

**MINUTES OF THE
OAK RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

June 16, 2014

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Oak Ridge convened at 7:00 p.m. on June 16, 2014, in the Courtroom of the Municipal Building with Mayor Thomas L. Beehan presiding.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was delivered by Mayor Pro Tem D. Jane Miller.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Oak Ridge Police Chief James T. Akagi along with his son Nicholas and daughter Shea.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following councilmembers were present: Mayor Thomas L. Beehan; Councilmember Anne Garcia Garland; Councilmember L. Charles Hensley; Councilmember Charles J. Hope, Jr.; Mayor Pro Tem D. Jane Miller; and Councilmember David N. Mosby.

Councilmember Trina Baughn was absent.

Also present were Mark S. Watson, City Manager; Kenneth R. Krushenski, City Attorney; Janice E. McGinnis, Finance Director; Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk.

APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS

Mr. Martin McBride, 954 West Outer Drive, commented about his experience with the Department of Energy (DOE) residency recruitment during his employment phase which he remarked was centered outside of the City of Oak Ridge. He also stressed the decline in residency by DOE employees in Oak Ridge and requested that City Council consider a joint work session of neighboring counties to market residency in the community.

Mr. Matthew Mahathy, 113 Fallberry Street, wished to echo Mr. McBride's comments on residency from the Department of Energy.

Mr. Boyce Griffith, 107 Beechwood Lane, commented about receiving points for his recycling as was done with the expired RecycleBank Program, or reducing the recycling charge on his utility bill.

Dr. Jim Horton, 106 Carson Lane, expressed his opposition in the new date change in property tax and delinquency property tax date collections.

The City Manager had a response from Coulter & Justus, P.C., the City's new auditing firm, regarding the City's change in the property tax levy date to which the firm signified that, based upon review of the authoritative accounting literature and other sources, the change in the tax levy date would not have a significant impact on the budget or statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance of the City.

Mr. Joe Lee, 99 East Pasadena Road, commented about the success and his enjoyment of the recent Secret City Festival.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PUBLIC RECOGNITIONS

(NONE)

SPECIAL REPORTS

Presentation of State Forms CT-0253 Report on Debt Obligation for the State Revolving Fund Loan in the amount of \$3,000,000.00.

Finance Director Janice McGinnis noted that the form was related to the completion of financing on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Remediation Plan. Ms. McGinnis noted that this presentation at a public meeting was part of a new requirement from the State of Tennessee Comptroller's Office when a city issues debt and that the item was presented for informational and discussion purposes of City Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

(NONE)

FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Public Hearing and Final Adoption of an Ordinance

Ordinance No. 06-2014

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2014, BY IMPOSING A TAX ON ALL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY, FIXING THE RATE OF THE TAX, ADOPTING A BUDGET, AND ADOPTING APPROPRIATIONS.

The City Manager noted that after the discussions at the June 9, 2014 City Council meeting regarding the Fire Specialist Program, city staff had provided recommendations to City Council that included the following at less than \$20,000.00:

- An equipment upgrade of the Fire Tower apparatus.
- Adjustments to the budget to provide for one (1) Fire Specialist for 365 day coverage.
- Funding for one (1) additional Dispatcher.
- Exploration of the concept in the coming year for a "dispatch specialist" program providing additional assistance during peak load work periods and emergencies

The Mayor opened the floor to receive comments from the public for the scheduled public hearing.

During the public hearing, the following residents spoke in support of the school's request for a property tax increase to support the Oak Ridge School's Technology Initiative and salary adjustments for school staff:

Mr. Stephen Reddick, 109 Belle Creek Road
Ms. Liz Batchelor, 119 Greystone Drive
Mr. Aditya Savara, 109 Trenton Drive
Ms. Angi Agle, 101 West Melbourne Road
Mr. Matthew Mahathy, 113 Fallberry Street
Ms. Jessica Steed, 104 Brentwood Drive

Mr. Phil Parrett, 122 Wilshire Drive, inquired about why a percentage of teachers were not living in the city-limits and paying taxes.

Mr. David Johnson, 505 Emory Valley Road, commented about the community living within its means given the current economic situation.

Dr. Jim Horton, 106 Carson Lane, commented about the potential loss and gain of residents with supporting a property tax increase to draw in families for services, but also losing families because of the property tax rate.

Ms. Elaine Smith, 109 A Arcadia Lane, wished to clarify the frustrations being expressed of both bodies—City Council and Board of Education.

Mr. Chuck Agle, 119 West Melbourne Road, commented that the Oak Ridge School System was still excelling despite housing hardships.

Mr. Walter Zobel, 110 Stanton Lane, expressed his opposition to the property tax increase

Mr. Evelyn Armstrong, 21 Rivers Court, commented about the economic hardships of Oak Ridge and how great the city was.

Mr. Charles Chinn, 13 Cooper Lane, commented about the education that he had received as a student at Oak Ridge.

Mr. Don Hurtubise, 114 Mason Lane, commented about maintaining current spending and consider improving other amenities of the community to attract potential residents.

Mr. Keys Fillauer, 17 Palisades Parkway, Chairman of the Board of Education, invited City Council to discussions of a vision for education with the Board of Education after the November election.

Mr. David Kitzmiller, 144 Wellington Circle, commented about supporting funding the schools without a property tax increase and examine other issues of Oak Ridge, such as economics and recreations.

The Mayor closed the floor for the public hearing.

Councilmember Hope moved to amend the ordinance with a \$0.12 property tax increase to support the Oak Ridge School Systems. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hensley.

Following discussions on the proposed amendment, the amendment failed by board vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miller, and Mayor Beehan voting "Nay," and Councilmembers Hensley and Hope voting "Aye."

Mayor Pro Tem Miller moved, seconded by Councilmember Hensley to approve the recommendation of the City Manager for the Fire Specialist Program as referenced in the Finance Department Memorandum dated June 12, 2014 to amend the ordinance. The amendment was approved by unanimous voice vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Hensley, Hope, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miler, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye."

Councilmember Hensley moved to amend the ordinance with a \$0.10 property tax increase in support of the Oak Ridge Schools. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hope. The amendment failed by board vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miller, and Mayor Beehan voting "Nay," and Councilmembers Hensley and Hope voting "Aye."

The ordinance, as amended, was approved by board vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miller, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye," and Councilmembers Hensley and Hope voting "Nay."

RESOLUTIONS

06-54-2014

A RESOLUTION WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDS AND MAKING AN AWARD TO MERCER, INSURANCE BROKER, FOR EMPLOYEE LIFE INSURANCE AND LONG TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE WITH HARTFORD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$76,764.00, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO RENEW SAID CONTRACT FOR UP TO TWO (2) ADDITIONAL ONE-YEAR TERMS AT THE SAME RATES IF SERVICES ARE SATISFACTORY.

Mayor Pro Tem Miller moved, seconded by Councilmember Hope that the resolution be approved. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Hensley, Hope, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miler, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye."

06-55-2014

A RESOLUTION AWARDDING CONTRACTS (FY2014-144 AND FY2014-146) TO CHRISTOPOULOS & KENNEDY CONSTRUCTION, INC., KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, FOR THE SPRINKLER SYSTEM PROJECT AT FIRE STATION #3 IN THE TOTAL ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$93,267.00, AND AUTHORIZING AN ENCUMBRANCE UP TO \$93,267.00 OF AVAILABLE RESIDUAL FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FY2014 BUDGET TO PAY FOR A PORTION, IF NOT ALL, OF THIS PROJECT.

Mayor Pro Tem Miller moved, seconded by Councilmember Hensley that the resolution be approved.

The Finance Director explained the utilization of the encumbrance to fund this project with residuals not spent in the FY2014 budget. Following this explanation, the resolution passed by unanimous voice vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Hensley, Hope, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miler, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye."

06-56-2014

A RESOLUTION AWARDDING A BID IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$319,765.00 TO IRBY UTILITY DISTRIBUTOR, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, FOR THE FURNISHING OF AN ELECTRICAL SWITCHGEAR AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT.

Mayor Pro Tem Miller moved, seconded by Councilmember Hope that the resolution be approved.

Electric Department Director Jack Suggs explained the urgency to obtain the equipment to make the necessary repairs. Following discussions, the resolution passed by unanimous voice vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Hensley, Hope, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miler, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye."

06-57-2014

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A COMPENSATION AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$175,000.00 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE OAK RIDGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE APPROVED BY RESOLUTION 8-81-2013.

Councilmember Hope moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Miller that the resolution be approved.

Following brief discussion of City Council and the City Manager, the resolution passed by unanimous voice vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Hensley, Hope, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miler, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye."

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

(NONE)

ELECTIONS/APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHEDULING

Elections/Appointments

Confirmation of Nomination Alan L. Liby by the Oak Ridge Utility District Board of Commissioners for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2014.

Councilmember Hensley moved, seconded by Councilmember Hope to confirm that nomination of Mr. Alan L. Liby. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Hensley, Hope, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miler, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye."

Announcements

Mayor Beehan explained that he would be traveling to Washington, D.C. for the Mayor's Maker Initiative with the Mayor of Knoxville and representatives from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Scheduling

COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR NEW BUSINESS ITEMS OR FUTURE BRIEFINGS

Councilmember Mosby requested a presentation or briefing regarding the reappraisal of property in Anderson County.

Councilmember Hope requested that the City Manager and City Staff review the new plan of the Blankenship Field Committee to make sure plans are still compliant with some of the parking lot upgrades achieved by the City.

Councilmember Garcia Garland suggested that City Council request a meeting with the Board of Education and all other parties involved in the Blankenship Field renovation project to be well informed, and consider amending the Blankenship resolution, in the future, for the funding for the renovation without marking it for any specific project

As part of the discussions on Blankenship Field, Councilmember Hensley requested that the trees be preserved surrounding the area of the Field.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

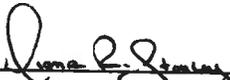
CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

The City Attorney noted that Anderson County Delinquency Tax Sale is set for September 1 and he would provide City Council with additional information.

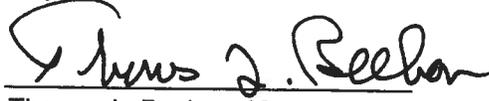
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.



Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
July 14, 2014



Thomas L. Beehan, Mayor