

MINUTES

January 10, 2006

The City Council of Winchester met in a regular session on Tuesday, January 10, 2006, beginning with a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. The reason for the public hearing was Zoning Ordinances #853 and #854 and Rezoning Ordinance #855.

Present and participating were: Mayor Richard Stewart, 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 Harrell
Councilman Scharber
Councilman Snead

Absent: Councilman Womack (hospitalized)

Mayor Stewart called the meeting to order with a prayer by Paul Trainor and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Harrell.

Mayor Stewart opened the public hearing for any comments on Zoning Ordinances #853 and #854 and Rezoning Ordinance #855. No one spoke for or against the ordinances and the public hearing adjourned.

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

Under requests, addresses or presentations, Jeannie Bates presented a request for the City to again co-sponsor the High-On-The-Hog Barbecue event with the Kiwanis Club to be held in April at the City Park. She further requested the City to furnish one city employee to help on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, security and traffic support from the Police Department, use of the total park facilities from April 16-23, and to open the campground early for vendors to rent campsites. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Snead, seconded by Councilman Scharber, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, Morris Rogers and Dan Sidley presented a finance plan for building an indoor practice facility at the City Park to be located near the Gamble Sports Complex (see attached plans). Mr. Rogers stated that language for the lease between the School System and the City could be worked out later. Councilman Snead made a motion to attach the finance plan to the minutes and to endorse the project and allow them to get started, with a second by Councilman Franklin, and all voted in favor of said motion.

First under unfinished business, the reading of the minutes of the December 13, 2005 council meeting was dispensed and approved as written on a motion by Councilman Harrell, seconded by Councilman Scharber, and all voted in favor.

Next, the Council approved the third and final reading of

Ordinance #853, amending Zoning Ord. #506, to zone the Lafferty property located off Hwy. 130 at Van Has Lane as R-1, low-density residential district. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Scharber, seconded by Councilman Harrell, and all voted in favor by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilman Franklin
Councilman Harrell
Councilman Scharber
Councilman Snead

Nays: None

Next, the Council approved the third and final reading of Ordinance #854, amending Zoning Ord. #506, to zone the Vincent property located on Sharp Springs Road near Shelley Heights Subdivision as R-1, low-density residential district. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Harrell, seconded by Councilman Snead, and all voted in favor of said motion by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilman Franklin
Councilman Harrell
Councilman Scharber
Councilman Snead

Nays: None

Next, the Council approved the third and final reading of Ordinance #855, amending Zoning Ord. #506, to rezone a parcel of the Shirley heirs property located on Hospital Road from M-1, medical-professional office district to R-1, low-density residential district. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Scharber, seconded by Councilman Franklin, and all voted in favor of said motion by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilman Franklin
Councilman Harrell
Councilman Scharber
Councilman Snead

Nays: None

Next, the Council approved the second reading of Ordinance #856, amending Zoning Ord. #506, to rezone the James Curtis property on Georgia Crossing Road and Veterans Memorial Drive from C-2, highway service commercial district to R-1, low-density residential district. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Harrell, seconded by Councilman Franklin, and all voted in favor of said motion by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilman Franklin
Councilman Harrell
Councilman Scharber
Councilman Snead

Nays: None

Next, City Administrator Rhoton reported that a survey has been ordered on the parcel of lake front property belonging to the City and located next to our impound lot at 806 North Jefferson Street. She spoke to State Planner Art Brown and this item will be placed on the

January agenda of the Planning Commission for a minor division and easement of the property. The City Administrator was instructed to come up with a date to sell the property at a public auction and to place this item on the February agenda for the Council to set a minimum selling bid.

Next, City Attorney Greg O'Neal reported on meeting with Mr. P. E. Bramlett concerning Hundred Oaks Street. Mr. Bramlett told Mr. O'Neal that he wanted to express all his concerns about the street to the Mayor and City Administrator directly and that he would be getting in touch with them to do so. Mayor Stewart requested Mr. O'Neal to follow through on this issue and get permission from Mr. Bramlett for the city to grade the road and trim the bushes as soon as possible and to keep Vernon Miller informed of the proceedings. Attorney O'Neal will notify Mr. Bramlett by phone as well as by letter that this issue will be on the February agenda.

Next, the Council approved the reappointment of Hoyte Earle to the Franklin County Consolidated Housing Authority Board on a motion by Councilman Harrell, seconded by Councilman Franklin, and the motion passed by three ayes and one nay cast by Councilman Snead.

Next, City Administrator Rhoton updated the Council about a request by the Mayor to conduct an internal investigation to discover whether the City was under investigation by the TBI. Mrs. Rhoton reported that she had tried to contact District Attorney General Mike Taylor to discuss whether an investigation was taking place or not but was never able to talk to him. Mrs. Rhoton stated to the best of her knowledge she had no recollection of any city employee being questioned by any law enforcement agency, much less the TBI. City Attorney O'Neal reported that he spoke with General Taylor who informed him that a citizen or citizens sent some information to him back in the early fall.

General Taylor turned this information over to the appropriate TBI officials and has since not heard anything from them. General Taylor will inform the city as soon as he hears anything from the TBI. Mayor Stewart, City Administrator Rhoton and the Council stated that the City has nothing to hide and we will go on with business as usual and if anyone has any questions, they can contact our attorneys. The Mayor reminded everyone that the State performed an audit on the city in 2003, (the audit cost the citizens \$7,000), and we have corrected any faults that were found and would continue to make corrections if any need to be made.

Next, City Administrator Rhoton requested a change to be made in the personnel policy regarding the sick leave policy. Mrs. Rhoton strongly recommended that employees who serve twenty (20) years with the City be eligible to take one hundred percent (100%) of their

accumulated sick days when they leave. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Scharber, seconded by Councilman Harrell, and all voted in favor of said motion. As the personnel policy has not been reviewed or updated in several years, City Administrator Rhoton was instructed to schedule a work shop for the Council to review the personnel policy.

In the last order of business, Mayor Stewart requested the appointment of Patsy Trussell to the Historical Preservation Committee. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Scharber, seconded by Councilman Harrell, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Under council, department heads and committee communications, updates and reports were given on various committees and happenings in the City.

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

City of Winchester's website is:
www.winchester-tn.com

Mayor Richard Stewart,
City of Winchester

Attest:

Beth J. Rhoton, City Administrator

Minutes taken by: Judy Baker

Date of Meeting: January 10, 2006