

(This meeting did not get cassette tape recorded)

MINUTES

December 10, 2013

The Winchester City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, November 12, 2013, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

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

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

Absent: None

Mayor Harrell called the meeting to order, Councilman Snead offered the prayer, and Police Chief Dennis Young led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Harrell recognized three of the 2014 Dogwood Festival Pageant winners: Kylee Norris, Miss Dogwood Festival Outstanding Teen; Baylee Nester, Miss Dogwood Festival Princess; and Farrar Jean Ford, Miss Dogwood Festival.

Under presentations and addresses, Jeannie Bates of the Kiwanis Club, requested the city to co-sponsor their annual High-On-The-Hog BBQ event in the City Park, as we've done for many years. Their request includes use of city park buildings and parking areas from April 11 through April 21, 2014, support of Winchester city services, and to provide assistance of city recreation department workers to help in the Festival in same capacity as last year. Their letter of request is attached to the minutes - Note: the City has provided the Kiwanis each year with the assistance of one (1) city worker only during the main three-day weekend of the festival. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Bell, seconded by Councilman Hart, and all voted in favor of said motion.

In the first order of unfinished business, the reading of the minutes from the November 12, 2013, regular Council meeting was dispensed and approved on a motion by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Spencer, and all voted in favor of said motion.

Next, the Council approved the second reading of Ordinance #965, to establish absentee by mail ballot voting procedures for non-resident property owners in municipal elections. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Spencer, seconded by Councilman Womack, and the motion passed unanimously by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilman Snead  
Councilman Bell  
Councilman Hart

Councilman Spencer  
Councilman Womack

Nays: None

Next, City Administrator Beth Rhoton requested approval of the newly revised and updated City of Winchester Personnel Policy, which was developed with the assistance of MTAS. Mrs. Rhoton stated that the revised policy was recommended by our auditors, who have written the city up twice for the policy being out of date. Included in the updated policy is increasing the number of paid holidays for city employees. Mrs. Rhoton reminded the Council that currently we only have seven (7) paid days - six holidays and one birthday, whereas Winchester Utilities employees have twelve (12), County employees have thirteen (13) and Federal employees have fourteen (14) paid holidays. During a discussion, Councilman Womack stated that he was against increasing the number of holidays for city employees as he felt it would cost the city too much money. Mayor Harrell complimented City Administrator Rhoton for her hard work in keeping the city under budget and to continue working with the Department Heads to stay within our budget. The other four Councilmen, Mayor Harrell, and City Administrator Beth Rhoton spoke in favor of increasing the holidays for city employees. They stated they felt that the city needs to have an equal amount of paid holidays, especially matching the number of holidays Winchester Utility employees receives. Motion to approve the revised City of Winchester Personnel Policy, with twelve (12) paid holidays (found on page #13 of the personnel policy) was made by Councilman Spencer, seconded by Councilman Bell, with the motion passing by the vote of four (4) ayes to one (1) nay vote cast by Councilman Womack.

In the first order of new business, the Council approved Resolution #845, authorizing participation in the Tennessee Main Street Program and designating a city official to represent the city on the local nonprofit Main Street governing board of directors. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Womack, and the motion passed unanimously.

Next, Councilman Snead recommended and made the motion for the reappointment of Deb Howard and the new appointment of Bill Cowan to the Winchester Design Review Committee. Mr. Cowan will fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Sean Crabtree. This motion was seconded by Councilman Hart and all voted in favor of said motion.

Last under new business, Police Chief Dennis Young requested permission to surplus and sell on govdeals.com the following two Police Department vehicles:

Pool Car	2004 Dodge Intrepid	Vin #2B3HD46V34H602962
Pool Car	2004 Dodge Intrepid	Vin #2B3HD46V74H602964

Motion to approve to surplus and sell the two Police Department vehicles for the Police Department on govdeals.com was made by Councilman Snead, seconded by Councilman Spencer, and the motion passed unanimously.

Under City Administrator communications, Mrs. Rhoton reminded everyone that the City of Winchester's "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town" event will be held downtown this Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All events are FREE to the kids including photos made with Santa at the Kiwanis Clubhouse, movie at the Oldham Theatre, fire truck rides, hay rides, coloring contest, Reindeer 5-K Run/Walk, hot dogs, hot chocolate, cookies, Prancer Poppers (popcorn), lemonade, Melted Snowmen (water), crafts, ornaments, face painting, Grinch Whoo Hair, Elves Nails, Corn Hole game toss, cupcake decorating; pine cone birdfeeders, instrumental music, Christmas carols, with many businesses having free drawings and special discount. Also, children 3 to 15 years old can register to win one of seventy+ bicycles that were generously donated by businesses and many individual citizens. The above events and many more are being provided by the City of Winchester, the Downtown Merchants, Churches, businesses and organizations, citizens, and the many sponsors who help to make this event possible.

Under Council communications, updates and reports, the Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Councilman Snead stated that the first annual "Dip and Dash" event will be held at the City Park/Swimplex on New Year's Day as a fund raiser to continue to keep the Dogwood Festival "Kidz Zone" free. Councilman Bell complimented the beautiful Christmas decoration window display at Attorney Greg O'Neal's office. He also told everyone to check out the Fire Department's new vehicle. Councilman Hart complimented Yvonne Stewart for her work with the young ladies involved with the Miss Dogwood Festival Scholarship Pageant, an official preliminary to Miss Tennessee/Miss America pageants. Councilman Womack reminded everyone that it's time to shop for Christmas to spend their tax dollars locally.

Under his communications, Mayor Harrell wished a Merry Christmas to the Council, Administrator, city employees, and all the citizens of Winchester and he thanked everyone for all they do for our city.

Before the meeting adjourned, Mayor Harrell asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak and he recognized Special Projects Coordinator Yvonne Stewart. Mrs. Stewart stated that three winners of the International Dogwood Pageants would like to introduce themselves. Included is a brief outline about the winners and their platforms: Kylee Norris is Miss Dogwood Festival Outstanding Teen and is a student at Franklin County High School. She hopes to obtain a Master's degree in Education and follow in her mother's footsteps. Her platform is H3:

Hunger Happens Here. She started a club at the high school to bring awareness to hunger happens in Franklin County and has done numerous events to collect can goods for the needy. She has gone 30 hours without eating on three different occasions to bring awareness to hunger in our community. She will sing "*Somewhere Over The Rainbow*" at the state completion in March in Jackson, Tennessee; Baylee Nester is Miss Dogwood Festival Princess and is a student at Coffee County High School. Her platform is Paws for a Cause: Animal Abuse Awareness and Prevention. She loves to rescue animals. Her father is a veterinarian and helps her in her efforts. Baylee wants to attend the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and graduate with a Doctorate Degree in Veterinary Medicine and own her own clinic one day like her father; and Farrar Jean Ford is Miss Dogwood Festival and is a sophomore at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. She resides in Tullahoma, Tennessee and her father, Joe Ford, is an attorney on the square in Winchester. Her platform is Down Syndrome Association of Middle Tennessee. Farrar's goal is to receive a bachelor's degree in Kinesiology and further her education by achieving a Doctorate of Physical Therapy. At Miss Tennessee in June, Farrar will sing "*What the World Needs Now*" originally sung by Louis Armstrong.

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

City of Winchester's website is:

[www.winchester-tn.com](http://www.winchester-tn.com)

and the

International Dogwood Festival website is:

[www.winchesterdogwoodfestival.com](http://www.winchesterdogwoodfestival.com)

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Terry Harrell, Mayor  
City of Winchester

Attest:

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Beth Rhoton, City Recorder

Minutes taken & typed by: Judy Baker

Date of Meeting: December 10, 2013

