourn. Motion carried.

Signed: Robert W. King

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Signed: Jim E. Garland

CITY RECORDER