

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

**September 8, 2022  
6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on September 8, 2022, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Ashley Wade, with the Children's Ministry at Jones Memorial United Methodist 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.

**Attendance:** 4

**Employee Milestone Awards for August** – Mayor Williams announced that Phillip Smith and David Myrick will receive awards for five years of service.

**Special Presentation – American Water Charitable Foundation Water and Environment Grant** – Daphne Kirksey, External Affairs Manager; Grant Evitts, President of Tennessee American Water; and Val Armstrong, Boardmember with the American Water Charitable Foundation presented a check in the amount of \$250,000. City Manager Dorsey stated the grant would be used at Dickert Pond in Camp Jordan to install an ADA boardwalk and fishing pier. The Mayor thanked the representatives from American Water for this grant.

**Approval of Minutes August 25, 2022 Council Meeting:** Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve the minutes. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**Communication from Citizens:**

David Tyler, 4701 Fountain Avenue, stated the Optimist Club 911 Luncheon will be held tomorrow at 11 am at Fire Station #1. He invited all City staff. The Optimists will be honoring the Firefighter and Police Officer of the Year.

**Communication from Councilmembers**

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

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- The Mayor attended the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of OLPH school, which had school tours, food, vendors, etc.
- The Mayor congratulated County Commissioner Mike Chauncey who won the election for District 8 and was sworn in on September 1, 2022.
- The Mayor congratulated Judge Cox, who was sworn in on September 1, 2022.

- Jones Memorial BBQ and bake sale will be held on September 17<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds go toward purchasing coats for children in East Ridge schools.
- Library
  - September 23, 2022 is movie night. The movie is Ghostbusters.
  - September 27, 2022 – Chattanooga Zoo Super Duper Senses, for pre-school and kindergarten
- October 7, 2022 - East Ridge Fall Festival – We are looking for vendors, crafters, etc. Contact Michelle Hobbs with Parks and Rec if you are interested.

**Communication from City Manager:**

- Mr. Dorsey congratulated Vice Mayor Chauncey on being elected to the County Commission.
- One of our garbage trucks is in Nashville for emergency repairs. Cost of the repairs is \$15,192.75. Mr. Dorsey would like approval for these emergency repairs. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve the emergency repairs not to exceed \$20,000. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. **Resolution No. 3315** was assigned to this action.
- City Manager Dorsey recognized Clint Uselton as the new police chief.
- Mr. Dorsey stated that with the passing of Queen Elizabeth, we have had calls about lowering the flag to half-staff. We cannot do this without authorization from the President or Governor. The Mayor stated the President has called for this but only for federal buildings.
- The new Assistant Police Chief is Josh Creel.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3311 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO WAIVE THE FEE FOR USE OF THE CAMP JORDAN ARENA BY THE EAST RIDGE NEEDY CHILD FUND FOR A TOY SHOW FUNDRAISER EVENT** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3311. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3312 – INITIAL RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INCURRENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS BY THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, OF NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000,000, BY THE EXECUTION WITH THE PUBLIC BUILDING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF CLARKSVILLE, TENNESSEE, OF A LOAN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Finance Director Qualls stated this will be used for N. Mack Smith Road at the Gateway Development, Spring Creek Road project, Multi Modal project, and a new Animal Shelter. We only pay when we draw down funds. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve Resolution No. 3312. Councilmember Cagle asked if we could use the remainder on the Georgia side of Mack Smith Road. Mr. Dorsey stated we have turned that in to the TPO for separate funding. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3313 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING A LOAN PURSUANT TO A LOAN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AND THE PUBLIC BUILDING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF CLARKSVILLE, TENNESSEE, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000,000; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF SUCH LOAN AGREEMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATING TO SAID LOAN; APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF A BOND BY SUCH PUBLIC BUILDING AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE PROCEEDS OF SAID LOAN AND THE PAYMENT OF SUCH INDEBTEDNESS; CONSENTING TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE CITY'S OBLIGATION UNDER SUCH LOAN AGREEMENT; AND, CERTAIN OTHER MATTERS** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mr. Dorsey stated this is for approval of the loan. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve Resolution No. 3313. Mayor Williams stated both North Mack Smith and South Mack Smith are eligible for Border Region reimbursement, as well as the Multi Modal project. We also have \$1 million from the County. The Animal Shelter project would not be eligible for Border Region reimbursement. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3314 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2023 FORD INTERCEPTOR SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE AND ONE (1) FORD EXPLORER SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE (“SUVS”) FROM LONNIE COBB FORD THROUGH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES STATE-WIDE CONTRACT LISTING #209, PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED 12-3-1201(b)** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Assistant Chief Uselton stated the Police Department would like the City to purchase an explorer on the state contract to replace a wrecked vehicle. City Manager Dorsey stated we also budgeted for a new vehicle for Administration to replace the Passat. Lonnie Cobb Ford has an explorer on the lot that we can purchase under state contract for Administration. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve Resolution No. 3314. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the **September 22, 2022** Council Meeting (see Attachment A)

- **Old Business:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3277 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING BIDS FOR THE REMOVAL OF RUBBISH AND/OR GARBAGE, DEBRIS, AND PERSONAL PROPERTY AT 711 STATE LINE ROAD** - City Attorney Litchford stated this will come back to the Housing Commission on September 14, 2022. The Council has an open resolution that was stayed that will come back to them on September 22, 2022. Some improvements have been made, so the bid went down \$4,000.

- **New Business:**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ - Temporary Special Events Permit for Randall Carpenter, Adventure Van Expo – September 30 – October 2, 2022 – No discussion.**

- **Other:**

Councilmember Cagle stated that citations were sent out about addresses being posted on houses and mailboxes. He asked if this could be put in the Hometown News.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**September 22, 2022**

**6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on September 22, 2022, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

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, and City Recorder Middleton.

**Attendance:** 11

**Approval of Minutes September, 2022 Council Meeting:** Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve the minutes. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**Communication from Citizens:**

Donovan Bryant, 3022 N. Bay Lane, discussed what happened at East Ridge High School regarding a student (his nephew) being restrained. He asked the Council if there is something they could do so this does not happen again. The Mayor agreed with Mr. Bryant's comments, but also stated the issue is with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department and the Hamilton County Department of Education, since it is a county school. Chief Allen stated that East Ridge does not have officers in the school, but they responded to a call for assistance in this case. He stated that officers have post mandated training in de-escalation. They also go through psychiatric evaluations when they are hired, but not on an ongoing basis. Mr. Brown asked if the City could put a program into place to have evaluations on a regular basis. The Mayor stated this could be something we can look at in the future.

**Communication from Councilmembers:**

Councilmember Cagle stated he has received calls about dogs and cats running loose. He stated the ordinance is very vague. He also stated for instance, if he calls the shelter to bring traps for cats and takes them to be spade or neutered, he does not want them brought back to his house. He would like the City Manager to go over the animal control ordinance with him to see if changes need to be made. Mr. Dorsey stated we are designated a no-kill shelter, so cats are returned to where they came from.

Councilmember Witt stated she has a colony of feral cats that she feeds. She stated that some have been trapped and taken to be spade or neutered and then brought back to her.

Councilmember Helton had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Witt would like to get a picture with Chief Allen since this is his last day before retirement.

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- Save a Lot had a re-grand opening for their newly renovated store. They invested a quarter of a million in the renovation.
- He thanked the East Ridge Optimist Club for their luncheon in honor of September 11<sup>th</sup>. The Optimist Club honored first responders. Jeff Duncan was chosen Firefighter of the Year and Terry Smith was chosen Police Officer of the Year. The Mayor thanked Ginger Howard and Harry Mackey, the chef for the event.
- On 9/11, the Mayor attended the 110-floor stair climb, and the walk around the baseball field for 3.4 miles. Jaxon Albright, Josh Williams, and Randy Albright participated for the Fire Department and Scott Darwin participated for the Police Department.
- The Taco Festival was this past weekend at Camp Jordan. There were approximately 170 vendors, with crafts, music, and food. It brought thousands of visitors to the park and East Ridge. He thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for the job they did during this event.
- The Mayor read a letter he received from Seth Champion, the owner of Champy's restaurant. Mr. Champion stated that Camp Jordan is a valuable asset of the City and is one of largest contributors to the success of Champy's. He stated proximity to Camp Jordan was a major factor in the placement of his store in East Ridge. He believes Camp Jordan is a crown jewel and is a beneficial component to his restaurant and the entire City.
- Today was the ribbon cutting at TownePlace Suites. The Mayor presented proclamation to TownPlace Suites from the Chattanooga Chamber recognizing today as TownePlace Suites Day. He thanked Roshan Amin and Dynamic Group for their investment and commitment to the City.
- The Fall Festival is Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> and we already have 100 vendors. He requested that Parks and Recreation hold this event because of the good turnout from the centennial.

**Communication from City Manager:**

- Mack Smith Road – The project is in the right-of-way utility phase and ready for relocation of poles. When the right-of-way is secured, we will be ready to bid out.
- Update on multi modal – We are working on curbs and sidewalks from Kingwood Drive to John Ross Road and drainage is being done between the Police Department and McBrien Road.
- Paving of aprons at Tombras, S. Moore and McBrien will take place in October.
- Mr. Dorsey thanked Stan Allen for his years of service.
- He introduced Clint Uselton as the new Police Chief and Josh Creel as the new Assistant Police Chief.

Mayor Williams thanked Chief Allen for his dedication and service to the City. He welcomed Clint Uselton, John Creel and also Greg Beck as CID Lieutenant.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3316 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE APPROVING A TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENTS BEER PERMIT FOR RANDY CARPENTER, ON BEHALF OF ADVENTURE VAN EXPO** – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City Manager Dorsey stated that either the Council or Beer Board can approve these applications depending on the timing of receipt of the application. He stated that Mr. Carpenter does a great job managing these special events. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve Resolution No. 3316. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

City Manager Dorsey stated we are looking into a better way of handling beer permits, so that Mr. Carpenter does not have to get a permit every time there is an event.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3317 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO PURCHASE THE GRIDSMART DETECTION CAMERA PROCESSOR AND NEW SOFTWARE FROM CUBIC ITS, INC. AS A SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mr. Dorsey stated this relates to the processor for traffic signals we have at Exit 1 and St. Thomas. The sensors are mounted on traffic lights and not in the pavement. One of these went out recently and was replaced. Traffic Control Supervisor Ailey asked for this purchase in order to have the sensor on hand in case another one goes out. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 3317. Councilmember Cagle asked if there would be shipping cost. Mr. Dorsey will check into this. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**Update from Housing Commission regarding 711 Stateline Road** – City Attorney Litchford stated the Housing Commission held a called meeting today regarding this property, which has been before the Housing Commission for approximately two years. He stated the owner cleaned up the front portion of the property, so it is in compliance. Photos were handed out of the rear portion of the property, which is the issue now. Mr. Litchford asked that these photos be made part of the official record.

During today's called meeting of the Housing Commission, after hearing evidence from Code Enforcement and from the occupant, Larry Watkins, the Commission moved for the City to complete the clean-up of the rear portion of the property.

Previously, the Council approved to stay the execution of Resolution No. 3277, which would have approved a bid of \$18,500 to clean up the entire property. This allowed the owner additional time to clean up the property. Council had also requested that the Housing Commission further study this and present their recommendations to Council. We have a revised bid from Freedom Rolloffs in the amount of \$14,500 effective through tomorrow's date. The matter tonight before Council is to lift the stay of resolution No. 3277 and approve the bids for clean-up.

Mr. Litchford stated that during the Housing Commission last week, officials requested to inspect the property, but the occupant refused, so the City did an administrative inspection warrant, and the judge signed it. During this inspection, photos were taken of the rear portion

of the property, and those were presented earlier tonight. There was no additional evidence provided in the Housing Commission meeting today that any further clean-up had been done.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3318 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, LIFTING THE STAY OF RESOLUTION NO. 3277 AND OTHERWISE RENEWING AND REAPPROVING BIDS FOR THE REMOVAL OF RUBBISH AND/OR GARBAGE, DEBRIS, AND PERSONAL PROPERTY AT 711 STATE LINE ROAD** – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3318. Mr. Litchford stated that a municipal lien will be placed on the property. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

### **Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the October 13, 2022 Council Meeting**

- Employee Milestone Awards for August
- **Old Business:** None
- **New Business:**
  - **ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_ - Budget Amendment (1<sup>st</sup> reading)** – City Manager Dorsey stated this is for the following:
    - funds received from the State of Tennessee for Sterling Holdings (no city funds were used)
    - Purchase of another vehicle for the Police Department to replace one that was wrecked. The new price is over \$50,000.
    - Increase in Sanitation Fund for repairs to truck 26, not to exceed \$20,000
  - **ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_ - HC Realty and Parkridge Medical Center, Inc. - Abandon a portion of Peck Drive (Tax Map ID #169C-C-001.01and 169C-C-004) (1<sup>st</sup> reading)** – Chief Building Official Howell stated Peck Drive ends at the ambulance drop off at the hospital. Councilmember Cagle stated he thought that portion had already been abandoned.
  - **RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ - Resolution to delegate review authority for eligible subdivision plats to the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency staff as detailed in Public Chapter 994** – Chief Building Official Howell stated that all municipalities must adopt a resolution delegating plat review to the Regional Planning Agency. This was passed by the state last March.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.