

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

**November 10, 2022
6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on November 10, 2022, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Rev. Daniel Beard, Action 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 Attorney Litchford, and City Recorder Middleton. City Manager Dorsey was not present.

Attendance: 11

Report on Debt Obligation – Finance Director Qualls gave the report. We are required by the State to notify council that we have closed on a loan that was already approved by council. This is a \$1 million loan and we have only done one draw on the loan.

Donation from East Ridge Police Department to the East Ridge Food Pantry for No-Shave November – Chief Uselton stated that once a year officers donate money to a particular charity. This year they are donating \$600 to the Faith Food Pantry. Daniel Beard accepted the donation on behalf of the Food Pantry.

Approval of Minutes October 27, 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:

Aaron Oliver, 3934 S. Mission Oaks Drive, asked who owns the storm drainage system in East Ridge. They have a lot of trees in the sewer lines. Contractors that came out have torn up the streets and yards in the neighborhood. Finance Director Qualls will have Street Department Supervisor Vaughn check on this tomorrow.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Cagle thanked the candidates who ran in the recent election for picking up their signs in a timely manner.

Vice Mayor Chauncey congratulated Mayor Williams and Councilmember Cagle on their wins in the recent election.

Councilmember Helton congratulated the Mayor, Councilmember Cagle, and Councilmember-elect Tyler on their wins in the recent election.

Councilmember Witt also congratulated all the candidates who won in the election.

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- November 3, 2022 - The East Ridge Chapter of the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce held a chili cook-off. Debbie Lance won first place and Ginger Howard won second.
- November 3, 2022 – Guns and Hoses event – The Mayor congratulated Aaron Smith with the Fire Department for winning his match at this event.
- November 7, 2022 - Leaf pick-up will begin and run from November – February.
- The Mayor congratulated Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember-elect Tyler, Vice Mayor Chauncey and Councilmember/Representative Helton on their wins in the election. He also thanked all the candidates who ran for office.
- Tomorrow is Veteran’s Day. He asked everyone to remember our veterans.
- November 12, 2022 – 9 am – 1 pm – The Police Department will have a Fill A Cruiser event to help the East Ridge Food Pantry.
- November 18-20, 2022 – The grand opening and Christmas Open House at the new Mercantile at the Ridge.
- November 19, 2022 - 6:30 pm – The East Ridge Christmas Parade with 94 entries at this time.
- Library
 - November 12, 2022, 11 am - Book club for adults
 - Now through November 18, 2022 - Disguise a turkey contest. Pick up a “turkey” to decorate and an entry form.
 - Food for Fines - Bring a non-perishable item, including pet food, and get \$1 off of book fines.
- Parks and Recreation
 - Indoor soccer, baseball, basketball registration. They are also looking for coaches. Reach out to East Ridge Parks and Recreation for more information.
 - Aerobics classes Tuesday and Thursday from 6 – 7 pm and on Saturday morning from 9 am – 10 am.

Communication from City Manager:

City Attorney Litchford announced that City Manager Dorsey has resigned his position with the City. Mr. Litchford met with Mr. Dorsey to work out the terms of an agreement, which states Mr. Dorsey will receive his current monthly base salary for six and one-half (6.5) months, together with all accrued benefits under the agreement up through November 10, 2022, with payments to be paid in accordance with the City’s regular payroll schedule.

Councilmember Helton made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Chauncey, to accept Mr. Dorsey’s resignation with the provisions previously discussed. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. **(This will be Resolution No. 3329.)**

Old Business:

New Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 3326 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF _____ BY COUNCILMEMBER HELTON TO THE EAST RIDGE BEER BOARD – Councilmember Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to table this item until the next meeting. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3327 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO MEMORIALIZE THE MAYOR’S APPOINTMENT OF _____ AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE BEER BOARD – Mayor Williams made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Chauncey, to reappoint Roy Keown as Chairperson of the Beer Board. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3328 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE ADVANCEMENT OF STATE SALARY SUPPLEMENT PAYMENTS FOR ELIGIBLE FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS – Chief Williams and Chief Uselton came up to discuss the salary supplement. This is a supplement that eligible firefighters and police officers receive from the state for post certification. This year the amount is \$800 per person. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3328. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the December 8, 2022 Council Meeting:

3. B. Employee Milestone Awards for November 2022
- C. Christmas Parade Awards
8. **Old Business:** None
9. **New Business:**
 - A. **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Appointment to the Library Board – Councilmember Cagle** – No discussion
 - B. **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Appointment to the Library Board – Councilmember Witt** – No discussion
 - C. **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Appointment to the Library Board – Council appointment** – No discussion
 - D. **RESOLUTION NO. ____ – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH DARSH HOSPITALITY LLC, RELATING TO A PROJECT IN THE BORDER REGION RETAIL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS RELATING THERETO (If approved by the IDB on November 17, 2022)** – City Attorney Litchford stated there is

currently a hotel operating on this property. Developers plan to do a \$2.5 million renovation. The projection is \$400,000 for the Border Region.

The Mayor also added the following items to the December 8, 2022 agenda.

- Rezoning Layfield Drive – R-1 to R-3 – approved by the Planning Commission
- Rezoning Graston Avenue – R-1 to R-3 – approved by the Planning Commission
 - Councilmember Cagle would like for someone to check to see if this rezoning will conflict with the abandonment Council approved on Peck Drive in a previous meeting.
- Officers’ oath of honor (2)
- Beer board appointment
- Presentation of audit
- Planning commission appointment
- Consider cancelling the December 22nd Council meeting.

Councilmember Cagle suggested that the Council reach out to former City Manager Scott Miller to see if he would be interested in serving as Interim City Manager. City Attorney Litchford stated Council would need to have a called meeting in order to appoint an Interim. A called meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 14, 2022 at 6:30 pm to discuss the Interim City Manager.

Mayor Williams stated he is humbled and honored to be reelected and appreciates everyone that supported him.

Councilmember Cagle asked if we closed off McDonald Road going into Georgia. The Mayor stated we were unable to do so. Kenny Custer, with ASA Engineering, stated that when he was with the City, we attempted to close the road, but ran into hurdles because someone is planning to develop one of the tracts. It is posted “no tractor trailers.”

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL
CALLED MEETING

November 14, 2022 – 6:30 pm

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on November 14, 2022, 6:30 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting, and all Councilmembers were given notice of the call. The meeting was called for the purpose of the following:

- Discussion of the Interim City Manager

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Robert Jones gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Communication from Citizens: None

RESOLUTION NO. 3330 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Vice Mayor Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 3330 to appoint Scott Miller as the Interim City Manager. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Mayor Williams asked Mr. Miller if he is willing to accept the appointment. Mr. Miller stated it would be an honor to accept.

Vice Mayor Chauncey asked if the Council was going to discuss the compensation package. The Mayor stated that will be discussed and voted on. Councilmember Helton stated she appreciates Mr. Miller's willingness to come back and serve as Interim City Manager. Mr. Miller stated he has missed government after serving 44 years. During his time since he left, he volunteers as CHI Memorial Hospital and serves on the Board of Elders at his church. The Mayor thanked Mr. Miller for his previous service and for serving on City boards since he left as City Manager. Ms. Witt also thanked Mr. Miller for serving. Councilmember Witt made a motion seconded by Councilmember Helton, to pay Mr. Miller the same base salary as the previous City Manager and provide him with a City phone. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.