

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

August 3, 2015

The special meeting of the City Council of the City of Oak Ridge convened at 5:00 p.m. on August 3, 2015 in the Courtroom of the Municipal Building with Mayor Warren L. Gooch presiding.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was delivered by Mayor Warren L. Gooch.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Councilmember Rick Chinn.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call the following councilmembers were present: Councilmember Trina Baughn; Councilmember Kelly Callison; Councilmember Rick Chinn, Jr.; Mayor Warren L. Gooch; Councilmember L. Charles Hensley; Councilmember Charles J. Hope, Jr.; Mayor Pro Tem Ellen D. Smith

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

FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance No. 12-2015

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR TAX YEAR 2015 (JANUARY 1, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2015) AS \$2.52 PER \$100.00 OF ASSESSED VALUE.

Mayor Gooch moved, seconded by Councilmember Hensley, to approve the ordinance on second reading as presented.

Councilmember Chinn moved to amend the ordinance to adjust the property tax rate at \$2.50 to reflect a rate that would provide for the same revenues as received in Fiscal Year 2015. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Baughn.

Finance Director Janice McGinnis explained that projected revenues in Fiscal Year 2016 were anticipated to be at \$19,770,818 at a tax rate of \$2.52 and the total collections for Fiscal Year 2015 were \$19,649,132. Councilmember Baughn requested that the statement provided by the Finance Director be recorded into the minutes of the meeting. No opposition was expressed by Council regarding this request.

Mr. Mike Mahathy, 113 Fallberry Road, remarked that the Roane County appraisals could be appealed and the property tax rate could be lower than \$2.52.

Mr. Tracy Larabee, 103 Chester Lane, remarked that City Council consider other sources of revenue for the City as the refuse fee increase will not affect all land owners in the city of Oak Ridge as opposed to property taxes.

The amendment failed by board vote with Councilmembers Callison, Hensley, Hope, Mayor Pro Tem Smith, and Mayor Gooch voting "Nay," and Councilmembers Baughn and Chinn voting "Aye."

Mr. Mike Mahathy, 113 Fallberry Road, requested that the \$325,000 generated from the increase in the refuse fee be transferred to the Oak Ridge Schools; however, the Mayor noted that comment was out of

order as it was not related to consideration of the ordinance before Council.

The original motion to approve the ordinance, as presented, on second reading was approved by board vote with Councilmembers Callison, Hensley, Hope, Mayor Pro Tem Smith, and Mayor Gooch voting “Aye,” and Councilmembers Baughn and Chinn voting “Nay.”

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Signature on file
Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
September 14, 2015

Signature on file
Warren L. Gooch, Mayor