

MINUTES

October 8, 2013

The Winchester City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

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

Present: Councilman Bell
Councilman Hart
Councilman Snead
Councilman Spencer
Councilman Womack

Absent: Greg O'Neal, City Attorney

Mayor Harrell called the meeting to order, Councilman Womack offered the prayer, and Councilman Spencer led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Under requests, addresses or presentations, the Council heard quarterly reports presented by Winchester Utilities Manager Roger Caldwell and Airport Manager Zackary Colescott.

First under unfinished business, the reading of the minutes from the September 10, 2013, regular 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 reading of the minutes from the September 19, 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.

In the first order of new business, the Council discussed the second reading of Ordinance #964, amending Zoning Ord. #506, to add text to Section 4.080.C.3 concerning the number of signs for a business. Councilman Spencer made a motion not to approve the second reading and to send the ordinance back to the Planning Commission for more clarification and definitive definitions. Councilman Hart seconded the motion not to approve and the 2nd reading failed to pass by the following roll call vote of four (4) ayes to one (1) nay cast by Councilman Snead:

Ayes: Councilman Bell
Councilman Hart
Councilman Spencer
Councilman Womack

Nays: Councilman Snead

Councilman Bell informed the Mayor and Council that he was not satisfied with any of this ordinance and read a statement detailing his reasons for wanting the ordinance to be re-written. Mayor Harrell had previously scheduled a work session to discuss this ordinance for October 24th but

changed this meeting to October 29th at 5:00 p.m. in the Annex due to some scheduling conflicts.

Next, City Administrator Beth Rhoton presented the following bids received for installation of downtown information signs which are being partially funded by the USDA Rural Development Office:

Jarvis Sign Company	\$16,704.00
Curtis Construction	\$27,200.00
Sain Construction Co.	\$18,880.00
Keystone Construction	\$32,000.00
Harper & Company	\$28,000.00

Mrs. Rhoton stated that our engineering consultants, Dempsey, Dilling & Associates, reviewed the bids and recommended the project be awarded to Jarvis Sign Company, in the amount of \$16,704.00, pending Rural Development's concurrence. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Snead, seconded by Councilman Bell, and all voted in favor.

Next, City Administrator Rhoton requested the Council to approve a \$250.00 Christmas bonus, as budgeted, for permanent full-time employees. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Spencer, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Last under new business, City Administrator Rhoton asked the Council if they wanted to reapply for a TDOT Alternative Grant Phase V. Mrs. Rhoton stated that the city had applied once for this grant and was denied. This grant has become available again with the deadline for applying being November 4, 2013. Mrs. Rhoton explained this is a \$500,000.00 grant with a twenty percent (20%) matching grant that would be used on one block of North Jefferson Street for sidewalks, street lighting and underground utilities. As we already have the engineering and environmental paperwork required for this grant, Mrs. Rhoton thinks the city has a better chance of receiving the grant this time as other cities may not be able to meet the application deadline. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Spencer, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Under Council, City Administrator, and Department Head communications, updates and reports: City Administrator Rhoton thanked the Mayor and Council, city employees, other cities, departments, and government agencies and all the volunteers who helped with the annual STMC Plunge Marathon on October 5, 2013. She reminded everyone about the "Taste of Autumn" and chili cook-off events being held downtown on October 18, 2013. City Administrator Rhoton informed everyone that the "Day Of The Dead" event which includes a silent auction, dinner, and dance will be held October 26th in the old Hammer Department Store building on the square. The funds raised at this event are used to sponsor the gigantic Kid Zone at the International Dogwood Festival where every child can participate and everything is free. Tickets for this fundraiser are \$25.00 each and available at Winchester City Hall.

Under Council communications, updates and reports: Councilman Hart complemented Mrs. Rhoton and everyone who help decorate around the square.

Under his communications, Mayor Harrell also complimented City Administrator Rhoton, city employees, and all the volunteers who help to decorate and keep our downtown area looking good all year long.

Mayor Harrell recognized Thomas Cohenour, who stated he was a veteran of the Vietnam War, and that this war was almost over in April 1975 with a loss of 58,286 Americans. Mr. Cohenour read a letter stating his displeasure of the removal of the Freedom Park fountain and marble tombstone that he said was erected on the corner of City Hall by some citizens in April 1975 to mark that day in history. (Note: the fountain had not worked in several years and was removed as it could not be repaired).

With no further business to be brought before the Council, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Councilman Bell, seconded by Councilman Hart, 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 Recorder

Minutes taken & typed by: Judy Baker
Date of Meeting: October 8, 2013