

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT
REGULAR MEETING
GOODLETTSVILLE CITY COMMISSION

Date: June 23, 2011

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: City Hall

Present: Gary Manning, John Coombs, John Finch, Dan Bloodworth, Jane Birdwell

Also Present: Joe Haynes, Jim Thomas, Tim Ellis, Julie High, Alicia Prince, Richard Pope, Phillip Gibson, Tom Tucker, Julie High, Harry Bell, Amy Mitchell, Charlie Morrow, Dawn Freeman, Wanda Hutchison, Greg Waite, Jeremy Baker, Dean Birdwell, Sissy Thomas, Ray Hunter, Ken Hale, Jim Driver, Sterling Bentley, Denver Schimming, Gela Craig, Robert McCain, Brock Rust, Robert Nichols, Susan Rotkiewicz and Harry Yates,

Mayor Manning called the meeting to order. Dr. Harry Yates offered prayer. Mayor Manning led the chambers in the pledge of allegiance.

City Recorder Prince called the roll: Mayor Manning present, Vice Mayor Coombs present, Commissioner Finch present, Commissioner Bloodworth present, and Commissioner Birdwell present.

Consider approval of the minutes of the regular Commission meeting on June 9, 2011. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Coombs to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Birdwell and it passed unanimously 5-0.

Sterling Bentley of 407 Goldie Ct stated that his concern was regarding the Goodlettsville dump/recycle center. He stated that he was told by a Public Works employee that residents were no longer permitted to remove items from the recycle center and wanted to know if this was in fact true. He stated that he and others often recycled items by putting them to good use and was opposed to no longer being able to remove items.

Assistant City Manager Ellis responded that this was correct. He stated that we had some issues with the citizens and possibly employees removing items from the center. He explained that the items became property of the City of Goodlettsville when they were dropped off there.

City Manager Thomas advised the Commission that he had been asked to go to Mayor Dean's office on Friday regarding the opening of the new library to discuss the disposition of surplus property in the old library and will report back to them what he finds out.

Commissioner Birdwell asked Parks Director, Amy Mitchell if she was able to find any information regarding the community garden that she had people asking about.

Ms. Mitchell stated that she had done some research on the subject and would discuss this with her at a later date when she gathered more information.

Commissioner Bloodworth commented that he wanted to commend whoever was responsible for the repaving of Longhollow Pike. He stated that all the work that had been done there had very little negative influence on the citizens.

Commissioner Bloodworth also commented that he had several calls regarding the recycle center. He stated that the rules had changed and we had nothing posted there that notified citizens of the items that Public Works does not accept such as paint, carpet, pads, etc. He believes it would be beneficial for the City to have all this information available on our website and have the Public Works employees have some information available for the citizens as to where they could dump such items and how much it would cost them as it has been mentioned to him that some citizens place these items in a trash bag and include in their trash when turned away. He also asked if it was cost effective for the City to have a bin available for those items and charge extra.

City Manager Thomas responded to Commissioner Bloodworth that the Longhollow Pike project was a State Department of Transportation project and that they had been working at night. He also stated that there is detailed information on our website regarding the items that can be deposited as well as what cannot be deposited at Public Works and that there is also information available as to where in Nashville those items not accepted can be taken on an ongoing basis or on a frequently scheduled basis. He stated that we would have to look into providing the service of accepting those other items as the recycling center is extremely expensive to operate.

Vice Mayor Coombs stated to Commissioner Bloodworth that there was a recycling center on Myatt Dr. that on occasion takes those other items.

Mr. Jim Driver stated that he was a representative on the Solid Waste Board for Metro and that Metro does have drop off sites specifically for paint and other items and also drop off sites for construction materials and that he would make that information available to them.

Commissioner Finch stated that he understands the City is trying to save money however, asked City Manager Thomas to include an alternate method to handle these sorts of items in the outsourcing recycling proposals they are working on.

Vice Mayor Coombs stated that he would like to recognize the Beech High School girls' fast-pitch softball team with a proclamation for winning the state tournament and make a presentation at school assembly.

Consider Ordinance No. 11-756 on second reading, an ordinance of the City of Goodlettsville, Tennessee adopting the annual budget, as amended, for the fiscal year July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 and establishing a property tax rate for tax year 2011. Mayor Manning opened the public hearing.

Robert McCain of 818 S. Dickerson Rd. spoke in opposition of the amendment to Ordinance No. 11-756.

Jim Driver of 204 Dora Dr. spoke opposing the amendment to Ordinance No. 11-756.

Denver Schimming of 943 Old Dickerson Pike spoke in opposition of the amendment to Ordinance No. 11-756.

W. S. Miller of 102 Essex Court stated that in addition to the previous comment he believed that everyone doing the same job should be paid the same wages otherwise it causes conflicts with the workers.

Gela Craig of 316 Melissa Dr. was opposed to the amendment made to Ordinance No. 11-756.

With no more comments, Mayor Manning closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Finch to approve Ordinance No.11-756, adopting the annual budget for the year 2011-2012 on second reading. Commissioner Bloodworth seconded the motion.

At this time, Commissioner Birdwell made a motion to amend the budget to set up a separate fund to fund employee pensions. There was discussion.

Mayor Manning explained that he believed that if an amendment of that type was made, there would have to be a figure relative to the amount and inquired with City Attorney Haynes.

City Attorney Haynes stated that he believed there should be a definite amount for it to be effective.

Commissioner Birdwell recommended that related to the Board of Commissioners target of keeping 18% of the City's operating expenditures in the fund balance, that anything in excess of 18% be dedicated to retirees' benefits. Discussion followed. Commissioner Finch pointed out that some of the fund balance is already dedicated to specific purposes and that our actual "spendable" fund balance is less than 18%. He asked the finance director to confirm which she did. After further discussion, Commissioner Birdwell withdrew her motion.

Vice Mayor Coombs stated that he agreed with Commissioner Birdwell that they must address that issue sometime in the near future but wanted to comment on the consultant services. He stated that in the first reading, his vote was not to include in the budget knowing that they would have to come back to look at this again but stated that he had not changed his mind. He stated that he did not see reason to spend that kind of money on outside services when we can get that service from MTAS. He stated that if that line item remained in the budget he would have to vote no but if it was removed from the budget, he would vote to pass the budget.

Commissioner Finch commented that he had heard in earlier comments that employees and department heads could find these solutions without going to outside sources but pointed out that it had not been done. He stated that there were many issues that alerted him that needed to be addressed. He agreed that the City needed a tax increase but was not ready to go to the citizens until such time as we have assured ourselves that we are operating with the most efficiency and least waste possible, which he believes these performance audits will help us accomplish.

Mayor Coombs offered an amendment to the proposed budget to eliminate the consulting services of \$250,000 to the 2012 Budget. Mayor Manning seconded the motion and there was discussion.

Mayor Manning stated that he had every confidence in MTAS and that regardless of whether we hire an outside source or MTAS to do the job; he did not believe that they were going to start the process in two weeks, that it would probably be sixty to ninety days before it could begin. He also stated that the study would be so comprehensive in nature that there is no way that it would be completed before the spring quarter and he believed that we would not be spending that money this year and was opposed to it being in the budget.

Commissioner Bloodworth stated that he appreciated feedback from the citizens and he understands that the City needs a tax increase but needs to know just how much of an increase we need. He believes this study would help us determine how much tax increase is needed and had no problem with MTAS doing the job, as it might be less money but is not comfortable with removing it from budget.

Commissioner Birdwell stated that every growing city has audits at least every ten years and that everyone will benefit from this if done properly. She also stated that if we do not use the entire \$250,000 set aside, we can use balance for the pension fund.

At this time a vote was taken on the motion made by Vice Mayor Coombs to amend the budget by eliminating the consulting services of \$250,000. Commissioners Bloodworth, Finch and Birdwell voted no. Mayor Manning and Vice Mayor Coombs voted aye, and the motion failed 3-2.

A vote was taken on the motion made by Commissioner Finch to approve Ordinance No. 11-756, adopting the annual budget for 2011-2012 on second reading. Commissioners Bloodworth, Finch, and Birdwell voted aye. Mayor Manning and Vice Mayor Coombs voted no and the motion passed 3-2.

Consider Ordinance No. 11-757, an ordinance adopting and enacting a codification and revision of the ordinances of the City of Goodlettsville on second reading. Mayor Manning opened the public hearing. There were no citizen comments and the public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Finch made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 11-757. Commissioner Birdwell seconded the motion. There was discussion and City Manager Thomas addressed some issues that Commissioner Finch had discussed with him at an earlier time regarding the codification. Vote was taken on motion to approve Ordinance No. 11-757 and it passed unanimously 5-0 on second reading.

Consider Ordinance No. 11-758, an ordinance to annex certain property east of Tara Lane and north of Willis Branch Road into the City of Goodlettsville, Tennessee, Sumner County Tax Map 143, part of Parcel 48.01 containing approximately 11.96 acres and part of Parcel 52 containing approximately 13.52 acres as shown in the records of the assessor of property of Sumner County, Tennessee on first reading.

City Manager Thomas explained that this agenda item and the next come recommended from the Planning Commission. He stated that a petition was presented by a developer that involved annexation of property into the City and this ordinance (11-758) is the action to annex that property and referred to a map he provided for them. There was discussion.

Vice Mayor Coombs, who serves as a member on the Planning Commission spoke on the issue as well as the property owner/developer, Brock Russ.

Commissioner Bloodworth made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 11-758. Vice Mayor Coombs seconded the motion and it passed 4-1 on first reading. Commissioner Finch abstained.

Commissioner Finch explained for the record that this seemed like a reasonable solution to improving the overall development, however 2 to 5 homes will be placed on that property and it costs the City approximately \$2000 net more per year per residence than what the City receives in property taxes which adds to our burden and that this was the reason he abstained from voting.

Consider Ordinance No.11-759, an ordinance to amend Title 14, the official zoning map of the Goodlettsville Municipal Code Ordinance No. 06-674, as amended by rezoning a certain area of land recently annexed into the City by Ordinance No. 11-758 to Low Density Residential Planned Unit Development (LDRPUD) & Medium Density Residential Planned Unit Development (MDRPUD) and by rezoning a portion of an existing parcel currently zoned HDRPUD as LDRPUD on first reading.

Vice Mayor Coombs made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 11-759 on first reading. Commissioner Birdwell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously 5-0.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

City Recorder

Mayor