

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

June 9, 2014

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Oak Ridge convened at 7:00 p.m. on June 9, 2014, in the Courtroom of the Municipal Building with Mayor Thomas L. Beehan presiding.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was delivered by the Reverend Sharon Young, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mr. Jim Dodson

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following councilmembers were present: Councilmember Trina Baughn; 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.

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. Boyce Griffith, 107 Beechwood Lane, advocated for citizen participation to help clean the Oak Ridge trails and encouraged citizens to consider donating blood.

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

PROCLAMATIONS AND PUBLIC RECOGNITIONS

(NONE)

SPECIAL REPORTS

(NONE)

CONSENT AGENDA

(NONE)

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

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.

Mayor Pro Tem Miller moved, seconded by Councilmember Hope that the ordinance be approved on first reading.

Mr. Watson provided a brief overview of the appropriation ordinance presented and noted that the property tax rate and funds presented reflected the Oak Ridge School's budget requests for their technology initiative and salary adjustments for school staff. Additionally, the City Manager noted major changes in the budget with regards to personnel, meter reading services, vehicle fleet management,

travel reductions in staff budgets, additional training for software for staff, allocations for not-for-profits, contractual review, and recreational events.

Following brief discussions of these changes between the City Council and the City Manager on the proposed budget, 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. Chris Johnson, 134 Danbury Lane
Mr. Andrew Campbell, 116 Newport Drive
Mr. Matthew Mahathy, 113 Fallberry Street
Ms. Melinda Hillman, 182 West Outer Drive
Ms. Ferna Foertter, 921 West Outer Drive
Donna Reat, 972 West Outer Drive
Mr. Joe Lee, 99 East Pasadena Road

Ms. Mary Ann Wildgruber, 122 Connors Drive, asked that City Council consider a delay in support of the 1:1 technology program of the schools until further research could show the value of tablet technology and that raises for public employees be considered as both a step increase and cost of living raise.

Ms. Linda Mabry, 106 Montana Avenue, commented about the importance of interpersonal teaching with students as opposed to a focus on technology. Additionally, she requested that Council not consider a property tax increase.

Mr. Chris Marczak, 109 Deerfield Lane, wanted to advocate for courage for the City Council to consider decisions with the best interest of the community.

Mr. Joseph Smith, 126 North Jefferson Circle, commented about the loss of the Fire Specialist Program in the FY2015 Budget and inquired to this loss.

(Diverting from the public hearing)

At the request of City Council, the City Manager and Oak Ridge Fire Chief Darryl Kerley responded to inquiries of Council regarding the Fire Specialist Program. Mr. Watson noted that only half of the amount from the program was spent in the last few fiscal years. Additionally, the City Manager remarked that the funds would help manage the new dispatch system upgrades that were occurring in the Oak Ridge Police Department. The Fire Chief further explained that based on the history of the spending of the Fire Specialist Program, he recommending repurposing the money for the safety of the community by way of an investment in the dispatch system.

Mr. Bob Eby, 101 Winston Lane, Vice Chairman of the Board of Education, commented about raising property taxes as a means to support city services, such as fire, police, and schools.

Mr. Martin McBride, 954 West Outer Drive, commented about the importance of residency in Oak Ridge and informing the public about Oak Ridge. Lastly, Mr. McBride noted that he was opposed to a property tax increase.

Mr. Keys Fillauer, 17 Palisades Parkway, Chairman of the Board of Education, remarked that the school's request is a property tax raise to fund the school's technology initiative. Additionally, Mr. Fillauer commented that there are several differences between the Oak Ridge school system and surrounding school systems.

Ms. Karen Mitchell, 417 East Drive, commented that the school should conduct further research for the technology initiative or consider slower implementation of the program.

Mayor Pro Tem Miller moved, seconded by Councilmember Hensley to close the public hearing. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote with Councilmembers Baughn, Garcia Garland, Hensley, Hope, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miller, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye."

Councilmember Baughn moved to adjust the school operating transfer ("General Purpose School Fund for Operations") to \$14,629,302 to reduce the property tax rate to \$2.39. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garcia Garland.

Following discussions by the City Council regarding the future budget funding, the amendment passed by board vote with Councilmembers Baughn, Garcia Garland, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miller, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye," and Councilmembers Hensley and Hope voting "Nay."

Additionally, the City Council discussed possible funding options for the Oak Ridge Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Fire Specialist Program as part of consideration of second reading of the ordinance.

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

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 06-52-2014

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE FERGUSON GROUP, LLC, WASHINGTON, D.C., FOR THE PROVISION OF CONSULTING SERVICES TO PROVIDE GRANT SUPPORT AND TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AGENDA AND ACTION PLAN FOR AGREED UPON PRIORITIES FOR THE CITY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000.00 AT A MAXIMUM RATE OF \$425.00 PER HOUR WITH AN ALLOWANCE OF \$5,000.00 FOR EXPENSES.

Councilmember Hensley moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia Garland that the resolution be approved.

Following discussions of funding for the Ferguson Group with City Council and the City Manager, the resolution was approved by unanimous voice vote with Councilmembers Baughn, Garcia Garland, Hensley, Hope, Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem Miller, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye."

Resolution No. 06-53-2014

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH TWO ADDITIONAL MONTHLY MEETINGS IN THE MONTHS OF JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, AND OCTOBER 2014 FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING POLICY AND STRATEGIC PLANNING IN ORDER TO PROVIDE DIRECTION FOR THE CITY MANAGER WITH NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN AT THESE MEETINGS.

Councilmember Baughn moved, seconded by Councilmember Mosby that the resolution be approved.

During consideration, City Council discussed the meeting format, topics for discussion, and the possible future implementation of policies that could form as a result of those discussions for these proposed Work Sessions.

Following discussions, the resolution was approved by board vote with Councilmembers Baughn, Garcia Garland, Hensley, Hope, and Mosby voting "Aye," and Mayor Pro Tem Miller and Mayor Beehan voting "Nay."

FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

(NONE)

ELECTIONS/APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHEDULING

Elections/Appointments

Announcements

Scheduling

COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR NEW BUSINESS ITEMS OR FUTURE BRIEFINGS

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

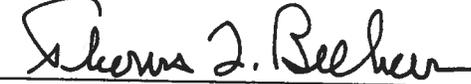
CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.


Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
July 14, 2014


Thomas L. Beehan, Mayor