

MINUTES
April 15, 2008
(rescheduled from April 8, 2008)

The Winchester City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, April 15, 2008, beginning at 6:00 p.m., due to quarterly reports and a lengthy agenda.

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

Present: Councilman Glasner
Councilman Snead
Councilman Womack

Absent: Councilman Scharber
Councilman Franklin

Mayor Harrell called the meeting to order with a prayer by Councilman Snead and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Glasner.

Under requests, addresses or presentations, a roadblock request by Tommy Lowe for the FCHS Rebelettes basketball team on May 31st was approved on a motion by Councilman Glasner, seconded by Councilman Womack, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, City Administrator Rhoton gave a brief review of quarterly reports from the various Department Heads due to this meeting having a lengthy agenda. The full reports were placed in the agenda packets for the Council to review.

Under unfinished business, the reading of the minutes of the March 11, 2008, regular Council meeting was dispensed and approved on a motion by Councilman Glasner, seconded by Councilman Snead, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, the reading of the minutes of the March 20, 2008, special called Council meeting was dispensed and approved on a motion by Councilman Glasner, seconded by Councilman Snead, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, the reading of the minutes of the March 27, 2008, special called Council meeting was dispensed and approved on a motion by Councilman Glasner, seconded by Councilman Snead, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, Mayor Harrell addressed the issue of the Hundred Oaks Street by stating the City should go ahead and take the necessary steps to pave the gravel road and not delay any longer. The City has a court order to move ahead and money for the roadway has already been budgeted. Mr. Vernon Miller stated that this issue had been going on for 4½ years now. Mayor Harrell remarked that another property owner still had some

questions concerning this issue but he would try to get those questions answered. Mayor Harrell further stated that it was his hope that this project would be completed by June, 2008.

Next, City Administrator Rhoton addressed the issue of the city owned alleyway on the east side of the square bordering Burger King. She stated the city has the option to improve the upkeep of the alley or sell the property. As a sewer line runs through the property and a huge easement would be needed if the property was sold, she did not think selling would be feasible. City Administrator Rhoton stated Winchester Utilities has agreed to replace the old sewer line and then the City will pave the alleyway. The possibility of leasing the alleyway could be revisited, if deemed necessary, after improvements are made.

Under new business, Sean Crabtree gave a brief presentation and overview for the Courthouse Square Revitalization Pilot Project for the downtown area. The City of Winchester is one of only six cities receiving grant money for the revitalization of the square. The City of Bolivar had received this revitalization grant and Mr. Crabtree and City Administrator Rhoton visited their city and were given a tour of their restored area. The officials of Bolivar were very accommodating and shared their knowledge and expertise of how the restoration should be done. In his presentation, Mr. Crabtree explained the need for the City to form a 501c3 non-profit private entity company (Winchester Downtown Program) for a period of nine years, as more projects could be conducted with the grant money through the non-profit company than could be done if monies were dispensed directly by the City. He further stated that the State will give the sales tax money generated in the nine block area back to the city for re-use in that nine block area.

At the close of the downtown revitalization presentation, the Council approved Resolution #796, a resolution approving the long term grant administration agreement and the grant money agreement with the Winchester Downtown Program as a 501c3 non-profit corporation. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Snead, seconded by Councilman Womack, and all voted in favor by the following roll call:

Ayes: Councilman Glasner
Councilman Snead
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

Next, the Council approved the first reading of Ordinance #893, amending Zoning Ord. #506, to rezone the Baxter & Baxter property located on 41-A Bypass from R-1, low-density residential district to C-2, highway service district. Motion for approval was made by Councilman

Womack, seconded by Councilman Glasner, and all voted in favor by the following roll call:

Ayes: Councilman Glasner
Councilman Snead
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

Next, the Council approved the first reading of Ordinance #894, amending Zoning Ord. #506, to adopt floodplain regulations to establish eligibility to participate in the national flood insurance program. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Womack, seconded by Councilman Glasner, and all voted in favor by the following roll call:

Ayes: Councilman Glasner
Councilman Snead
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

Next, the Council approved the first reading of Ordinance #895, amending Zoning Ord. #506, to amend sign regulations. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Glasner, seconded by Councilman Womack, and all voted in favor by the following roll call:

Ayes: Councilman Glasner
Councilman Snead
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

Next, the Council approved Resolution #795, a resolution to honor and congratulate the Board of Directors, employees, retirees, and supporters of the Tennessee Valley Authority upon its 75th Anniversary. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Snead, seconded by Councilman Glasner, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, Recreation Director Wayne Nuckolls was given authorization to surplus some old straight line fencing that had been removed when the baseball hitting facility was built and to donate it to the Franklin County Senior Citizens for their new garden. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Snead, seconded by Councilman Womack, and all voted in favor.

Next, Police Chief Dennis Young was given approval to surplus a Monte Carlo, two Recreation Department camper tops, and all drug seized vehicles that are ready to be sold through gov.deals.com. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Glasner, seconded by Councilman Snead, and all voted in favor.

Next, Mayor Harrell appointed Thomas "Sonny" Elliott to the Winchester Utilities Board and commended out-going member Bill Stetson for the term he served on this Board.

In the last order of business, Police Chief Dennis Young requested approval for the Police Department to apply for two highway safety grants. The High Visibility grant to purchase a camera, computer

and a radar gun is a 100% grant in the amount of \$5,000. The R.A.I.D. grant will be used for traffic vests, 2 LED lightbars, in-car video cameras, 5 hand held radar guns, child safety seats, overtime pay and travel cost for training. This is a 90/10 grant in the amount of \$27,889.87, and the City's portion will be placed in the upcoming budget. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Snead, seconded by Councilman Glasner, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Under mayoral communications, Mayor Harrell stated the 4th Annual International Dogwood Festival was a big success and thanked the Dogwood Committee, all the sponsors, volunteers, committees, vendors, employees, and everyone who worked many hours to make the festival a success, as well as everyone who attended the festival.

Under Council, Departments, and committee reports, updates and other communications, Councilman Glasner reported that the Soccer Association is going to have irrigation installed at the soccer fields. City Administrator Rhoton reminded everyone that the Kiwanis Club's High-On-The-Hog BBQ is this weekend; MTSU and UT are playing ball at the Gamble Sports Complex's Lowell Bennett Stadium tonight and MTSU will be playing there against other teams in upcoming weeks. Councilman Womack reported that the Winchester Police Department received a letter complimenting Sgt. Jody Westbrooks, Officer Chris McBee, Investigators Allen Rhodes and Don Hall and the Franklin County Sheriff Department on a dispatch call for an "armed robbery in progress" at Bennett's Pharmacy on April 4th. Mrs. Rhoton read the letter from U.S. TVA Officer Michelle Parkin, who was in the area and heard the call on her radio and offered her assistance. She stated that everything was handled "text book" and she had never seen two different agencies work so well together. The quick response by these officers led to the capture and arrest of the men who robbed Bennett's Pharmacy at gunpoint and investigations linked these men to other robberies.

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

City of Winchester's website is:

www.winchester-tn.com

and

International Dogwood Festival website is:

www.winchesterdogwoodfestival.com

Terry Harrell, Mayor
City of Winchester

Attest:

Beth J. Rhoton, City Administrator

Minutes taken by: Judy Baker

Date of Meeting: April 15, 2008
(rescheduled from 4-8-08 due to Dogwood Festival)