

# MINUTES

November 10, 2009

The Winchester City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, November 10, 2009, beginning 6:00 p.m. A public hearing was also held at 5:00 p.m. in the Annex before the regular Council meeting began. The purpose of the public hearing concerned a Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Recreation Trails grant and getting the public's ideas and comments to develop possible trail projects.

Present and participating were: Mayor Terry Harrell, presiding; Beth Rhoton, City Administrator; Judy Baker, Secretary; various Department Heads; and the following Council members:

Present: Councilman Glasner  
Councilman Scharber  
Councilman Spencer  
Councilman Stewart  
Councilman Womack

Absent: Greg O'Neal, City Attorney

Mayor Harrell called the meeting to order with a prayer by Wayne Hart and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Stewart.

Under requests, addresses or presentations, the Council approved a roadblock request by Misty Pacheco on November 14<sup>th</sup>, with a rain out date of November 21<sup>st</sup>, for the Franklin County Rave Cheerleaders on a motion by Councilman Scharber, seconded by Councilman Womack, and all voted in favor.

Under unfinished business, the reading of the minutes of the October 13, 2009 regular Council meeting was dispensed and approved on a motion by Councilman Glasner, seconded by Councilman Spencer, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, the reading of the minutes of the November 4th, 2009 special called Council meeting was dispensed and approved on a motion by Councilman Womack, seconded by Councilman Spencer, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, the Council approved the second reading of Ordinance #912, an ordinance amending Zoning Ord. #506, by establishing a new zoning district to be known as R-2S, medium density single family residential district. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Glasner, seconded by Councilman Stewart, and the motion passed unanimously by the following roll call:

Ayes: Councilman Stewart  
Councilman Glasner  
Councilman Scharber  
Councilman Spencer  
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

Next, the Council approved the second reading of Ordinance #913, an ordinance amending Zoning Ord. #506, to rezone the areas bound

to the north by 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, to the east by South Jefferson Street, to the south by 6<sup>th</sup> avenue SW and to the west by the Winchester City Cemetery (Embrey Addition Subdivision) from R-2 medium-density residential district to R-2S, medium density single family residential district. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Spencer, seconded by Councilman Womack, and the motion passed unanimously by the following roll call:

Ayes: Councilman Stewart  
Councilman Glasner  
Councilman Scharber  
Councilman Spencer  
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

In the first order of new business, the Council approved a request to surplus a grasshopper mower belonging to the Recreation Department and a white Ford Bronco belonging to the Police Department. These two items will be sold through the internet on govdeals.com. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Glasner, seconded by Councilman Spencer, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, City Administrator Rhoton requested the Council to approve a \$250.00 Christmas bonus for full time and for permanent part time city employees. She reminded the Council that our employees did not receive an annual percentage raise this year due to budgetary reasons and that the yearly employee raises were taken out of the budget at the request of the Council. She stated that the Christmas bonus is currently in the budget and that it would not be a budget amendment. During a discussion, Councilman Scharber asked if there was any way the employees could receive a larger Christmas bonus as they did not receive a raise. Councilman Stewart then asked how much bonus the Winchester Utility System employees received, and Mrs. Rhoton replied that they received \$450.00 last year. Councilman Stewart recommended that our city employees receive a \$450.00 bonus also since our employees did not receive a raise this year. He feels that our bonus should equal benefits received by city employees in other departments. Councilman Womack questioned if money for a larger bonus was in the budget and Mrs. Rhoton said that only the \$250.00 was budgeted. Councilman Glasner recommended that our Christmas bonus remain at \$250.00 and that arrangements be made for the Utility Board to lower the Utility employees \$450.00 Christmas bonus when we get the chance to lower it and to start making corrections there. Councilman Stewart questioned if the Utility Board was going to approve the \$450.00 bonus for their employees again this year and how we could make them come down to the \$250.00 bonus that has been recommended for our employees, and Councilman Glasner responded that it may not happen this year. At the end of the

discussion, Councilman Womack made the motion to approve the \$250.00 Christmas bonus, with a second by Councilman Spencer, and the motion passed by a vote of four (4) ayes to one (1) nay cast by Councilman Stewart.

Next, Councilman Scharber recommended that Wayne Hart be appointed to the Winchester Beer Board. Mayor Harrell stated that Mr. Hart is currently serving on the Public Safety Committee and that he had expressed an interest in continuing to be involved in city programs. The Mayor commended Mr. Hart for volunteering and stated that good, responsible people were needed on this board. The new member appointed to the Beer Board will replace Joe Patterson, who recently resigned, and the Mayor complimented Mr. Patterson on the great job he did and the many years of service he gave to the Beer Board. Councilman Glasner moved to approve the appointment of Wayne Hart, seconded by Councilman Stewart, and all voted in favor of said motion.

In the last order of new business, Mayor Harrell announced the following mayoral appointments to the Community Development Committee: Ruth Sons and Barbara Grant, and stated that Sonny Elliott, a former councilman, was elected as the Chairman on the committee. He also reported that Eric Vanzant had recently resigned from the Community Development Committee, and that his participation and service was much appreciated.

Under his communications, Mayor Harrell invited everyone to attend the Veteran's Day program to be held on the square on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. to show our appreciation to our veterans. He also stated that the Winchester Bicentennial Dinner will be held on November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Franklin County Country Club. Social hour is 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the cost is \$25.00 a ticket. The highlight of the evening will be a presentation by Mrs. Joy Gallagher and the Winchester Preservation Committee on downtown Winchester. The history book, prepared by the Winchester Preservation Committee, is also available and on sale at a cost of \$30.00 soft bound or \$60.00 for hard bound books.

Under council communications, reports and updates, Councilman Womack announced that Winchester has lost a great friend, businessman, and supporter with the recent passing of Ricky Foster. Councilman Womack stated that Mr. Foster helped developed at least five subdivisions, all with great infrastructure, in the Winchester city limits. Mr. Foster also built many houses, duplexes, and commercial buildings in town, and had bought a small concrete plant and turned it in to one of the largest in Middle Tennessee. Councilman Womack stated that all these things had helped Winchester's tax base. He said that

Mr. Foster believed in trading at home and always tried to shop Winchester first, and that Ricky was also generous with his donations and supported several athletic teams as well as contributing to charities. Ricky Foster will be greatly missed in our community. Councilman Spencer said that the Community Development Committee has had one meeting and a work shop and was working on several ordinance suggestions for the city. He announced that the American Legion Post #44 was having their annual fish fry on November 11th at the American Legion building at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 and Councilman Spencer invited everyone to attend and have fellowship with our veterans. Councilman Scharber announced that the annual Operation Noel country ham breakfast will be held at North Junior High on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 10 a.m. This event is sponsored by the Winchester Rotary, the Fraternal Order of Police, and the Herald Chronicle, and is a fund raiser for children who are in need at Christmas. Councilman Glasner stated that he would like to come off the Community Development Committee as two other council members currently serve on this committee. He also stated that plans for the upcoming Dogwood Festival were coming along well. Councilman Stewart stated that the Tourism Committee will meet next Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Annex and they may have some recommendations for new committee appointments.

Under updates and reports from Department Heads, Police Chief Dennis Young stated the annual police Christmas party has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at the Citizens Pavilion. This particular date was chosen because it was the last day that our sergeant, Randy Wilkinson, could attend the party as his National Guard unit was getting ready to ship out. Chief Young then announced that the Winchester National Guard Unit #278, and our Sgt. Randy Wilkinson, who is the Captain of this unit, was being deployed to Iraq and would be leaving Winchester on Saturday, December 5th. Chief Young stated that their buses were going to be re-routed so that they would travel around the square and he invited all the public to be on the square by 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> in order to show our support and say goodbye to our soldiers as their buses drive by on their way to be deployed to Iraq.

With no further business to be brought before the Council, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Councilman Scharber, seconded by Councilman Womack, and all voted in favor of said motion.

City of Winchester's website is:

[www.winchester-tn.com](http://www.winchester-tn.com)

and

International Dogwood Festival website is:

[www.winchesterdogwoodfestival.com](http://www.winchesterdogwoodfestival.com)

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Terry Harrell, Mayor  
City of Winchester

Attest:

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Beth Rhoton, City Administrator

Minutes taken by: Judy Baker

Date of Meeting: November 10, 2009