



TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY Regularly Scheduled Workshop Meeting November 01, 2022 6:00 PM Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor JT Smith

Vice Mayor Gerald Greer

Councilman Tim Adkins

Councilman Chris Kerrigan

Councilman Michael Smith

Councilman Kevin Thompson

Councilman Tony Young

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Smith asked to add the agenda item Court Room Discussion under other. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Greer, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the agenda with changes. All approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. October 4, 2022 Workshop Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Young, Seconded by Councilman Kerrigan, to approve the October 4, 2022 Workshop Meeting minutes. All approved by voice vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. Full Time Mayor Discussion

Councilman Tim Adkins asked Mr. Gary Jaeckel if he could give some insight on a full-time mayor vs a full-time city administrator based on our size. Mr. Jaeckel stated that generally elected officials do not have the qualifications, experience, or training needed to run a city. He stated that usually the only qualifications required to run for office are to be a resident over the age of 18. Mr. Jaeckel stated that a city administrator could be required to have a certain amount of experience and training. He stated that several small cities like our have part time mayors and some have full time city administrators, but not many. Mr. Jaeckel further stated that there will be hoops to jump through to pay a full-time mayor and the charter would have to be changed, but they would not have to wait for a city administrator. Councilman Adkins asked if the council would appoint and have control over firing the city administrator. Mr. Jaeckel stated that they would, that it would be like the recorder and city attorney. Councilman Adkins asked if he saw cities our size with full time mayors and Mr. Jaeckel stated that he does not. Councilman Adkins asked if he thought we needed either of them. Mr. Jaeckel stated that the city administrator would be a better option. Ms. Noe stated that the charter would have to be amended because city administrator was removed from the charter not long ago.

3. Noise Ordinance Discussion

Mr. Nicholson stated that he is still working on this and will need until next month. Ms. Noe asked the board for direction on the changes. Councilman Smith asked if the new committee could handle this, and Ms. Noe stated they could with some direction. She stated to ask for a deferral at the council meeting.

4. Parking in Town Discussion

Councilman Thompson stated that he had previously mentioned a lot for sale at Vine and Cumberland to use as a parking area for the downtown district. He stated that they are asking \$1.5 million, and it is zoned Z1. Councilman Thompson stated that there could be used for a parking garage. He stated that this is just one area and that there are other options to look into. Councilman Greer asked about the garage for the County jail. Mr. Biggers stated that it was just a parking lot. Councilman Kerrigan stated we needed to find out what they are doing first.

5. Resolution: Establishing a Memorial Dedications Policy
Mr. Clark stated that this is for a final review of the policy for memorial benches and trees.
6. Ordinance: General Sessions Term Date
Ms. Noe stated that this is for a second and final reading. She stated that this is for a dead date on all charges and the date is June 30, 2024.
7. Ordinance: Modify Title 7, Chapter 6 Fireworks
Ms. Noe stated that there has been a lot of back and forth on this and that there has not been a decision made on the time and dates. She stated that the current ordinance has the dates listed as June 20th - July 5th and December 10 - January 2nd. After much discussion, the council decided that they would like to leave the dates the same and extend the hours on July 4th from 10:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. and on New Year's Eve from 12:30 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Ashland City Liquor and Wine Package Liquor Application
Ms. Martin stated that this application is for Ashland City Liquor and Wine, the store across from the new fire hall. She stated that there has been a change in ownership, and they are seeking their certificate of compliance.
9. Josh Wright Presentation
At this time, Mr. Wright presented his proposal for the new park behind the berm. Councilman Adkins asked how many acres this was. Mr. Clark stated around 150 acres. Mr. Wright proposed a splash pad, outdoor pool, restrooms, a pond with a walking trail, RV camp, softball and baseball quads with concessions in the middle, tennis courts, picnic area, grass seated amphitheater, handicap accessible playground, and six soccer/multipurpose fields. Mr. Clark stated that it is a lot, and it will not happen overnight. he stated it may take five to ten years to complete. Councilman Smith asked if we were looking at phases and Mr. Wright stated they are. Mr. Wright stated that the next thing to think about it what would happen to Johns Park when the fields are moved here. He stated that it could be a new senior center/ multipurpose center. Councilman Smith asked about flooding since it is in a flood plain. Mr. Wright stated that the park would flood, but they are wanting to design this with very few building structures and leave as mostly sports fields. Councilman Adkins asked what the next steps are. Mr. Wright stated that he would make a full color plan that could be used for marketing and grants and then come up with a phasing plan.
10. Sign Ordinance Discussion
Councilman Thompson stated that we should have people come before the board for approval of signs before they purchase them. He stated that when businesses have been cited for their signs, they say that the City did it. Councilman Thompson stated that it should apply to the City as well. Mr. Nicholson stated that the ordinance reads that the City is exempt and that he included pictures of signs at intersections to give an idea of what it would look like if we allowed them. He stated that he does not want our City to look like that.
11. Lindy Murff Exercise Contract
Combined with agenda item #12.
12. Barbara Batson Exercise Contract
Ms. Batts stated that she would like to combine agenda items 11 and 12. She stated that these are both contracts for the exercise instructors at the senior center to continue teaching the programs.
13. Independent Contractor Agreement
Ms. Martin stated that this is an agreement for an officer that was a previous employee of ours to continue instructing the traffic school class until another instructor is trained. Ms. Noe stated that it should state \$250.00 per class instead of bi-weekly. Councilman Kerrigan asked if there was anyone in mind and Ms. Hollingsworth stated there was not. Ms. Noe asked for it to state a minimum of four (4) hours per class.
14. Resolution: Updating the Purchasing Policy
Ms. Bowman stated that MTAS has come back with some changes, and she will ask for this to be deferred.
15. Resolution: Violent Crime Funding
Chief Ray stated that this is for a grant that would help fund active shooter kits and cameras for the park.

SURPLUS PROPERTY NOMINATIONS

None.

EXPENDITURE REQUESTS

16. Upgraded Vehicle for Parks

Mr. Clark stated that Mr. Sampson asked for a Ford Ranger in this budget and when he called to order it, they were on backorder. He stated they are now in stock, but the price for a Ranger is only \$4,000.00 cheaper than a full-size F-150 so he would like to ask for the extra money to upgrade.

OTHER

Mayor Smith stated that we can no longer use the meeting room at the County after December, and we are going to be without a place for court. He stated that he spoke with Mr. Marrow who owns the old Dollar General by Walmart, and he is willing to lease the space to us for \$4,000.00 per month. Mayor Smith stated that it is 10,000 sq foot and we could partition areas off and hold all meetings and court there. He stated we need a place since it will be at least another two years before City Hall is built. Ms. Bowman stated that we could not go in and start working, we would have to move services there. Councilman Kerrigan asked if it was in the budget and Ms. Bowman stated it is not. Councilman Adkins asked if there would be an agreement. Ms. Bowman stated there would be a lease agreement and a budget amendment.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Kerrigan, Seconded by Vice Mayor Greer, to adjourn the meeting. All approved by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

MAYOR JT SMITH

CITY RECORDER ALICIA MARTIN, CMFO