

(FCHS Media Class did not video this meeting)

MINUTES

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

June 28, 2016

The Winchester City Council met in a special called session on Tuesday, June 28, 2016, beginning at 8:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting was the 3rd and final reading of Ordinances: #985, amending Appropriation Ord. #977 for fiscal year ending 6-30-16; #986, making appropriations for fiscal year 2017; and #987, assessing and levying taxes within the corporate limits for tax year 2016.

A quorum being present, Mayor Harrell called the meeting to order and the meeting proceeded with the transaction of business. The special called meeting form reads as follows:

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

To the Council Members of Winchester, Tennessee, to-wit:

Cile Alexander
Jeannie Bates
Gene Snead
Bruce Spencer
William Womack

Notice is hereby given that a special called meeting of the City Council will be held at the City Hall at the hour of 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, the 28th day of June, 2016.

Beth Rhoton, Administrator

CONSENT TO MEETING

We, the undersigned members of the City Council of Winchester, Tennessee, hereby accept service of the foregoing notice waiving any and all irregularities in such notice, and consent and agree that said Council shall meet at the time and place named therein for the purpose therein stated:

Cile Alexander, Councilwoman

Jeannie Bates, Councilwoman

Gene Snead, Councilman

Bruce Spencer, Councilman

William Womack, Councilman

* * * * *

Present and participating were: Mayor Terry Harrell, presiding; Beth Rhoton, City Administrator; Greg O'Neal, City Attorney; various Department Heads, News Media; various citizens; and the following Council Members:

Present: Councilwoman Cile Alexander
Councilwoman Jeannie Bates
Councilman Gene Snead
Councilman Bruce Spencer
Councilman William Womack

Mayor Harrell opened the public hearing for any comments on Ordinance #985, an ordinance amending Appropriations Ordinance #977, for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. No one spoke for or against this ordinance.

In the next order of business Mayor Harrell asked for comments on Ordinance #986, an ordinance making appropriations for the administration operation and maintenance and capital expenditures of each department. Sherry Ashley, Director of New Life voiced her concerns of eliminating the non-profit charitable contribution for New Life from the budget. She mentioned that New Life had been servicing the very unfortunate in this area since 1979 and that removing this contribution would have a tremendous impact on the organization. It is more difficult to fund each year with state changes and would ask to reconsider funding. Also voicing concerns was Angela Dupree, Director for Franklin County Senior Citizens. Last year the senior citizens center served over 1200 citizens. The center is open seven days a week, feed the senior citizens daily and have many activities and opportunities for the seniors. She also asked to please reconsider your vote.

In the last order of business Mayor Harrell asked for comments on Ordinance #987, an ordinance assessing and levying taxes within the corporate limits of the City of Winchester, TN for the property tax year of 2016. No one spoke for or against this ordinance.

With no further business, the Public Hearing was closed.

The Special Called Meeting continued with the first item of business under unfinished business. The minutes of the June 21, 2016 Special Called Meeting were approved on a motion by Councilman Spencer and seconded by Councilwoman Jeannie Bates. All voted in favor of said motion.

In the next order of business, Councilman Snead made a motion to approve the 3rd and final reading of Ordinance #985, an ordinance amending Appropriations Ordinance #977, for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. Councilman Spencer seconded the motion with the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilman Snead

Councilwoman Alexander
Councilwoman Bates
Councilman Spencer
Councilman Womack

In the next order of business, Councilman Gene Snead made a motion to add the Adult Activity Center contribution of \$5,000 and the Franklin County Senior Citizens contribution of \$5,500 to the 3rd and final reading of Ordinance #986, an ordinance making appropriations for the administration operation and maintenance and capital expenditures of each department. Councilman Spencer seconded the motion. The motion failed with the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilman Snead
Councilman Spencer

Nays: Councilwoman Alexander
Councilwoman Bates
Councilman Womack

Councilwoman Jeannie Bates proceeded to make a motion to eliminate the International Dogwood Festival from Ordinance #986 and to add the following non-profits back to the budget: Adult Activity Center \$5,000; Franklin County Senior Citizens \$5,500; Old Jail Museum \$1,000; Haven of Hope \$2,500; Disabled American Veterans \$250; Franklin County Prevention Coalition \$5,000. Councilwoman Alexander asked if Dogwood remained, could we continue to keep the .15 cent tax increase. Councilman Spencer commented that it would reduce our fund balance. After a very lengthy discussion, Councilman William Womack seconded the motion and Ordinance #986 passed with the following roll call vote:

Aye: Councilwoman Alexander
Councilwoman Bates
Councilman Womack

Nay: Councilman Snead
Councilman Spencer

In the next order of business, Councilman Womack made a motion to approve Ordinance #987, an ordinance assessing and levying taxes within the corporate limits of the City of Winchester, TN for the property tax year 2016. This ordinance includes a fifteen cent property tax increase, which will result in a tax rate of .9733. Councilman Snead seconded the motion but the motion failed with the following roll call vote:

Aye: Councilman Womack
Councilman Snead

Nay: Councilwoman Alexander
Councilwoman Bates
Councilman Spencer

Councilman Bruce Spencer requested a short recess and the Mayor proceeded to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

Mayor Harrell reconvened the Council Meeting at 8:58 a.m. and discussion resumed on Ordinance #987. Councilman Bruce Spencer asked if we could continue discussion of Ordinance #986. The Mayor proceeded to say that the Ordinance had already passed, but could possibly be amended at a later date. Therefore discussion of Ordinance #987 continued with Councilman Snead approving the fifteen cent increase, which makes the property tax rate .9733. Councilman Womack seconded the motion with the following roll call vote:

Aye: Councilman Snead
Councilman Womack
Councilman Spencer

Nay: Councilwoman Alexander
Councilwoman Bates

Mayor Harrell commented that this budget process has been interesting. We may not have agreed in entirety but the majority have agreed. It is time to move forward and work together for a common goal.

Councilman Spencer made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second by Councilwoman Alexander and all voted in favor.

Terry Harrell, Mayor

Attest:

Beth J. Rhoton, City Administrator

Minutes taken by: Teena Waggoner