

MINUTES

June 11, 2013

The Winchester City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, June 11, 2013, beginning with a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the hearing was the third & final reading of the following Ordinances: #959, amending Title 11, Chapter 8 of the Winchester Municipal Code by adding Section 11-805, regulating the sale of ephedrine & pseudoephedrine related products; #960, amending Appropriations Ord. #946 for fiscal year ending 6-30-13; #961, making appropriations for fiscal year 6-30-14; and #962, assessing & levying taxes within the corporate limits for tax year 2013.

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

Present: Councilman Bell
Councilwoman McDowell
Councilman Hart
Councilman Spencer
Councilman Womack

Absent: None

Mayor Harrell called the meeting to order, Finance Director Martha Carol Luttrell offered the prayer, and Airport Manager Zackary Colescott led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Harrell opened the public hearing for any comments on Ordinance #959, amending Title 11, Chapter 8, of the Winchester Municipal Code by adding Section 11-805, regulating the sale of ephedrine or pseudoephedrine related products within the municipal boundaries of the City of Winchester. Police Chief Dennis Young introduced the following audience members in support of passing Ephedrine Ordinance #959: J. David Hamby with the National Methamphetamine and Pharmaceutical Initiative; Del Tomasson; Jim Derry, TBI Meth Task Force & former Counter Drug Agent with the National Guard; Retired DEA Agents Dave Shelton, Ben Scott and Tony Isom; Rick Trull, representing the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police; Franklin County Sheriff Tim Fuller, and also representing the Tennessee Sheriff's Association for Terry Ashe, along with the Tennessee Methamphetamine and Pharmaceutical Task Force; Steve Blount, Assistant District Attorney; Scott Biss, manager of Walgreens in Decherd; Lisa Wallace, owner and pharmacist of Bennett's Pharmacy in Winchester; and April Smith, a graduate of the Franklin County Drug Court and a recovered Meth Addict. Also among those in the audience in support of the ordinance included: Decherd Mayor Robin Smith; Huntland Council members; Tabatha Curtis,

Coordinator of the Franklin County Prevention Coalition; and a staff member of U. S. Congressman Scott DesJarlais. Mr. Hamby, Mr. Shelton, Scott Biss and Lisa Wallace addressed the Council briefly and Ms. Smith, a mother who lost her children to meth because of her addictions, told how Meth had destroyed her life and how the Franklin County Drug Court had helped with her recovery. Not one person objected or voiced a negative opinion against Ordinance #959 from a packed standing room only courtroom. The audience gave a standing ovation for those who spoke concerning the need to pass this ordinance.

The public hearing continued for the following Budget Ordinances: #960, amending Appropriations Ord. #946 for fiscal year ending 6-30-13; #961, making appropriations for fiscal year 6-30-14; and #962, assessing and levying taxes within the corporate limits for tax year 2013. No one spoke for or against any of the budget ordinances and Mayor Harrell adjourned the public hearing at 6:30 p.m.

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

Under addresses, presentations and requests, Mike Rudder representative for the Winchester Rotary and Robert Baggett, representative for the Soccer Association, presented a request (attached) for a soccer complex which includes a new field, bathrooms and a concession stand. Money needed for the expansion and improvements total \$80,000.00. Mr. Rudder stated that the Winchester Rotary Club will provide \$15,000.00 up front and the Soccer Association will provide \$25,000.00 for a total of \$40,000.00. They requested the City to match and fund the \$40,000.00 balance of the project. Mr. Rudder stated that the City would be repaid annually with \$5,000.00 from the Winchester Rotary Club and \$3,000.00 by the Soccer Association. Mayor Harrell stated that the Council would take their request into consideration of the budget.

First under unfinished business, the reading of the minutes from the May 14, 2013, regular Council meeting was dispensed and approved on a motion by Councilman Bell, seconded by Councilman Spencer, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, the reading of the minutes from the May 28, 2013 special called Council meeting was dispensed and approved on a motion by Councilman Spencer, seconded by Councilman Womack, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, the Council approved the third and final reading of Ordinance #959, amending Title 11, Chapter 8, of the Winchester Municipal Code by adding Section 11-805, regulating the sale of ephedrine or pseudoephedrine related products within the municipal

boundaries of the City of Winchester. Motion to approve was made by Councilwoman McDowell, seconded by Councilman Hart, and the motion passed unanimously by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilwoman McDowell
Councilman Bell
Councilman Hart
Councilman Spencer
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

The Council was given a loud round of applause by the audience for adopting this important ordinance to help rid Winchester and Franklin County of meth labs.

Next on the agenda was the third reading for Budget Ordinances #960, #961 and #962 and amendment of Resolution #841. Mayor Harrell stated that the reading of those ordinances and resolution were being tabled in order to give the Council more time to review the budget documents. Mayor Harrell scheduled a work session that will be followed immediately by a special called meeting for Wednesday, June 26, 2013, starting at 12:00 noon.

Next, Finance Director Martha Carol Luttrell informed the Council that she had sent out Requests for Proposals for Health Insurance and a work session would be needed to review those proposals. Mayor Harrell placed the health insurance proposals on the agenda for the work session and special called meeting scheduled for June 26th at noon.

In the first order of new business, City Administrator Rhoton explained that she and City Attorney Greg O'Neal have been working together to negotiate the contract with Winchester Marina LLC for the Dry Creek Marina Project. Mrs. Rhoton stated that Winchester Marina LLC and the City of Winchester have come to a mutual agreement to dissolve the Dry Creek Marina Project contract. She further stated that a vote is needed if the Council approves taking the dissolution of the contract to the Chancery Court. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Spencer, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, Airport Manager Zackary Colescott informed the Council of Winchester Planning Commission's recommendation for the abandonment of Aviation Drive to allow the Airport to go forward with the project to extend the taxiway and relocate the access road into the airport. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Bell, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, Fire Chief Gary Greeson requested approval to increase the pay for volunteer firemen from the \$5.00 per call they have received

for many years to \$10.00 per call, with the increase to become effective July 1, 2013. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Womack, seconded by Councilwoman McDowell, and the motion passed unanimously.

Next, Mayor Harrell appointed Margaret Lynch to the Franklin County Consolidated Housing Authority. Although this is a mayoral appointment, Mayor Harrell asked for a motion of support for his appointment. Motion for support was made by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Spencer, and all voted in favor.

In the last order of new business, City Administrator Rhoton stated that the City of Winchester is in contract with Waste Management for garbage pickup and that we have just received a new garbage rate for the next fiscal year of \$14.76 per month. The garbage rate had remained the same for the last several years and the city has always supplemented the additional increases. While the city provides many services at no cost to the citizens other than the normal property tax, this is one service that is an extra charge and is billed through the Utility System to anyone who has an electric meter on a home or an apartment. Mrs. Rhoton stated that TVA notified the Utility Company that they are no longer allowed to bill that service for the city free of charge and that now a twenty cent (\$0.20) billing fee will be charged every month. Due to the contract increase and the charge for billing, Mrs. Rhoton recommended that our garbage pickup fee increase from \$14.76 to \$14.96. Councilman Spencer made a motion that a flat fee of \$15.00 be charged for garbage pickup, seconded by Councilwoman McDowell, and all voted in favor. Mrs. Rhoton wants to send notifications to our citizens a month in advance of this slight increase with the increase probably becoming effective with the August billing.

Under Mayoral communications, Mayor Harrell said he was so proud to be a part of the governing body that passed the Ephedrine Ordinance and proud of everyone involved in bringing about this ordinance. Mayor Harrell reminded everyone that a work session, followed immediately by a special called meeting, was scheduled for Wednesday, June 26, 2013, starting at 12:00 noon.

Under Council, City Administrator, and Department Head communications, updates and reports: Councilman Bell thanked Police Chief Young, Tabatha Curtis with the Franklin County Prevention Coalition, Sheriff Tim Fuller, and everyone who helped to bring about this ordinance. Councilman Hart agreed and said he was privileged to have had a part in passing the ordinance. Police Chief Dennis Young told the Council that words couldn't begin to express his appreciation for the adoption of the new ephedrine drug ordinance, and told the Council he was already working on something else.

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

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

and the

International Dogwood Festival website is:
www.winchesterdogwoodfestival.com

Terry Harrell, Mayor
City of Winchester

Attest:

Beth Rhoton, City Administrator

Minutes taken & typed by: Judy Baker

Date of Meeting: June 11, 2013