

**MINUTES OF THE
OAK RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 23, 2011**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building Courtroom with Mayor Pro Tem Jane Miller presiding.

INVOCATION: Myra Mansfield, Oak Ridge Police Department Chaplin

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Dr. Tom Scott

ROLL CALL:

The following Councilmembers were present: Anne Garcia Garland, Thomas Hayes, Charles Hensley, Ellen Smith, David Mosby, and Mayor Pro Tem Jane Miller.

Mayor Thomas Beehan was absent. He is attending a conference concerning City business.

Also present were City Manager Mark Watson, City Attorney Kenneth Krushenski, Deputy City Manager Steven Jenkins, and City Clerk Donna Patterson.

I. PUBLIC RECOGNITION

1. CEDAR HILL PARK REBUILD

City Manager Mark Watson asked Parks Director Josh Collins and Parks Supervisor Jon Hetrick to come forward and commended them on their leadership in the completion of the Cedar Hill Park rebuild.

Mr. Watson also expressed appreciation to all the volunteers, businesses, schools, churches, and civic organizations that made this possible and successful.

A four minute time lapse video showing the beginning and ending of the Community Build Week for the Cedar Hill Park rebuild was shown.

II. APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS

Mayor Pro Tem Miller opened the meeting for public comments.

Andy Marathe, 121 Westlook Circle, came forward and stated that the park rebuild is the beginning of other projects that the community could achieve working together.

Leroy Gilliam, 108 Tracy Lane, came forward and voiced concerns with ADA accessibility in the City of Oak Ridge. The biggest problem is signage for wheelchair loading zones.

Yajit Jain, 100 Windham Road and a high school senior, came forward and spoke in favor of the approving the school budget as requested by the Oak Ridge School Board. He appreciates the education that was provided to him in Oak Ridge.

Joe Lee, 99 E. Pasadena Road, came forward and stated that the Council needs to be thinking about the tax base and the need to focus on growth in the City.

III. RESOLUTIONS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 5-38-11 AUDIT CONTRACT WITH PUGH & COMPANY, P.C.

City Clerk Donna Patterson read the title of the resolution as follows: A resolution to renew the contract with Pugh

& Company, P.C., Knoxville, Tennessee, approved by resolution 5-44-08, to conduct an audit of the city's accounts and funds for fiscal year 2011 and for preparation of financial statements in the comprehensive annual audit report, in the estimated amount of \$51,700.

A motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Hensley, to adopt the resolution as presented.

Finance Director Janice McGinnis came forward and answered questions from the Council.

After discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Miller called for a vote.

Those voting for: Councilmembers Hensley, Mosby, Smith, and Mayor Pro Tem Miller.

Those abstaining: Councilmembers Garcia Garland and Hayes.

Motion carried.

2. **RESOLUTION NO. 5-39-11 FY 2012 BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS**

City Clerk Donna Patterson read the title of the resolution as follows: A resolution to approve the FY 2012 Budget Assumptions, as recommended by the City Manager, as being reflective of the general content of the FY 2012 Budget.

A motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Garcia Garland, to adopt the resolution as presented.

Councilmember Smith stated that she expected a review of the policies and questioned if the Budget Assumptions were taking the place of the Budget Policies.

Councilmember Hensley also questioned if the Budget Assumptions were taking the place of the Budget Policies.

City Manager Mark Watson stated that it is taking the place of some of the budget policies.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hensley, seconded by Councilmember Mosby, to delete the 2nd line of the Budget Assumptions – 'Reviewed By City Council Acting As A Committee Of The Whole'.

Those voting for: Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Hensley, and Mosby.

Those voting against: Councilmember Hayes, Smith and Mayor Pro Tem Miller.

The motion failed.

Mayor Pro Tem Miller called for a vote on the original motion to adopt the resolution as presented.

Those voting for: Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Hayes, Hensley, Mosby, Smith, and Mayor Pro Tem Miller.

The motion carried.

IV. **FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES**

1. **ORDINANCE NO. 8-11 FY 2012 BUDGET**

City Clerk Donna Patterson read the title of the ordinance as follows: An ordinance to provide revenue for municipal purposes for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2011, by imposing a tax on all property within the city, fixing the rate of the tax, adopting a budget, and adopting appropriations.

A motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Garcia Garland, to adopt the FY 2012 Budget Ordinance.

The following school students came forward to speak in favor of approving the requested School Budget: Emily and Catherine Backus, 130 Windham Road; Ben Gaun, 101 Camden Drive; Ellen Bast, 100 Pelham Road; and, Woa Byun, 118 Maltese Lane.

School Board Chairman Keys Fillauer and Vice Chair Robert Eby also came forward and requested the Council to reconsider funding the total School Budget request.

Andy Marathe, 121 Westlook Circle, came forward and spoke against approving the requested School Budget.

Councilmember Smith stated that she believes the Operating Budget Policies, the Revenue Policies, and the Debt Management Guidelines should be included in the Budget Ordinance. They were discussed and amended at the last meeting and were to be brought back for consideration tonight.

Deputy Manager Steve Jenkins stated that they would be included in the Budget Ordinance as amended at the last meeting. The policies are outdated and currently under review. The Finance Department will present resolutions, within the next six months, to the Council with recommended policy changes. The amendments to the policies at the last Council Meeting actually amended a previous resolution and not the Budget Ordinance itself.

City Attorney Ken Krushenski concurred that the changes should be made by resolution and not within the Budget Ordinance.

Councilmember Smith wants to ensure that budget policies are reviewed on a yearly basis in the future, and that the current budget policies are updated and presented to the Council as soon as possible for FY 2012.

All of the Council agreed that they support and care about Oak Ridge schools, students and teachers. They have always given the school what they requested in their budgets. It is very painful but the economy is bad for the whole nation. Everyone has to cut back and live within their means. The City of Oak Ridge is 168 million dollars in debt. The City has allotted 14.6 million dollars for the school budget. The schools are only a part of the City's needs. It was also noted that the City doesn't decide how the school spends the money they are allotted.

A motion was made by Councilmember Mosby to add a statement under 'Other Funds, Page 5, Object Code 5480' to focus on three special initiatives as follows: (1) mall redevelopment, (2) revisiting of the water-front proposal, and (3) a Comprehensive Plan for the City of Oak Ridge.

Those voting for: Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Hensley, and Mosby.

Those voting against: Councilmembers Hayes, Miller, and Mayor Pro Tem Smith.

The motion failed.

After further discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Miller called for a vote on the motion to approve the budget ordinance as amended and approved at the first reading on May 16, 2011.

Those voting for: Councilmembers Garcia Garland, Hayes, Hensley, Mosby, Smith, and Mayor Pro Tem Miller.

The motion carried.

V. SPECIAL REPORTS

1. OAK RIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN, 2011-2015

Deputy Chief Darryl Kerley, speaking on behalf of Fire Chief Mack Bailey, presented the first Oak Ridge Fire Department Strategic Plan for 2011-2015.

In the fall of 2010, the staff of the Oak Ridge Fire Department committed to the formation of a Strategic Planning Committee. After 7 months of research, meetings, input from consultants and fire department employees, and guidance from the book 'Fire Department Strategic Planning, Creating Future Excellence', by Chief Mark Wallace; they developed that first Oak Ridge Fire Department Strategic Plan. This is a tool that will be used to take action today to give Oak Ridge Fire Department the best chance of becoming the most effective and efficient department that our citizens deserve. The identification and publication of Department Values, an updated Department Mission Statement, and a strong Department Vision Statement will serve to provide the Oak Ridge Fire Department personnel with a consistent yardstick to measure their progress towards and prevent any detours from their goals.

VI. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

1. SUPPORT LETTER FOR SECTION 202 PROJECT

City Manager Mark Watson stated that a group is interested in applying for Section 202 Tax Credit Projects which would provide apartment housing for the elderly. He will provide a copy of the support letter to the Mayor and Council.

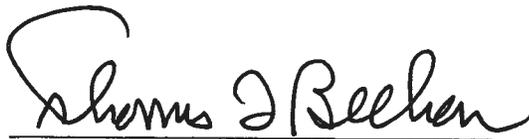
2. UPDATE ON RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

City Manager Mark Watson stated that the newly elected Recreation and Parks Advisory Board held their first meeting on May 12, 2011. At that meeting City Attorney Ken Krunshenski clarified certain legal issues such as open records and conflict of interest. They were also briefed on upcoming projects such as the Waterfront Plan.

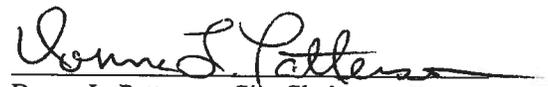
VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Approved this the 13 day of June, 2011.



Thomas L. Beehan, Mayor


Donna L. Patterson, City Clerk