

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE**

**September 9, 2021  
6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on September 9, 2021, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Pastor Daniel Beard, Action Church, gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Present were:** Mayor Williams, Vice Mayor Chauncey, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Helton, Councilmember Witt, City Manager Dorsey, City Attorney Litchford (remotely), and City Recorder Middleton.

**Employee Recognition Awards for August 2021** – Mayor Williams announced employee milestone awards for two employees, Chris Peters, and Ken Rawlins, who have both been with the City for 10 years.

**Consent Agenda:**

- A. Approval of Minutes August 26, 2021 Council Meeting
- B. Declaration of Surplus Property

Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve the Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**Communication from Citizens:** None

**Communication from Councilmembers:**

Councilmember Witt sent out information regarding volunteers needed for the Centennial. They will need volunteers for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday on the weekend of the event. She stated to contact her to get the information or go on Facebook to volunteer.

Councilmember Helton, Vice Mayor Chauncey, and Councilmember Cagle had nothing at this time.

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- The Mayor asked Chief Allen to come forward to discuss National Night Out. The Chief stated the event is Oct. 5, 6:00-8:00 pm. Fire and Police personnel will be there, as well as Animal Services with a petting zoo. Food will be served. This event is for the entire city.
- The Centennial celebration will be held September 25<sup>th</sup> at Camp Jordan.

**Communication from City Manager:**

- Friday, September 10, 2021, the Optimist Club will hold its annual 911 recognition luncheon for Fire, Police, and all City employees. It will be in the fire bay at Station 1 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.
- He thanked David Tyler and Dana Howe for setting up a Centennial information booth at the Red Wolves game.
- Census numbers are out. The final 2020 population in East Ridge is 22,167 compared to 20,979 in 2010.
- Starting this Sunday and continuing Monday and Tuesday, TDOT will mill and pave the right-of-way aprons on Spring Creek Road, McBrien Road, and Belvoir Avenue.
- Hilton Drive and McDonald Road will be paved on September 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Splash pad update – Some of the equipment is here, but some of chemical tanks are on back order. Concrete may be poured in the next week to week and a half.
- Chief Allen stated that the Police Department is accepting applications for the next Citizen’s Police Academy. It is a 10-week program that will start sometime next month. Applications are on the website.
- The Chief also stated we are taking applications for two full-time police officer positions.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3193 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE APPROVING A TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENTS BEER PERMIT FOR CHRIS SNELMGROVE REPRESENTING THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ON BEHALF OF THE EAST RIDGE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION -**

City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mr. Dorsey stated the Knights of Columbus will be in charge of the Beer Garden at the Centennial. David Tyler, Chris Snellgrove, and Sam Martin came forward representing the organization. Mr. Tyler stated they have contacted various breweries and are waiting on the permit to be able to order the beer. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve Resolution No. 3193. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3194 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO PURCHASE A POLICE K9 FROM SPORTWAFFEN OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA -**

City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Allen stated our current canine, Axel is close to retirement. Cost of a new canine, shipping, and training will be \$15,000, to be paid out of the drug fund. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve Resolution No. 3194. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3195 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC ENTITY PARTNERS JAMES L. RICHARDSON DRIVER SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM -**

City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City

Manager Dorsey stated we apply for this grant every year. It is a 50/50 grant which can be used for CDL checks, back up cameras, etc. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Chauncey, to approve Resolution No. 3195. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the September 23, 2021 Council Meeting:

- **Citizen’s Police Academy Alumni** - Councilmember Witt stated that Harry Mackey will be at the next meeting to discuss what the Alumni are doing.
  
- **New Business:**
  - **RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ - A RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE TICKETS TO THE OPTIMIST CLUB BARBECUE** – Mr. Dorsey stated the City has purchased these tickets over the last several years, and the Optimist Club is requesting that we purchase \$300 in tickets again this year. Proceeds will help children in East Ridge and the surrounding areas.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE**

**September 23, 2021  
6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on September 23, 2021, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Rev. Danny Lance, Trulife Church, gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Present were:** Mayor Williams, Vice Mayor Chauncey, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Helton, Councilmember Witt, City Manager Dorsey, City Attorney Litchford, and City Recorder Middleton.

**Citizen's Police Academy Alumni** – Harry Mackey, representing the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni, stated the group is selling coffee mugs, and the money will be used for Police Department needs. Cups are \$12 but 2 or more are \$10 each. He gave each Councilmember a mug.

**Consent Agenda:**

- A. Approval of Minutes September 9, 2021 Council Meeting
- B. Declaration of Surplus Property

Councilmember Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve the Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**Communication from Citizen:** None

**Communication from Councilmembers:**

Councilmember Cagle had nothing at this time.

Vice Mayor Chauncey had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Helton had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Witt gave her condolences to the family of Gregg Shipley on his passing.

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- Jeffrey Stubblefield, a student at Belvoir Christian Academy, placed first again in the Tri Star Reading Competition. He was also invited to join the Davidson Institute Young Scholars program.

- We now have two retired flag drop-off locations, one at City Hall and one at Camp Jordan. The Mayor thanked Chase Lowery for spearheading this Eagle Scout project and was honored to sponsor it. He also thanked the Boy Scouts of America Troup 74 for maintaining and retiring the flags.
- The City participated in the recent Hero's Night Out at Boyd's Speedway. Assistant Chief Uselton drove an East Ridge police cruiser and the Mayor presented a flag.
- The new fire truck was on display the previous Saturday at the Red Wolves stadium.
- Chief Allen came forward to discuss the following:
  - Officer Brooks graduated from the Police Academy and was instrumental in organizing the graduation ceremony.
  - We ordered seven vehicles, in addition to the two ordered earlier. Two SUVs and four F150 trucks are here. We are waiting on two more trucks and one SUV.
  - National Night Out will be October 5, 2021 with Harry Mackey doing the cooking.
  - Citizens police Academy – We only have one approved applicant so far. We will have applications at the National Night Out and at the Centennial.
- The Optimist Club awarded the Officer of the Year award to John Perry and the Firefighter of the Year award to Chris Peters.
- East Ridge High School and East Ridge Elementary School staff and students have achieved Level 5 Academic Growth.
- Centennial Celebration will be Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> and will have 25 sponsors, 90 vendors, library activities, inflatables, yard games, breweries, and more.
- The State would like help in choosing our next state license plate. Citizens may go to [tn.gov](http://tn.gov) and vote on four different designs with various color options.

**Communication from City Manager:**

- October 2, 2021 – There will be a Cruise-in for Paws at O'Reilly's from 8 am – 12 pm to benefit Chattanooga. There will be door prizes and a silent auction. East Ridge Animal Services will participate.
- Hilton Drive and the intersections at Spring Creek, McBrien, and Belvoir Avenue have been paved.
- Multi modal project – Bid notices have gone out and are due back October 7, 2021 for the construction phase.
- We have received a letter from our insurer, Public Entity Partners, and they are declining to insure the McBrien Building due to its condition. We have had a few developers express interest in the property and have sent out Requests for Proposals.
- The Centennial will be Saturday, with set up tomorrow. There will be bands, crafts, food trucks, and fireworks sponsored by the Red Wolves.

**Old Business:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3183 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT WITH CHATTANOOGA RED WOLVES ACADEMY (CWRA) FOR CAMP JORDAN SOCCER FIELD UTILIZATION AND PROGRAMMING** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City Attorney Litchford stated the City put out a Request for Proposals and the

Chattanooga Red Wolves' proposal was selected. He stated the terms of the agreement are as follows:

- 5-year term commencing September 1, 2021, renewable unless terminated by either party with one-year prior notice.
- Allows for usage and resting of the fields
- Red Wolves will pay the City \$60,000 per year, with some improvement requirements as part of the payment.
- Red Wolves will pay the City a one-time payment of \$10,000 for purchase of a lawn mower
- Red Wolves will pay the City \$5,000 per year thereafter for improvements to maintain field condition.

Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Chauncey, to approve Resolution No. 3183. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Chauncey - yes; Councilmember Cagle - no; Councilmember Helton - yes; Councilmember Witt - yes; Mayor Williams - yes. Motion approved.

**New Business:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3196 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO PURCHASE \$300 IN TICKETS FOR THE EAST RIDGE OPTIMIST CLUB BARBEQUE FUNDRAISER** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Cagle stated proceeds from the barbecue help fund the 911 luncheons, the fishing rodeo, donations to East Ridge High School, among other things. The date is October 30<sup>th</sup> from 11 am – 2 pm. Councilmember Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3196. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3197 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE APPROVING A TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENTS BEER PERMIT FOR RANDY CARPENTER, TO SELL BEER AT A VAN EXPO SERIES AT CAMP JORDAN ARENA** – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve Resolution No. 3197. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3198 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE APPROVING THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE BORDER REGION TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ACT T.C.A. § 7-40-101 ET SEQ WITH EXIT ONE, LLC.** – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. He stated this is related to amendment from 2014 for Resolution 2389, which contained some provisions that did not get incorporated into the development agreement, plus some things have arisen now. The IDB approved the second amendment to the development agreement.

This agreement addresses the issue of improvements that Exit 1 will perform with respect to property it acquires. They have agreed that on any property they acquire, they will put not less than 25% monetary construction cost improvements based upon the county appraised value at

time of purchase. With respect to the baseline, they will take half the baseline on any property in the border region that has a baseline. They will get reimbursements for 2019 and 2020 for improvements made at the Mercantile. Councilmember Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3198. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Mr. Dorsey thanked Matt Wood with Exit One, LLC for helping clarify some of the information in the original agreement. He is glad they are here in East Ridge. The Mayor agreed.

### **Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the October 14, 2021 Council Meeting**

- **Section 3-B** - Employee Milestone Recognition Awards for September 2021 – The Mayor thanked the employees for everything they do.
  
- **New Business:**
  - A. **ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_ - An Ordinance To Rezone 4105 Cemetery Road From R-3 Apartment District to R-1 Residential District (1<sup>st</sup> reading)** – Chief Building Official Howell stated a portion of the property was rezoned in 2002 from R-3 to R-1, but now the applicant would like to rezone the entire parcel in order to continue the cemetery. Vice Mayor Chauncey stated the Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve the request to rezone.
  
  - B. **RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ - Purchase of Fire Engine** – Chief Williams stated we are having issues with an engine we currently have. We can purchase a new engine through the HGACBuy Purchasing Program and then lease the engine. It will take 13 –14 months to build, with the first payment due in the next budget. Cost of the engine is \$710,538. City Manager Dorsey stated we are in the final year of payments on another piece of equipment, so we left that amount in the budget as a placeholder for the new engine.

Mr. Dorsey asked Chief Williams to discuss the Hamilton County EMS Service. The Chief stated this service has taken some calls off the Fire Department. He believes we are getting quality services, with an average response time of 5 – 6 minutes. The Mayor stated he has also heard great things about the Hamilton County EMS.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.