

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

**October 13, 2022
6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on October 13, 2022, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Rev. Charles Cochran, East Ridge Church of Christ, gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Absent: Councilmember Helton

Attendance: 9

Employee Milestone Awards for September – Mayor Williams announced the employee milestone awards for the following employees:

Crystal R. Gilbert	5 years
Mike P Flynn Jr.	5 years
Brendan R Beadle	5 years

The Mayor stated he appreciates all the employees of the City.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes September 22, 2022 Council Meeting
- B. Approval of July 2022 Financial Report
- C. Declaration of Surplus Property

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

Communication from Citizens: None

Communication from Councilmembers:

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

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- The grand opening for East Ridge Wine and Spirits was held on September 23, 2022. The Mayor also shared information regarding the liquor stores and the border region. He stated this is state legislation funded by the state, not local, portion of the sales tax. It must be spent on economic development. The developers spent a total of \$7 million with no money from the City and no risk to the City. Because the developers increased their floor space, we did a 50/50 split. By entering into this agreement, we could receive \$3.5 million with no risk and no investment. City Manager Dorsey stated the \$3.5 million goes toward future border region expenditures.
- October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, so employees had a group picture taken outside at City Hall in front of one of the City's fire trucks to mark the occasion.
- October 15, 2022 – There will be a car show and cruise in at Camp Jordan to raise funds for the Needy Child Fund.
- October 25, 2022 – National Night Out at 5:30 pm behind City Hall.
- October 27, 2022, 3:30 – 5:30 pm – The Library will have a drive through Trick or Treat event.
- Councilmember Witt stated she has received questions regarding the t-shirts the Fire Department is selling for Breast Cancer Awareness. She stated there are still some shirts at the Fire Department that can be purchased.

Communication from City Manager:

- North Mack Smith – We are in the process of right-of-way and utility coordination. We have contacted property owners regarding rights-of-way and ASA is coordinating with utilities regarding any conflicts. They are also working with EPB regarding placement of new poles. Mr. Dorsey will have a detailed estimate within the next few weeks, but there has been no increase in cost.
- Multi Modal – Mr. Dorsey stated there have been some issues with sewer laterals, but the project is pretty much on track.
- TDOT paved the aprons at three intersections and the stop bars are down. They will be striped within the next week.
- Leaf season – The leaf truck we ordered last spring should be here soon. The Mayor asked if we have a schedule yet, but Mr. Dorsey stated it depends on when the leaves fall. We will start on the west end of town this year.

Old Business: None

New Business:

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE NO. 1174 - HC Realty and Parkridge Medical Center, Inc. - Abandon a portion of Peck Drive (Tax Map ID #169C-C-001.01 and 169C-C-004) – City Attorney Litchford read the ordinance on caption. Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. The applicant was not present, and no one came forward in favor of or in opposition to the ordinance. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 1174 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, ABANDONING A STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED IN THE 9000 BLOCK OF PECK DRIVE, TAX MAP NOS. 169C-C-001.01 AND 004 AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAP (1st reading) – City

Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mr. Dorsey stated the hospital owns the property on all three sides of the drive. Chief Building Official Howell stated abandonment will not hinder or landlock any other properties. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Chauncey, to approve Ordinance No. 1174 on first reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 1175 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 OPERATING BUDGET, ORDINANCE NO. 1155, BY CHANGING THE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES OF VARIOUS FUNDS (1st reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Finance Director Qualls stated we are increasing revenues in the General Fund for the Gateway project (Sterling Holdings) in the amount of \$5 million in pass through funds. We have also purchased a Police vehicle, an Administration vehicle, had truck repairs in Sanitation, and received a CSX grant for computers for the Fire Department. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Ordinance No. 1175 on first reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3319 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO DELEGATE REVIEW AUTHORITY FOR ELIGIBLE SUBDIVISION PLATS TO THE CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY STAFF AS DETAILED IN PUBLIC CHAPTER 994 – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Building Official Howell stated the Tennessee General Assembly updated the code to allow an increase in the number of plats the RPA can review. This will not affect the City, but we still have to adopt this resolution. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3319. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3320 – 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. Finance Director Qualls stated we would use the grant to install GPS systems in City vehicles as a safety measure. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Chauncey, to approve Resolution No. 3320. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3321 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO DONATE SIXTY-EIGHT (68) X26P TASER CARTRIDGES TO THE TOWN OF LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN FOR USE BY THEIR POLICE DEPARTMENT – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Uselton stated the City can no longer use these cartridges since they have transitioned to a different Taser; however, the Police Department at Lookout Mountain still uses them. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3321. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the October 27, 2022 Council Meeting

8. Old Business:

- A. **ORDINANCE NO. 1174 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, ABANDONING A STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED IN THE 9000 BLOCK OF PECK DRIVE, TAX MAP NOS. 169C-C-001.01 AND 004 AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAP (2nd and final reading)** No discussion.

- B. **ORDINANCE NO. 1175 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 OPERATING BUDGET, ORDINANCE NO. 1155, BY CHANGING THE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES OF VARIOUS FUNDS (2nd and final reading)** – No discussion.

9. New Business:

- A. **RESOLUTION NO. ____** - Bids for indoor soccer uniforms – City Manager Dorsey stated we bid these out every year. Indoor soccer starts in December at Camp Jordan Arena.

Mr. Dorsey stated we may have a zoning item for the agenda when we finalize all the information.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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

**October 27 2022
6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on October 27, 2022, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

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

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

Attendance: 16

Approval of Minutes October 13, 2022 Council Meeting – Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve the minutes. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens: None

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Witt announced the Optimist Club will hold its annual barbecue on Saturday, October 29th at City Hall from 11 am – 2 pm.

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

Councilmember Cagle thanked Parks and Recreation Director Skiles for a job well done on the Fall Festival.

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- Mayor Williams thanked Mountain View Chevrolet for the sponsorship donation they made to Parks and Recreation at the end of September in the amount of \$1,500.
- He thanked everyone in the Parks and Recreation Department for the success of the Fall Festival. There were 134 vendors.
- Chief Uselton came forward to discuss the National Night Out. He stated there was a good turnout, plus he appreciated help from other departments such as Fire, Library, Animal Shelter, etc.
- The Mayor stated the drive through trick or treat event at the Library today was a great success. He thanked the Library for all they do.
- October 29th – The Optimist Club will hold its annual barbecue at City Hall. He also announced the prices for the food.

- The community center will hold a Fall Ball Event for ages 55 plus. This is a celebration for seniors for the fall season with live music.
- November 3rd - The East Ridge Council of the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce will hold a chili cook off. Contact Deanne Dawes at 423-364-8251 for more information.
- November 4th - The 13th annual Guns and Hoses boxing event will be held at Camp Jordan, benefitting YCAP Boxing Club and the Forgotten Child Fund.
- November 19th – The East Ridge Christmas Parade will take place beginning at 6:30 pm. Contact Parks and Recreation Director Skiles before the deadline of November 4th if you want to participate.

Communication from City Manager:

- Mr. Dorsey thanked the library for the drive thru trick or treat event.
- He thanked Director Skiles and her department for all the hard work they did on the fall festival. He also thanked the Library for their face-painting booth.
- National Night Out was a great event.
- Chief Uselton stated that on Saturday, October 29th, there will be a drug take-back event at Walgreens at Ringgold Road and McBrien Road from 10 am – 2 pm.
- The Chief also stated there will be a Fill-a-Cruiser event to benefit the East Ridge Food Pantry on November 12th from 9 am – 1 pm, tentatively to be held at the Speedway convenience store.
- Multi modal project – We are working on curbs, sidewalks, and stormwater, but have had some issues with the WWTA laterals. We will have a good portion done before the Christmas parade and should have the lane open.
- N. Mack Smith – We are in the right-of-way acquisition phase.
- The tent lottery for the upcoming election will be November 1st at noon in the Council chambers.
- The leaf truck vacuum should be here tomorrow. We will begin on the west end the second week of November.
- Chief Building Official Michael Howell is leaving the City to go to work at Whitfield County. Mr. Dorsey wished him well and thanked him for everything he has done for the City and especially the help he has given him.
- Mayor Williams thanked Mr. Howell for his service and dedication to the City. He wished him the best.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1174 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, ABANDONING A STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED IN THE 9000 BLOCK OF PECK DRIVE, TAX MAP NOS. 169C-C-001.01 AND 004 AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAP (2nd and final reading) - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Building Official Howell stated the request is for the hospital to maintain private use of the drive as an ambulance drop-off and assure no future development. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Ordinance No. 1174 on second and final reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 1175 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 OPERATING BUDGET, ORDINANCE NO. 1155, BY CHANGING THE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES OF VARIOUS FUNDS (2nd and final reading) - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Chauncey, to approve Ordinance No. 1175 on second and final reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

New Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1176 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND THE ZONING REGULATIONS AND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE SO AS TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9 FRANKLIN PLACE, TAX MAP #156M-A-004, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-2 RESIDENTIAL DUPLEX DISTRICT (1st reading) - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Building Official Howell stated that due to time constraints for advertising, the public hearing will be on the second reading. Mr. Howell considers this spot zoning because it is surrounded by R-1 residential. Vice Mayor Chauncey asked how the Planning Commission voted on this item. Mr. Howell stated the commission denied the request. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to deny Ordinance No. 1176. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3322 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF SOCCER UNIFORMS FOR THE 2022 - 2023 INDOOR SOCCER SEASON - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Director Skiles stated we received two bids, one from Oak and Twine Screen Printing and one from Yogi's Primo Promo, as shown on the attached bid tab. Staff recommends Oak and Twine Screen Printing. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Chauncey, to approve Resolution No. 3322. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3323 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO RENEW AN AGREEMENT WITH RETAIL STRATEGIES FOR MARKET ANALYSIS, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND RETAIL RECRUITMENT - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City Manager Dorsey asked that this item be pulled from the agenda. After looking at the proposal, he wants to reevaluate the contract. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to remove this item from the agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR RESOLUTION NO. 3324 - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. Chief Building Official Howell stated the landscape ordinance requires a 20-foot buffer between properties. This would reduce the buffer to 14.5 feet. A similar variance was done in 2016 for the Hampton Inn. Joseph Park with March Adams, 310 Dodds Avenue, stated the reason for the variance is because of a flood plain hardship, making it impossible to develop the entire property. No one else came forward in favor of or in opposition to the resolution. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing.

RESOLUTION NO. 3324 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO APPROVE A VARIANCE TO THE CITY’S LANDSCAPE ORDINANCE NO. 870 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 495 CAMP JORDAN PARKWAY, TAX MAP #170I-A-037.09 - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve Resolution No. 3324. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3325 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO APPROVE A VARIANCE TO THE CITY’S SIGN ORDINANCE NO. 1028 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5611 RINGGOLD ROAD, TAX MAP #169K-A-014 - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Building Official Howell stated the applicant is requesting a variance to add additional height to a proposed monument sign, additional sign face area, and reduce setback requirements. The sign ordinance requires a maximum of nine feet in height for a monument sign. This proposed sign is 25 feet, 16 feet over the allowable height. The owner would also remove all the on-premise signs except for the Los Potros sign. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Helton, to approve Resolution No. 3325. Councilmember Witt stated she is not happy with the height of this sign and suggested Council look at the sign ordinance again regarding multiple tenants. Mr. Howell suggested that the size of the sign could be based on the square footage of the building. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Chauncey - yes; Councilmember Cagle - yes; Councilmember Helton - yes; Councilmember Witt - no; Mayor Williams - yes. Motion approved.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the November 10, 2022 Council Meeting

Old Business:

- A. **ORDINANCE NO. 1176 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND THE ZONING REGULATIONS AND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE SO AS TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9 FRANKLIN PLACE, TAX MAP #156M-A-004, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-2 RESIDENTIAL DUPLEX DISTRICT (2nd and final reading)** – This item will come off the agenda since it was denied on first reading.

New Business:

- A. **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Appointment to Beer Board – Councilmember Helton** – No discussion
- B. **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Appointment of Beer Board Chairperson – Mayor Williams** – No discussion

Finance Director Qualls would like to add the Salary Supplement for Fire and Police to the next agenda.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

