

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

July 21, 2014

The special meeting of the Oak Ridge City Council convened at 5:15 p.m. on July 21, 2014, in the Courtroom of the Municipal Building with Mayor Pro Tem D. Jane Miller presiding.

INVOCATION

Councilmember Trina Baughn delivered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Aaron Wells led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call the following councilmembers were present: Councilmember Trina Baughn; Councilmember Anne Garcia Garland; Councilmember Charles J. Hope, Jr.; and Mayor Pro Tem D. Jane Miller.

Mayor Thomas L. Beehan was absent.

Councilmember L. Charles Hensley and Councilmember David N. Mosby were absent during roll call, but arrived later in the meeting.

Also present were Mark S. Watson, City Manager; Janice E. McGinnis, Finance Director; Tammy M. Dunn, Senior Staff Attorney serving in the absence of City Attorney Kenneth R. Krushenski; and Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk

SPECIAL REPORTS

Report from the Traffic Safety Advisory Board (TSAB) to the Oak Ridge City Council on their recommendation to improve the safety of pedestrian crossing on the Oak Ridge Turnpike between the Oak Ridge High School and the Civic Center by way of an on-demand traffic signal with a pedestrian all red phase.

Mr. Bill Redmond, Vice Chair of the Traffic Safety Advisory Board, reviewed the Board's recommendation for an on-demand traffic signal with a pedestrian all red phase for vehicular and pedestrian safety in an estimated amount of \$200,000.00. Mr. Redmond and City Engineer and Traffic Safety Advisory Board Staff Liaison Steve Byrd also responded to questions and comments of City Council during discussions of this report.

(Councilmembers Hensley and Mosby arrived during discussions of this Special Report.)

The City Manager explained that City Council would consider support of the Board's recommendation at the August City Council meeting.

Mr. Gene Dunaway, member of the Traffic Safety Advisory Board, expressed his opposition to the Board's recommendation of a traffic signal installation at the location.

The Special Report was delivered for informational and discussion purposes of City Council. No action was taken during the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

Council was to consider one of the following options during the meeting:

Option 1: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE OAK RIDGE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU (CVB) FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES AND MATERIALS TO PROMOTE TOURISM IN OAK RIDGE FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015 (FY 2015) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$ _____

Option 2: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE OAK RIDGE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU (CVB) FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES AND MATERIALS TO PROMOTE TOURISM IN OAK RIDGE FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015 (FY 2015) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$275,000.00.

Option 3: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SHORT-TERM CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE OAK RIDGE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU (CVB) FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES AND MATERIALS TO PROMOTE TOURISM IN OAK RIDGE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000.00, AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DEVELOP A TRANSITION PLAN TO TAKE CVB OPERATIONS IN-HOUSE.

The City Manager reviewed the three above mentioned options noting that the Oak Ridge Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) had submitted a contract to the Oak Ridge City Council, after posting of the July 21, 2014 agenda packet for its inclusion, but that the Council later received a contract from the CVB outlining the parameters and a dollar amount as requested by the CVB.

Councilman Hensley moved to selection Option 1 in the amount of \$300,000.00 as requested by the CVB. The motion failed for a lack of a second and during discussions of the motion, Council requested discussing of the presentation by the CVB and staff before selecting an option.

CVB Chairman Aaron Wells provided an overview of the contract submitted that would address tourism in the community.

Ms. Debi Boody, Interim Director of the CVB, indicated that the CVB had prepared a budget that outlines the \$300,000.00 request and could review those details with the City Council outside of the meeting.

The City Manager noted that the \$275,000.00 was the availability based on occupancy tax collections, but that the City could accommodate the \$300,000.00 CVB request.

The City Council and the Chair of the Board discussed the Board providing matrices or results that measures the Board's accomplishments in relation to tourism in Oak Ridge, as well as a scope of work that outlines expectations or areas to achieve, and reporting measures.

Finance Director Janice McGinnis reviewed the collections of the hotel-occupancy tax collections that are provided to the CVB as part of previous year's collections.

Councilmember Baughn moved to consider Option 1 without a specified amount. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hensley. During discussions of consideration of the motion presented by Councilmember Baughn, City Council noted the desire to review components of the CVB presented contract.

Councilmember Hensley moved to amend the motion for consideration of Option 1 with a specified amount not to exceed \$300,000.00. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hope.

The motion introduced by Councilmember Hensley failed by board vote with Councilmembers Baughn, Garcia Garland, and Hope voting "Nay," and Councilmembers Hensley, Mosby, and Mayor Pro Tem Miller voting "Aye."

Following discussions on how to proceed with consideration of a contract, Councilmember Mosby moved

to table consideration until the next City Council meeting or until a time when City Council, City Staff, and the Board can further discuss details of a contract. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hope.

The motion to table failed by board vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland and Mosby voting "Aye," and Councilmembers Baughn, Hensley, Hope, and Mayor Pro Tem Miller voting "Nay."

CVB Chairman Aaron Wells requested that City Council consider approval of a contract during the meeting, in the interim, and to allow the Board to draft a satisfactory contract for City Council during this short period. Similarly, the City Manager offered a suggestion regarding a three-month extension of the existing contract to continue to work on the details of a CVB contract.

Dr. Jim Horton, 106 Carson Lane, commented about encouraging City Council to consider an end of October date to allow ample time to work on the details.

Councilmembers Baughn, Hope, Hensley, and Mosby called for the previous question to address the existing motion on the floor. The motion to approve Option 1 with an unspecified amount failed unanimously by board vote with Councilmembers Baughn, Garcia Garland, Hensley, Hope, Mosby, and Mayor Pro Tem Miller voting "Nay."

Councilmember Hensley moved to consider an extension of the current contract at \$300,000.00 pro-rated funding (\$100,000.00) beginning July 1, 2014 to October 30, 2014 so as to develop a contract that includes measures of performance and benchmarking details worked out with the City Manager and the CVB Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hope.

The motion passed by board vote with Councilmembers Baughn, Hensley, Hope, Mosby, and Mayor Pro Tem Miller voting "Aye," and Councilmember Garcia Garland voting "Nay."

FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 07-2014

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 06-2014, WHICH ORDINANCE IMPOSES A TAX ON ALL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY, FIXING THE RATE OF THE TAX, ADOPTING A BUDGET, AND ADOPTING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2014, BY AMENDING SAID APPROPRIATIONS.

Councilmember Hensley moved, seconded by Councilmember Hope that the ordinance be adopted.

Dr. Jim Horton, 106 Carson Lane, expressed his opposition regarding the property tax and delinquency property tax collection dates and inquired if the amendments to the appropriation ordinance related to the interest earned on property tax collections.

Finance Director Janice McGinnis explained that the FY 2015 Budget reflected the adjustments of total interest earned.

During discussions of the ordinance changes, the Finance Director clarified that the General Purpose School Fund total was reduced from \$62,839,557 to \$55,588,127, and the West End Fund was increased from \$2,597,110 to \$2,729,522. Ms. McGinnis further noted that the budget change in the General Purpose School Fund was a reflection of the budget recently adopted by the Board of Education for Fiscal Year 2015, and that the budget total for all city funds was \$175,726,603.00, a reduction of \$7,119,018.00 from final adoption of Ordinance No. 06-2014 in June 2014.

City Council and City Staff discussed, in detail, the calculations on the one-month interest that was not earned on property tax collections as a result of shifting the property tax collection dates.

The ordinance was approved on second reading by board vote with Councilmembers Garcia Garland,

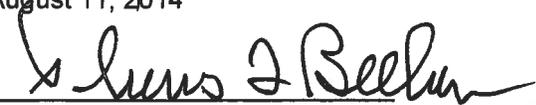
Hensley, Hope, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miller voting "Aye," and Councilmember Baughn abstaining.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.


Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
August 11, 2014


Thomas L. Beehan, Mayor