

**TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 12, 2017**  
**6:00 PM at Ashland City Municipal Building**  
**101 Court Street, Ashland City, Tennessee**

**CALL TO ORDER** at 6:02 PM by Mayor Johnson.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Richard Johnson, Vice-Mayor Steve Allen, Gary Norwood, Lisa Walker, Alwilda Binkley, and Jimmy Gill  
Absent: Roger Jackson.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER** – Led by Paul Gupton

**CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to approve the November meeting minutes as typed. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**PRESENTATION**

- A. Certificate of Appreciation.** Mayor presented Ms. Alwilda Binkley and Mr. Jimmy Gill with a certificate of appreciation for their time spent serving as a council member. He also presented Ms. Kellie Reed with a certificate for her completion of the Certified Municipal Financial Officer Program.
- B. Christmas Parade Winners.** Mayor announced the winners of the Christmas Parade and presented the winners with trophies for their entries. The mayor's choice award winner was Town of Ashland City-Public Works, third place winner was Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church, second Place winner was Colby's Army, and the first place winner was Tri-Star Medical Center.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

- A. Jennifer Batson Water Adjustment.** Ms. Batson stepped forward and stated she had a leak in the bathtub, which caused a high water bill. Mayor stated Ms. Batson's bill totaled \$363.25 and normally averages \$53.28. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Binkley to adjust Ms. Batson's bill down to an average. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- B. Gene Harris Water Adjustment.** Mr. Harris came forward and stated his water bill was \$1,120.40 due to a pipe bursting; however, he had not made the necessary repairs at this time. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Binkley to adjust the bill to an average. A motion was made by

Norwood, seconded by Gill to adjust Ms. Stuart's bills down to an average. Mayor informed Mr. Harris this may cost more next month and typically the repairs are made prior to making an adjustment. Further, once the council adjusts the bill it can only be adjusted once in a year. Mr. Gill and Ms. Binkley withdrew their motions. Mr. Harris stated he would come back to request an adjustment after the repairs are complete.

- C. **Joyce Turner Water Adjustment.** Ms. Turner stated she had a break in the main line which has been repaired, but caused two high water bills. Mayor stated Ms. Turner's bills average \$53.27. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to reduce Ms. Turner's bills down to an average. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- D. **Patricia Finley Water Adjustment.** Ms. Finley stepped forward and stated she had a toilet running which caused two high water bills and has since been repaired. Mayor stated Ms. Finley's bills were for \$668.83 and \$267.05, but normally averages \$82.32. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Binkley to adjust Ms. Finley's bill down to an average. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- E. **Mary Webber- Ashland City resident, voicing concerns.** Ms. Weber stepped forward and stated she had come before council last month and questioned the straightening of Highway 49. She further stated she has started a petition and has gathered several signatures in order to ask council to consider having a public vote and public forum regarding this issue. Mayor asked Ms. Noe how many signatures are required in order to take for public vote. Ms. Noe stated she would have to check on that. Mayor stated the council is happy to have a public forum for the issue; however, nothing is happening right now, but that he will make sure to have a public forum when they have something further.

## REPORTS

- A. **City Attorney.** None.

## OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Ordinance 477: Municipal Floodplain Zoning.** AN ORDINANCE ADOPTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL ZONING ORDINANCE REGULATING DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE, TO MINIMIZE DANGER TO LIFE AND PROPERTY DUE TO FLOODING, AND TO MAINTAIN ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to approve Ordinance 477. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-yes. **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**
- B. **Ordinance: Establishing Honorarium Policy for Retiring and Disabled Officers.** AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE TO AMEND TITLE 6 CHAPTER 1 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE ADDING HONORARIUM PRESENTATION OF GUN AND BADGE TO RETIRING OR DISABLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY OFFICERS. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to approve the Ordinance Establishing Honorarium Policy for Retiring and Disabled Officers. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes. **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**
- C. **Ordinance: Budget Amendment.** AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT A BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE 17/18 FISCAL YEAR. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Norwood to approve Budget Amendment Ordinance. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Norwood-yes, Binkley-yes, Jackson-no, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes. **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

## NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Ordinance: Building Fees.** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 12, CHAPTER 1, SECTION 12-104 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE. Chief Walker stated this is to change the way we charge for fees in order to support spending costs for inspections as we discussed in last week's workshop meeting. He further stated the section discussing if residents have lost their home due to fire fees will be waived. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to approve the Ordinance for Building Fees. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- B. **Ordinance: Tap/Capacity Fees.** AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE TO AMEND TITLE 18, CHAPTER 1 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to approve the Ordinance for Tap/Capacity Fees. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- C. **Ordinance: Title 15 Chapter 6: Parking Fees.** AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE TO AMEND TITLE 15 CHAPTER 7 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE REGULATING MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAFFIC, AND PARKING ENFORCEMENT. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Binkley to approve the Ordinance Updating Parking Fees. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- D. **Ordinance: Rezone Graham Road at Highway 12 from R-1 to C-2.** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE, BY REZONING PARCEL 34.01 OF CHEATHAM COUNTY TAX MAP 65, LOCATED ON HIGHWAY 12 SOUTH AT GRAHAM ROAD TO THE ZONING DISTRICT C-2. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to approve the Ordinance to Rezone Graham Road at Highway 12 from R-1 to C-2. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- E. **Request to Bid Training Facility.** Chief Walker stated this is for the FEMA grant that was awarded to the city in the amount of \$605,000. Further, there is approximately \$30,000 from the fire budget, and with what the Police Department will be donating and the county's fire dues that will cover the matched portion. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to bid the training facility. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- F. **Request to Accept Bids for Farmland Lease.** Chief Walker stated the lease we did last year was for one year and we can bid for whatever time period the council chooses. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Binkley to bid the lease of the farmland for a period of a year. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- G. **Resolution: Accept land donation- Turner Street at Boyd Street.** Ms. Noe stated the cost of the surveying is \$1,000 and the city will need to pay for that expenditure. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to approve the Resolution to accept the land donation. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes.


#### OTHER BUSINESS

- A. **Councilmember salary increase.** Mr. Gill stated he would like to make a motion for council to get a 5% cost of living raise. Ms. Noe stated you cannot vote on a raise for current term. Mr. Gill withdrew his motion.
- B. **Lighting of Highway 12.** Mr. Gill questioned the status is on the lighting of Highway 12 project. Mr. Biggers stated he has been trying to get in touch with TDOT to figure out what the issues are.
- C. **Special Census.** Ms. Walker asked for an update on the special census. Ms. Cannon stated the last count she heard we are at 3,700 and the third letter has been mailed. She also stated they have 880 households that have not responded thus far.
- D. **Additional Personnel for Water Department.** Mr. Gill made a motion, seconded by Walker to approve additional personnel for the water department. All approved by voice vote.
- E. **Reminders.** Ms. Walker asked what is scheduled for next Tuesday night. Ms. Reed responded next Tuesday night the meeting at 5:30 is for the sprinkler ordinance second reading and then will be to interview the candidates for the vacant council position. Further at 6:00 the regularly scheduled budget meeting will be held.

**F. Limiting Liquor Stores.** Mr. Gill stated he felt it is unconstitutional to limit the number of liquor stores allowable in city limits. Ms. Claudia Binkley stated she heard Mulberry Liquors may be closing due to lack of business. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to remove the limitation of liquor stores. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-no. Mr. Gill further stated he has enjoyed his time serving as a councilmember and loves the council, employees, citizens, attorney and Town of Ashland City.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

  
RICHARD JOHNSON, MAYOR

  
KELLIE REED, CITY RECORDER