

MINUTES

December 11, 2007

The Winchester City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, December 11, 2007, beginning with a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the public hearing was Rezoning Ordinance #885.

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 Franklin
Councilman Glasner
Councilman Scharber
Councilman Snead
Councilman Womack

Absent: None

Mayor Harrell called the meeting to order with a prayer by Terrell Farmer. Mayor Harrell then announced that three soldiers, Sgt. Eric Fernandez, Private Dwayne White, and Captain Adam Snyder, from the Fort Campbell, Kentucky military troop that the City adopted a few years ago were killed on Tuesday in Iraq. Mayor Harrell asked for a moment of silence to honor these slain heroes, and then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Harrell opened the public hearing for any comments on Ordinance #885, rezoning the Johnson/Blackwell funeral home property located at 402 South Shephard Street and belonging to Floyd Blackwell from R-2, medium-density residential district to C-3, neighborhood service business district. No one spoke for or against the ordinance and the public hearing was adjourned.

The regular Council meeting began immediately after the close of the public meeting.

Under requests, addresses or presentations, Jimmy Davis, president of the Winchester Little League Association, informed the City of the increase in the number of Little League teams. He stated that the ball players are from 5 to 12 years of age starting with T-Ball and going up to Major League teams and that teams have recently increased from 21 to 25 teams at present time. Due to this increase, Mr. Davis requested the Council to consider the needs for future fields and options and to plan for the future growth of the Little League.

Next, the Council approved a request presented by Jeannie Bates on behalf of the Kiwanis Club for the City to participate in the annual High-On-The-Hog BBQ in 2008. The attached request is for the City to provide the Park buildings, parking areas and utilities, support of City services, and to provide one worker to help at the Festival on

Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Mrs. Bates stated that these are the same services that the City has been providing for the BBQ. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Scharber, seconded by Councilman Glasner, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, Mayor Harrell read a proclamation naming the month of December as Blood Assurance Month in the City of Winchester.

Under unfinished business, the reading of the minutes of the November 13th regular Council meeting was dispensed and approved on a motion by Councilman Snead, seconded by Councilman Womack, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, the Council approved the third and final reading of Ordinance #885, amending Zoning Ord. #506, to rezone the Johnson & Blackwell Funeral Home property located at 402 South Shephard Street, belonging to Floyd Blackwell, from R-2, medium density residential district to C-3, neighborhood service business 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 Franklin
Councilman Glasner
Councilman Scharber
Councilman Snead
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

First under new business, the bids for a brush chipper for Public Works was deferred to the January meeting.

Next the Council heard from Human Relations Committee Chairman Sean Crabtree who spoke concerning health insurance proposals. Mr. Crabtree stated that his committee had been charged with the task of finding health insurance that would save the employees money on a monthly basis, save the City money, increase the current benefits that the employees now enjoy, and increase the number of employees taking the insurance. The Human Relations Committee spent many hours meeting and looking over the insurance proposals and striving to find the best insurance proposal that met the needs of all concerned. He stated that the V. R. Williams Blue Cross/Blue Shield proposal would save approximately \$80.00 a month for individual coverage and \$108.00 for family coverage as compared to our current plan. Mr. Crabtree announced that the Human Relations Committee official recommendation was the health insurance proposal with the two plans (quote 89 and quote 90) with Blue Cross/Blue Shield insurance by V. R. Williams and Company because it best met the needs of the City. Mr. Crabtree gave a projector presentation comparing the benefits and savings with this insurance proposal from the current plan and, after the presentation, he and V. R. Williams representative Chris Rose answered questions from the

Council and the City employees. At the end of this discussion, Councilman Womack made a motion to accept the Human Relation Committee's official recommendation for the health insurance proposal by V. R. Williams and Company which includes the City increasing its' percentage pay from 60 to 70 percent for individual coverage and from 60 to 65 percent for the two person tier or the family tier proposal. Councilman Glasner seconded this motion and all voted in favor by the following roll call:

Ayes: Councilman Franklin
Councilman Glasner
Councilman Scharber
Councilman Snead
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

In the last order of business, the Council approved the first reading of Ordinance #886, amending Zoning Ord. #506, to rezone the Petersham property located at the intersection of Arnold Farm Road and Cowan Highway 64/41-A from C-2, highway service district to R-1, low density residential district. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Scharber, seconded by Councilman Glasner, and all voted in favor by the following roll call:

Ayes: Councilman Franklin
Councilman Glasner
Councilman Scharber
Councilman Snead
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

Under his communications, Mayor Harrell congratulated Councilman Scharber on being named "Citizen Of The Year" at the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Banquet and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and also requested to help those in need at this time of year.

Under Council, Departments, and committee reports, updates and communications, everyone congratulated Councilman Scharber on his Citizen of The Year award and also wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Councilman Franklin announced that the soccer fields had been seeded and, along with the two tournament fields, we also have two practice fields. Councilman Glasner made a recommendation and motion to authorize the City Administrator to purchase cameras for surveillance to use at the City Park and other needed areas. Mayor Harrell stated that this request would be placed on the January agenda with some pricing. Councilman Glasner recommended the tennis court lights be turned on and off by timers or switches rather than using electricity late at night. Councilman Glasner also recommended authorizing an assistant for the City Administrator and Mayor Harrell asked that Councilman Glasner and City Administrator Rhoton maybe work on this and make a recommendation

at the January meeting. Councilman Glasner then recommended an additional \$25.00 rent increase for the Citizens Pavilion to help offset additional cost of utilities due to the newly installed air conditioners. Mayor Harrell also stated that this item would be placed on the January agenda. City Administrator Rhoton thanked the Kiwanis Club, Remax Realty, North Beta Club, F. C. Deca Club, and all the businesses and volunteers who helped with the "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town" event held on the square December 8th. She also announced that the Mayor's Youth Committee was working on its annual food drive and would be delivering food baskets on December 21st. Mrs. Rhoton stated the need for donations to help complete these baskets and that all donations would be greatly appreciated.

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

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: December 11, 2007