

REGULAR MEETING
GOODLETTSVILLE CITY COMMISSION

Date: March 26, 2009

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: City Hall

Present: John Finch, Gary Manning, Jerry Garrett, John Coombs, Dan Bloodworth

Also Present: Jim Thomas, Joe Haynes, Claudia Davis, Tim Ellis, Julie High, Danny Okert, Phillip Gibson, Larry DiOrio, Dawn Freeman, Rick Gregory, Harry Bell, David Wilson, Jan Lanius, Joyce Washington, Danny Okert, Walter Williams, Carl & Sandra Sloan, Mark Knobloch, Paul Gardner, Susan Rotkiewicz, Jim Hysen, Rob Wheeler, Jane Birdwell, and others.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Finch. Rev. Paul Gardner offered prayer.

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

Consider approval of the minutes of the March 12, 2009 regular commission meeting. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Manning to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coombs and passed unanimously 5-0.

Jim Hysen, Copper Creek, respectfully requested that the Commission reconsider his prior rezoning request for Copper Creek. Commissioner Coombs made a recommendation to reconsider this request and place the issue on the agenda for a future meeting. The Commission members all concurred.

City Manager Thomas announced that Jack Corn, a Goodlettsville native and renowned professional photo journalist, has a display of his works in the lobby of City Hall through April. Mayor Finch requested that City Manager Thomas convey to Mr. Corn the board's appreciation for sharing his works.

Commissioner Coombs reported that packages to the business community for participation in the expense of the Fourth of July celebration went out the first of March. Follow up calls will begin next week. He praised Tim Ellis and his staff for their excellent work on this matter.

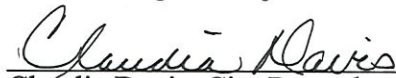
Consider Resolution No. 09-391, a resolution establishing procedures for public inspection of, access to and duplication of public records under the Tennessee Public Records Act (T.C.A. §10-7-504. et seq.) City Manager Thomas reported that adoption of this model resolution prepared by MTAS will bring the City into full compliance with the Public Records Act. A motion was made to approve Resolution No. 09-391 by Commissioner Garrett. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bloodworth and passed unanimously 5-0.

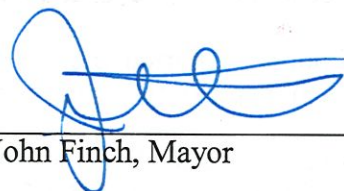
Consider Resolution No. 09-392, a resolution recognizing the University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) as it celebrates its 60th anniversary in April 2009. City Manager Thomas praised the advice and assistance MTAS provides to the staff weekly. Mayor Finch expressed his appreciation for the Elected Officials Academy that they provide. A motion was made to approve Resolution No. 09-392 by Commissioner Coombs. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Manning and passed unanimously 5-0.

Consider Resolution No. 09-393, a resolution to amend the City's personnel policy by modifying the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) policy. City Manager Thomas reported that the City adopted the federal law requirements of this act in 1993 and revised it in 2000. Adoption of this resolution will comply and memorialize current procedures and new requirements involving active military duty so that the city is in full compliance. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Manning to approve Resolution No. 09-393. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bloodworth and passed unanimously 5-0.

Consider the request of a member of the Board of Commissioner's that the City pay the member's legal fees incurred in defense of a recent lawsuit related to the member's election to the Board. Mayor Finch opened comments from citizens, previously deferred about this item. Mark Knobloch asked for an explanation of this request. A motion was made by Commissioner Garrett to deny this request. Vice Mayor Manning seconded the motion. Commissioner Bloodworth explained that an unsuccessful candidate filed a lawsuit against the Davidson County and Sumner County Election Commissions, the Board of Commissioners and himself, claiming he was an ineligible candidate due to residency, which he stated was false. He was the only one asked for discovery and had provided numerous confirming documentations that he was residing in the new home. He stated the lawsuit was thrown out but that his family had incurred \$6,700 in legal expense. His position was based on information from the election commission that if he had not defended his position, the City would have had to fund a new election at a cost of \$150,000. Commissioner Garrett clarified that the last election held by the City separate from a national election was at a cost of \$20,000 and the election commission personnel was in error. He stated that the decision to run for public office is in an individual capacity and the allegations were directed to Commissioner Bloodworth personally. Commissioner Coombs stated there is no documentation supporting that the City has any obligation in this matter. Vice Mayor Manning stated the lawsuit was not thrown out but was withdrawn. He added that there were posts taken from the internet indicating he would be moving in about three weeks from September 20th. He added that an occupancy permit was not issued until November 17th. Mayor Finch agreed that his request was inappropriate and if it was a fraudulent suit, there are remedies he could pursue to recoup his expenses. He expressed his displeasure that the election commission did not do more to prove his residency when he qualified. Considering that there have been no capital projects funded for citizens last year and no raises or contributions to the retirement 457 plan for employees, he feels this request is unconscionable. Commissioner Bloodworth stated he understood their positions. He stated he and his wife were residing in his new home inside the city when he qualified. His son and nursing staff remained in his prior home until his special equipment needs were completed in the new home and that's when the occupancy permit was issued. Mayor Finch stated he is troubled that he occupied the home before receiving the occupancy permit and that the Commissioners should be held to a higher standard of the law that anyone in the City. City Recorder Davis called the roll: Mayor Finch aye, Vice Mayor Manning aye, Commissioner Garrett aye, Commissioner Coombs aye, and Commissioner Bloodworth aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.


 Claudia Davis, City Recorder


 John Finch, Mayor