

**CALLED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE**

May 1, 2014 – 5:00 pm

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on May 1, 2014, 5:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall for the purpose of:

- Election of Industrial Development Board
- Discussion of Soccer Lease
- Discussion of FY 2015 Budget

Mayor Lambert called the meeting and all councilmembers were given notice of the call. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order. Councilmember Manning gave the invocation and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Gravitt, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, and City Recorder Middleton. City Attorney North was not present.

Election of Industrial Development Board

Mayor Lambert stated that in the last council meeting, each councilmember filled out a ballot, and the results were tabulated and announced. The Mayor stated there should have been more to the process. Each councilmember should have signed their ballot and each ballot publically read. The Mayor also stated that councilmembers could fill out their ballot again and go through the same process or a voice vote could be taken. Councilmembers stated they would be satisfied with a voice vote. The five original nominees were voted on all at one time. The nominees were:

- Mayor Lambert nominated Ruth Braly
- Vice Mayor Bethune nominated James Citty
- Councilmember Manning nominated Estes Cocke
- Councilmember Gravitt nominated Barton Burns
- Councilmember Sewell nominated Kelley Steele

Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve the five nominations for the Industrial Development Board. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

The nominees to fill the final two seats on the board were as follows:

- Councilmember Sewell nominated Eddie Phillips
- Councilmember Gravitt nominated Curtis Baker
- Vice Mayor Bethune nominated Mac Pendley

Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to vote on each nominee individually. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Mayor Lambert, to appoint Eddie Phillips to the Industrial Development Board. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Bethune – no; Councilmember Gravitt – no; Councilmember Manning – no; Councilmember Sewell – yes; Mayor Lambert – yes. The motion was denied.

Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to appoint Curtis Baker to the Industrial Development Board. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gravitt, to appoint Mac Pendley to the Industrial Development Board. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

The seven members are as follows:

- Ruth Braly
- James City
- Estes Cocke
- Barton Burns
- Kelley Steele
- Curtis Baker
- Mac Pendley

City Manager Hyatt stated he will schedule a time for the board to meet in order to elect officers. He will also get them a packet of information on the Industrial Development Board. The Board is required to meet in October of each year. Mr. Hyatt also stated this board would be a combination of the Industrial Development Board and an economic advisory board.

Discussion of soccer lease – Matt Yelton, Director of Coaching for East Ridge Futbol Club (ERFC) and Jack Skelton, attorney for Chattanooga Futbol Club (CFC) were present to discuss the lease. Director Martin stated the only change in the contract since it was discussed at the agenda work session was the term. It has been changed from three years with a three-year option, to one year with a one-year option. Mr. Yelton stated that after that meeting, he understood the council's concern about entering into a three-year lease. He believes changing it to one year will help build trust.

Mr. Yelton stated there would be two appointees to the board from each group – Chattanooga Futbol Club (CFC), North River, Readout, and East Ridge Futbol Club (ERFC). Mr. Gravitt asked if the board members were paid and who would be the appointees from ERFC. Mr. Yelton stated that the board members are not paid and ERFC's two appointees would be Bill Spake, the current vice president, and Andy Cobb. Mr. Gravitt asked if any of the board members had been affiliated with the previous soccer organizations. Mr. Yelton stated that Mr. Spake's daughter played in the previous league and board member Stacy Sanders ran the recreation league for ERFC.

Mr. Gravitt discussed wording in Section 2Aii which states that from time to time complex wide events will require that the City utilize the soccer fields. These events include JFest, Bugapalüza, Libertyfest, a Lacrosse tournament and an Ultimate Frisbee tournament. Mr. Gravitt asked Mr. Yelton and Mr. Skelton if they would have a problem inserting after the word

include, "but not limited to" these five events, and if an event is scheduled, as long as the city can give CFC notice and it would not interfere with soccer. If there is a conflict, then CFC would have priority. Mr. Yelton and Mr. Skelton stated they are agreeable to adding that language.

Mr. Gravitt asked if CFC would charge for parking and who would provide security. Mr. Yelton stated that CFC would charge for parking and retain those fees, but there would be no admission fee. He also plans to hire an off-duty officer to police the park during tournaments at the tournament's expense.

Mr. Gravitt also discussed the following sections:

6A – CFC will give the city a minimum 90 day notice for lease of overflow fields and 30 days prior to start of such tournament. Mr. Gravitt asked if CFC was going to give the city a 90 day and an additional 30 day notice. Mr. Yelton stated the 30 days pertains to a deposit for the lease of the fields for a tournament. Mr. Martin stated that if rec league games are scheduled this would not conflict with that.

Paragraph 7 – City agrees to top dress each field once per year during the term. Mr. Martin stated that will cost \$8,000 - \$9,000. This will come out of the \$15,000 for field maintenance. Mr. Martin also stated the fields need to be top dressed anyway.

Paragraph 11 – Mr. Gravitt asked if we do field maintenance already. Mr. Martin state we do and this will not incur any additional cost.

Field Paint - Mr. Yelton stated that paint color is different for different age groups. They will line their own fields.

Storage of paint – Mr. Gravitt asked if the paint would be stored in the City's shed or a shed that belongs to CFC. Mr. Yelton stated that if the group needs storage for paint, they will purchase that at a later date if needed. Paint is currently stored adjacent to one of the restrooms.

Mr. Gravitt asked Mr. Martin if he foresees any overtime associated with this that is outside of the normal range of overtime. Mr. Martin stated that during tournaments this could be a possibility. He stated we get 30% of the tournaments.

Page 6 – There is a typo in this section. It should stated paragraph 5 rather than paragraph 4.

Page 8 – section C should be section B.

Mr. Gravitt asked if there are any city employees going to be affiliated with this association and paid by them or would be providing any services for this organization. Mr. Martin stated no there are no employees that will be paid by CFC. He did state that Jon Hooper, a city employee, works with the rec soccer league and the indoor soccer leagues, which has nothing to do with CFC. He will work in conjunction with CFC but will not benefit in any way from the approval of the lease.

Vice Mayor Bethune asked Mr. Yelton if he is associated with East Ridge or being paid by East Ridge. Mr. Yelton stated he is not paid by the city but is paid by East Ridge Futbol Club. Mr. Bethune stated Mr. Yelton is still on the website as the contact person for recreation soccer. Mr. Martin stated this should be changed to Jon Hooper as the contact person.

Mr. Bethune asked if any of the board members were making personal guarantees for the city to be paid for the lease of the fields. Mr. Yelton stated no there would be no personal guarantees.

Mr. Bethune asked if the city would be provided monthly financial statements. Mr. Yelton stated this is a lease situation and was not sure if the statements would be provided. Mr. Skelton stated that the council was welcome at any time to look at the association's financial statements. It is a non-profit organization.

Mr. Bethune asked if the group wanted this issue voted on tonight. He does not feel comfortable voting on this without the city attorney present. Mr. Yelton stated that timing is an issue. Even though the term commences on July 1st, there is still a lot to do and tryouts begin soon.

Councilmember Manning asked if any of the people from the former soccer organization would be brought back. Mr. Yelton stated that some of the coaches may be back, he is one, but any of the people that caused the problems would not be back. Mr. Manning made a motion to table this issue until the attorney was here, but withdrew the motion.

Mr. Bethune asked if financial aid would be provided to players who cannot afford the fees. Mr. Yelton and Mr. Martin stated that help would be provided.

Mr. Bethune asked Mr. Martin's opinion on approving this lease. Mr. Martin stated that if this is approved or not approved he will have to work harder. He stated that he would like to see things stay the same but the soccer program would not be able to be competitive with other organizations. It is not his decision; it is the council's.

Heath Parham stated that he coached for ERSA when problems arose. He and other coaches stayed with East Ridge for the betterment of the community and the soccer program. They believe that soccer comes first. He stated that CFC will play or practice on some of the fields and the rec soccer group will be on the other fields. ERFC will still have the rec program which will become the select players in the future.

Mr. Gravitt asked Mr. Martin if he believes this will have any kind of negative impact on our rec league soccer. Mr. Martin stated no, that it would only get larger. He believes the rec and indoor programs would grow.

Mr. Gravitt stated that if we do not work with the organization, then they have the option of going somewhere else and taking all the coaches that have helped grow the rec and select programs in East Ridge. This could have a negative impact on the City and the soccer programs.

Mayor Lambert stated that if we go forward with the agreement and it does not work, he does not believe we will lose anything additional. Councilmember Sewell believes if we do not go forward with the agreement, we will lose the select players.

Mr. Gravitt stated he has a problem with a 3-year lease and would feel more comfortable with a 1-year lease.

Mr. Bethune asked Mr. Hyatt his opinion on this issue. Mr. Hyatt stated he would caution about entering into an agreement which another council in the future would have to deal with. He would be more comfortable with a one-year agreement, but did say he believes this promotes our city in a positive light. He also believes this will have a positive economic impact on the city.

Mr. Gravitt stated that some citizens are against this agreement because of problems with the previous organization. He stated that they cannot hold this against this group because of what has happened in the past. He stated he would be against this if any of the people associated with the former group was associated with this group.

Mr. Sewell asked if the city attorney has looked at this agreement. Mr. Gravitt stated Mr. North was okay with the agreement, subject to the changes that Mr. Gravitt discussed earlier.

Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gravitt, to approve the lease, subject to adding the minor changes that were discussed earlier. Mayor Lambert stated that Council will bring back a resolution at the next meeting to memorialize the vote. He also stated we are giving the group our word and good faith through this vote if approved.

Vice Mayor Bethune asked the Mayor to allow public comment on this issue. Mr. Sewell and Mr. Gravitt withdrew their motion and second in order to allow public comment. There was no public comment.

Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gravitt, to approve the lease, subject to the changes that were discussed. Mr. Gravitt wants citizens to understand this lease is only for one year and if it does not work out, then Council will not have to approve to extend the lease. Mr. Skelton stated that CFC has the option to extend the lease for an additional year if they comply with the terms of the contract. If they do not comply with the terms, then the City has a right not to extend the lease.

Councilmember Sewell called for the question, but withdrew that request.

Being no further comments, the Mayor asked for roll call.

Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Bethune – pass; Councilmember Gravitt – yes; Councilmember Manning – no; Councilmember Sewell – yes; Mayor Lambert – yes; Vice Mayor Bethune – yes. The motion was approved.

At this time, the Council took a 15-minute break.

Discussion of FY 2015 Budget

City Manager Hyatt thanked all the staff that has helped prepare the budget. He stated that supervisors have done an excellent job.

Some of the highlights of the budget that Mr. Hyatt presented are:

- No tax increase
- No increase in the sanitation fee.
- 34% decrease over the amended budget.
- Sales tax is budgeted higher than last year
- Hall income tax budgeted lower than last year
- 10% increase budgeted for health insurance based on claims
- Hire two part time police officers for the park
- Hire one Parks and Rec part time leisure services coordinator to work with seniors
- City Services has been deleted and administrative assistant moved to Administration/ Finance
- Move 1 million from fund balance to capital improvement account
- Will not use any of the fund balance to balance this budget
- Replace thermostat system at City Hall
- Vehicles, equipment – budget \$201,400 over a period of three years
- Goals and objectives/Performance measures for staff

Mr. Hyatt would like to tentatively schedule the public hearing and first reading of the budget on May 22nd and second reading on June 12th.

City Treasurer Jablonski stated that staff has taken a conservation approach in the budget preparation. They have created a solid waste fund and a special revenue fund for grants.

Councilmember Manning asked if raises were included in the budget. Mr. Jablonski stated that raises are not in the budget but across the board raises of 2%, 3%, 4% and 5% range from \$100,000 to \$250,000. Bonuses of \$600 for full time and \$300 for part time would be approximately \$73,000 for full-time employees and \$6,100 for part time employees. Mr. Manning stated that employees would appreciate bonuse, but they would not help on the employees' retirement, whereas a raise would. Mr. Hyatt suggested having a budget workshop after council has had a chance to look over the information given to them tonight.

Mr. Jablonski stated we have a larger fund balance this year than in the prior year.

Mr. Gravitt stated he would like a breakdown on all debt service, with the balances, what it is for, what the payoff date is and the interest rate. Mr. Hyatt stated we have one loan of \$186,000 that could be paid off that would save the City \$70,000.

Mr. Sewell would like to know what it is actually costing the city to mow exit 1. He stated we get \$15,000 from the state each year, but we have to pay overtime and have to replace mowers quite often. Mr. Hyatt is looking at the possibility of getting seasonal mowers to help with this. Mr. Sewell suggested planting wildflowers which would cut down on mowing.

Being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

**AGENDA WORK SESSION
May 8, 2014 – 5:00 pm**

**To Set the Agenda For The
May 22, 2014 Council Meeting**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on May 8, 2014, 5:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall to set the agenda for the May 22, 2014 Council Meeting and other items. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Gravitt, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton. Councilmember Sewell was not present.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 967 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION OF AN UNMANNED TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITY (CELL TOWER) ON A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED AT 1405A MACK SMITH ROAD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDINANCE 481, ARTICLE VII, REGULATIONS FOR USES PERMITTED ON REVIEW, SECTION 114 (2nd and final reading) – This tower will be close to the East Ridge Retirement Center. Chief Building Official Dempsey stated a representative will be at the meeting to answer any questions. He stated this tower is 150 feet tall.

ORDINANCE NO. 968 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AMENDING TITLE 11 MUNICIPAL OFFENSES CHAPTER 6 MISCELLANEOUS, BY AMENDING SECTION 11-606 TITLED TOBACCO USE ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY AND IN MUNICIPAL VEHICLES PROHIBITED TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES (2nd and final reading) - Mr. Gravitt stated he would like to table this during the regular meeting in order to get more information.

ORDINANCE NO. 969 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 956 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT...” BY CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND BY DESIGNATING FUND BALANCE FOR THE DEBT SERVICE FUND AND CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES OF THE DEBT SERVICE FUND AND REVENUE FOR THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND (2nd and final reading) – City Manager Hyatt stated this amendment is for grants which will be \$80,000 less than budgeted, soccer had more participants than anticipated which caused more expenses, and increased insurance costs. We are also taking \$1 million out of the fund balance to open the capital improvement fund. Mr. Gravitt stated he would like to get more quotes from carriers. He would also like to know how much the city has paid out on the medical reimbursement plan. Mr.

Hyatt will have that at the next council meeting. Mr. Jablonski stated that our general fund reserves are projected to be \$5,205,816. This amount will have to be audited.

New Business Discussion:

ORDINANCE NO. 970 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, ESTABLISHING A FEE SCALE FOR INDIVIDUALS WISHING TO TAKE BULK TRASH ITEMS TO THE SANITATION DUMPSTER STATION IN THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE. (1st reading) – Amanda Miller asked if this could be moved up to tonight’s agenda in order to have the fees in place by the end of the month. Fees would start at \$5.00. Citizens could take debris to the dumpster station twice a month at no charge. No building materials could be brought to the site. Non-residents would have to pay a fee every time to dump at the site. Mayor Lambert moved this item to tonight’s regular meeting agenda.

ORDINANCE NO. _____ - AMENDING CITY CODE, TITLE 9, CHAPTER 2, PEDDLERS/SOLICITORS, ETC. - PEDDLERS GOING DOOR TO DOOR BE REQUIRED TO WEAR IDENTIFICATION LANYARD AND HAVE MAGNETIC ID ON VEHICLE (1st reading) – Councilmember Gravitt would like to include an increase in the fees for the door to door solicitors from \$20.00 to \$100 for 90 days. The City would provide a magnetic sign for the solicitor’s car doors to be taken out of the fee. Ms. Miller stated that magnetic signs could cost from \$75 - \$90 per set. The signs would have the name and permit number that must match the ID on the lanyards. Mr. Gravitt state we could charge a \$25.00 deposit for the sign that would be returned when they bring the sign back. Mr. Bethune asked if this would apply to church members. Mr. Gravitt stated church members could be exempt from the fee, but they should be required to have the magnetic door sign and the lanyard. Mayor Lambert also asked about political candidates. Mr. Gravitt stated that non-profits could be exempt from the fees. Mr. North stated this would be a significant undertaking, since the ordinance is somewhat antiquated. This could also apply to gun shows and other events at Camp Jordan Arena. Mr. Gravitt suggested tabling this item at the regular meeting until we get an ordinance that will cover all these items. The Mayor stated it is proposed for the next agenda, we do not have to take action on this tonight. It can just be taken off the agenda for the May 22nd meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR REMOVAL OR CLOSURE OF UNDERGROUND FUEL TANKS – Ms. Miller stated that since we are now using the fleet fuel system with Mapco we no longer need the tanks. We still use the diesel tanks. These tanks will probably not have to be removed, only filled. Bidders must also go through the State of Tennessee for approval.

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - APPROVAL OF VARIANCE TO THE DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR BEER SALES FOR SPEEDWAY – This item was added in anticipation of the Beer Board on Tuesday based on the distance to the playground. The distance to the nearest church is more than the 250 feet required so that is not an issue. Vice Mayor Bethune asked Chief Building Official Dempsey if Speedway was told the rules and regulations before they started construction. Mr. Dempsey stated yes they were at a pre-construction meeting. This matter went before the Beer Board previously and was denied 4 – 0 but there was a discrepancy on who was voting at meeting. It was denied because of the distance to the playground. The council can approve a variance to the distance requirements on a case by case

basis. Mr. North stated council cannot be arbitrary in granting the variances. Mayor Lambert asked if there was a defended standard for chain restaurants such as O'Charley's or another restaurant. According to the ordinance, we could not grant them a variance because variances are for off premise sales only. Chief Williams stated that previously Rite Aid was approved a variance because they were too close to a church. Mr. Hyatt stated that liquor by the drink, such as is sold at O'Charley's, is governed by the State. There are no distance requirements as far as liquor is concerned. A bar could come in and sell liquor only and be in compliance. The Mayor stated we have a circumstance that seems "upside down" regarding liquor sales and beer sales.

RESOLUTION – APPROVAL TO ALLOW FRIENDS OF THE PLAYGROUND TO RAISE FUNDS TO UPDATE PIONEER FRONTIER AND TO BUILD A PLAYGROUND AT CAMP JORDAN PARK – Mr. Hyatt stated Mimi Lowrey came to him and asked about doing this project. Ms. Lowrey discussed the problem at Pioneer Frontier but does not want to see it torn down. She is suggesting another community build project to upgrade the equipment at the playground and remove outdated equipment. The signature turrets will remain. If enough money is raised, possibly a playground could be built at Camp Jordan. Director Martin stated the Vice President of Playcore lives in East Ridge and wants to partner with us on this project. Mr. Hyatt stated that Playcore will do a rendering of the plans hopefully for the next meeting. This will remain on the agenda for the next meeting.

Flea Market Zoning – ordinance amendment – Mr. North stated council needs an executive session to discuss this issue. Mr. North stated the question is whether to settle the lawsuit and then amend the ordinance, or amend the lawsuit and hope that settles the lawsuit.

Discussion of School System - Councilmember Sewell asked that this be placed on the agenda and he is not here to discuss it.

Review Sign Ordinance – Mayor Lambert stated we need to make the sign ordinance more business friendly. When it was adopted, it was in hopes of cleaning up Ringgold Road and making it neater. The effects though have been hard on small businesses. He would like to see what other cities do concerning their sign ordinances. Mr. Hyatt stated he would contact MTAS before the next meeting to get sign ordinances from other cities.

Other:

Councilmember Manning had nothing at this time.

Vice Mayor Bethune had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Gravitt had nothing at this time.

Director Martin stated that former police officer Charlie Snyder was taken to the hospital with chest pains. He asked everyone's prayers for him.

Councilmember Manning stated that Bobby Cannon is in intensive care and asked everyone's prayers for him.

The meeting was adjourned.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE**

May 8, 2014 - 6:30 p.m.

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on May 8, 2014, 6:30 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Councilmember Manning gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mayor Lambert stated it was Councilmember Manning's birthday today.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Gravitt, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes April 24, 2014 Agenda Work Session
- B. Approval of Minutes April 24, 2014 Council Meeting

Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve the consent agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens:

Frances Pope, 1913 Close Road, discussed Ordinance 968 to amend tobacco use on city property.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Manning – nothing at this time.

Vice Mayor Bethune clarified a comment made by former Mayor Shaver in the last meeting. Mayor Shaver was Mayor in 1961 and was married in 1938. He and his wife have been married 76 years. The former mayor is 96 years old.

Vice Mayor Bethune thanked Brad Grant for furnishing food for the fishing rodeo. TWRA and Chattanooga Bass Club also helped sponsor the event.

Mayor Lambert stated he appreciates everyone that has served and recognized former Mayor Shaver and former Mayor Don Huskey.

Councilmember Sewell thanked everyone that turned out to vote in the recent election. He stated more people need to exercise this right.

Councilmember Gravitt asked everyone to keep the Hal Torrack in their prayers. Mr. Torrack was a veteran of the Korean War and recently passed away.

Mayor Lambert thanked everyone that turned out to vote in the election and stated it is a treasured right to do so. Mayor Lambert stated he also attended senior day at East Ridge High School. He also mentioned that East Ridge High School graduation is coming up.

Communication from City Manager/Staff:

City Manager Hyatt stated he met with someone who works in Atlanta in the economic development field to discuss this matter for East Ridge. He suggested possibly having an economic development workshop.

Mr. Hyatt stated that City Hall is having thermostat issues and we can no longer get parts for them. Repairs could range from \$15,000 - \$20,000 and will have to be bid out.

Staff Reports

- Parks and Recreation - Director Martin
 - Community Garden
 - Scenic City Soccer Cup - Hosted more than 900 families and 157 teams
 - Plan goal is to create better quality of life through
 - Better youth programs for existing sport and add lacrosse and wrestling
 - Provide nice uniforms and excellent fields
 - Add quality adult senior programs
 - Last figures showed revenue of more than 50% to offset our budget
 - Schedule if close to full. Booked more events at arena and community center
 - Nighttime road race in August, more than 1,500 women will run into arena.
 - Booked AAU top 100 youth wrestling tournament – 300 – 400 participants
 - Fill hotels restaurants, more economic impact
 - City gets percentage of concessions and photography.
 - Fields that have grass infields added are almost ready to use.
 - Two lights added at bridge on walking track.
 - Police provide protection for tournaments and other events.
 - May 24 there will be a Memorial day celebration at monument by playground
 - Successful fishing derby.
 - Part of digital sign is up. Message board and lights will be installed.
- City Services – Amanda Miller
 - Building Maintenance – remodeled reception area at City Hall, spread mulch, fixed front doors at City Hall, repairs at Fire and Police, spread mulch at playground, fixed backflow issues.
 - Traffic Control – Repaired and installed signs, did street cut inspections, hung banners. Greenslake Road and Laredo Avenue projects completed. Mr. Gravitt asked about Exit 1 signage. The timer at Camp Jordan signal has been changed for 60 seconds to 65 seconds. Signals are still under study with Chattanooga, and they will fix "kinks". The no turn on red is under TDOT jurisdiction. This was changed for safety reasons because of many rear end collisions.
 - Sanitation
 - Recycling – 42.28 tons, savings of over 1,300 from the landfill dumping
 - Garbage 126 loads
 - Brush 141 loads
 - Dumpster rental – 1 long term rental, \$501 profit.

- Mulching – \$11,720 yearly check from Middle Valley
- Fuel - 120 gallons, 2,300 gallons of diesel
- Street
 - Mowing
 - Cost of exit 1 mowing is \$3,000 - \$4,000. The state pay for 10 cuts a year at \$1,500 per cut.
 - Filled pool
 - Installed pipe.
- Grants
 - Reapplied for garden grant
 - TIP – McBrien Road repaving, Received notice to proceed with engineer.
 - CDBG – Grant is finished. Purchased 6 houses on Welworth, Wentworth and Harvard. No findings in the audit.
 - ADA Retrofit – design phase
 - River rescue – Waiting on approval
 - LPRF – Monroe Street – we will be notified in the fall.
 - HVAC units – Camp Jordan Arena waiting on notification
 - Natural grant building better communities. Fully funded \$50,000 – 150,000. We could use our people and equipment plus have Community partners. Due at end of May. Will have resolution at next meeting.
- Vietnam Memorial
 - Around \$4,500 – researching names
 - Need parameters from council
- Fleet fuel card system
 - System is now in use
 - Can monitor better
- Fire – Chief Williams
 - Total calls 290
 - \$102,000 property loss
 - \$115,000 property saved
 - 4 house fires with dog and rabbit rescue
 - 1 fire injury
 - No fatalities
 - 29 buildings inspected
 - 2 Fire education classes
 - 285 hydrants tested
 - Training 300 hours
 - 100 volunteer hours
 - 3:45 second average response time
 - Codes
 - 171 inspections
 - Violation letters – 95
 - No citations or liens
 - 24 buildings inspected
 - Street cuts – 18
 - Permits issued – 65
 - Value of permit – 18,829
 - Possible grant from Homeland Security – 18,000 for fire and police split equally

- Finance
 - Reviewing financial procedures – will come back with new polices, purchasing inventory control, etc.
 - Library – circulation up for April, new cards issued down
 - Project 18% decrease in indebtedness.

Mayor Lambert stated we have approximately 2,300 recycling cans issued.

The Mayor mentioned a news report about Hickory Pit Barbeque. He stated this business was listed on Trip Advisor as one of top 10 barbeque places nation-wide.

Vice Mayor Bethune stated that Ms. Taggart has been on the school patrol for over 40 years and thinks the City need to recognize her in some way.

Mayor added Ordinance 970, regarding a fee scale for bulk item drop off, from the agenda session as Item H on tonight's agenda.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 965 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 481), BY MODIFYING THE DEFINITION OF "TOWNHOUSE" UNDER ARTICLE II, SECTION 218, AND ADDING ARTICLE V, SECTION 303.10 (2nd and final reading) - City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Ordinance No. 965 on second and final reading. There was no discussion. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 966 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, RESCINDING THE ANNUAL PERMIT FEE ASSESSED TO ALL PRIVATE WASTE DISPOSAL COMPANIES OPERATING IN THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE (2nd and final reading) - City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to approve Ordinance No. 966, on second and final reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

New Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 967 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF AN UNMANNED TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITY (CELLULAR TOWER) ON A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED AT 1405A MACK SMITH ROAD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDINANCE 481, ARTICLE VII, REGULATIONS FOR USES PERMITTED ON REVIEW, SECTION 114 (1st reading) - City Attorney North read on caption. David Chisholm with Verizon was present to answer any questions. Councilmember Gravitt asked if this was going to be a tree-like pole or a monopole. Mr. Chisholm stated it is a monopole and will be barely visible from the interstate. It is in the back parking lot of East Ridge Retirement Center. The initial lease is for 10 years with an option to renew. Chief Building Official Dempsey recommends approval. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gravitt, to approve Ordinance No. 967 on first reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 968 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AMENDING TITLE 11 MUNICIPAL OFFENSES CHAPTER 6 MISCELLANEOUS, BY AMENDING SECTION 11-606 TITLED TOBACCO USE ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY AND IN MUNICIPAL VEHICLES PROHIBITED TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES (1st reading) - City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to table Ordinance No. 968. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 969 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 956 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT...” BY CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND BY DESIGNATING FUND BALANCE FOR THE DEBT SERVICE FUND AND CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES OF THE DEBT SERVICE FUND AND REVENUE FOR THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND (1st reading) - City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Ordinance No. 969 on first reading. Mr. Jablonski stated this would keep us in compliance with state law. Line items that are changed are grants, indoor soccer, and insurance costs. This will not affect the bottom line. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2382 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE APPROVING BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF ONE DOUBLE-SIDED MASONRY SIGN WITH DIGITAL DISPLAY - City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell asked where this sign would be installed. Director Martin stated it is going in front of City Hall. Mr. Martin stated we received two bids as follows:

- Bill Ortwein Signs, Inc.
\$19,300 if ordered and deposit paid by 4/29/14
\$21,210 if ordered and deposit paid after 4/29/14
- Southern Advertising and Sign Service, LLC
\$26,005

Staff recommends the bid of Bill Ortwein Signs, Inc. for \$21, 210. Mr. Sewell stated he would rather see the sign on Ringgold Road since there is not as much traffic on Tombras Avenue. Mr. Hyatt stated the City could approach businesses on the corner of Tombras and Ringgold Road or install it at the police and fire station. Chief Williams feels that it could be a safety issue if you have a flashing sign in front of the fire and police station. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gravitt, to approve Resolution 2382 and install the sign in front of City Hall. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Bethune – yes; Councilmember Gravitt – yes; Councilmember Manning – yes; Councilmember Sewell – no; Mayor Lambert – yes. Motion approved. Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning,

to take the funds to pay for the sign out of the Bond Anticipation Note. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Bethune – yes; Councilmember Gravitt – yes; Councilmember Manning – yes; Councilmember Sewell – no; Mayor Lambert – yes. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2383 – APPROVAL OF SOCCER AGREEMENT - City Attorney North read on caption. Discussion included Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Gravitt, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North, Director Martin, Director Qualls, Director of Coaching for ERFC Matt Yelton, and City Recorder Middleton

Lambert: Item E, Resolution 2383, approval of the soccer agreement. I'm sorry for the long delay in getting here.

Martin: I think Matt's going to run for city council somewhere, he's now educated.

Sewell: I make a motion to approve; we've already discussed it last time.

Bethune: (At same time as Sewell made motion) I'll start it off.

Bethune: We can rediscuss.

Sewell: We can discuss it after a second.

Gravitt: I'll second

Lambert: We have a motion and a second; we can enter a period of discussion.

Bethune: My question would be and I hate to do this again.

Martin: That's fine.

Bethune: We had a tournament, and you may want to come up Matt, because there may be some answers you can give also. We had a tournament this weekend and we had 160 teams. I guess it was.

Martin: 157

Bethune: That's close. 475 for 8 and over and 450 for, in age groups, correct.

Yelton: Is that the entry fee?

Bethune: Yes entry fee.

Yelton: That's correct.

Bethune: With my math and it may not be right, that's close to \$80,000 or \$70,000.

Yelton: Yes, I haven't looked at the bottom line yet, but yes.

Bethune: Then you add gate fees, is that correct.

Yelton: That's correct.

Bethune: And what I'm getting to I guess is, this is one tournament that we made, or the league has made over \$80,000.

Yelton: We didn't make over \$80,000.

Bethune: I understand that.

Yelton: That's the revenue.

Bethune: I understand that. That's gross. And then you got official fees.

Yelton: We have officials; we have to pay for referee's food, tournament services. There's a lot of expenses that go into this.

Martin: Don't forget awards.

Bethune: Right. We have trophies and awards or whatever. Did the City get all of the concessions?

Martin: Yes, well our percentage.

Bethune: Do we know how much that was.

Martin: Not as of yet. That will be about a week before that comes in.

Bethune: We got our 32%.

Martin: Yes. And I talked to Diane earlier, she's also the treasurer. I've asked her a question about this and she might be able to help you out about this.

Bethune: I've asked you 2 or 3 times today, how much City of East Ridge made off this.

Martin: That's what Diane is going to answer.

Diane: We don't know yet. All the expenses have not been paid out for the tournament yet. So we don't know.

Martin: This is commonplace with tournaments, that you don't know right after you finish.

Bethune: Because of the payouts, you know what you took in. You know what you took in. You just don't know...

Yelton: That's correct sir.

Bethune: All in all, roughly it was a \$90,000 weekend. Gross.

Yelton: In terms of the revenue.

Bethune: Why can't our city do something like that? And we're talking about growing \$34,000 by turning 5 fields over. Why can't we have 1 or 2 tournaments a year and make a whole lot more than the \$34,000 we're talking about. Answer that for me.

Yelton: In order to do a tournament, you have to have a sponsoring organization from USU soccer's standpoint in order to host an official tournament that teams can travel to. You have to have a sponsoring organization.

Bethune: Can I ask you a question. Is the futbol club not a sponsoring organization?

Yelton: Yes it is right now. The second part of that is we have attempted to host tournaments in the City of East Ridge with the East Ridge Futbol club. We hosted one in August and we had almost 80 teams here and we hosted one in March and we had almost 60 teams here. But again that's our limited resources because most of our people working there are on a part time or volunteer basis. When we collaboratively work together, contacting other soccer organizations, we devote more time to the tournament growth side of things. That's why this tournament was larger than the two tournaments we hosted earlier in the year.

Bethune: How many facilities were involved? Was there four.

Yelton: There were three facilities. Readout and North River were also used for the Scenic City Cup.

Bethune: So then we got a third?

Martin: No we got 30% is what it amounts to.

Bethune: That's almost a third.

Martin: We get a bigger portion than the others

Yelton: East Ridge Futbol club gets one of the largest portions because they are a club and a facility provider in the Scenic City Cup.

Martin: And we have more fields

Bethune: So we use our fields we're using our crew to put everything together. Correct?

Martin: Our crew takes care of the fields as they always do for every tournament. What the Scenic City Cup is councilman is where we decided 2 ½ years ago under the leadership of Tim Morgan with the Sports and Events committee, who's out there trying to pay money to get people in. He gave us \$10,000 the first year to help get this started. He wants to put people in beds in hotels and motels throughout Hamilton County. That's his goal. He did something like this in Charlotte. We all got together and at first Matt will tell you we didn't like each other. It's right after we did away with ERSA. I didn't get spoken to for about the first two months. But we got through all this; we learned to all get along together. We learned everybody worked together

for the betterment of soccer throughout the Chattanooga area. Because we felt like this is what we needed to do. And through partnering together like this..... And to answer your question, no Stump Martin himself could not pull this off.

Manning: Why not?

Martin: Because I don't have the resources. We had all these people volunteering their time. We had all these people volunteer to take care of the hospitality, people to help run the fields, people to help put stuff on the computer, I can go on and on. Did I leave anything out?

Yelton: It's about a 10- person committee that's built the Scenic City Cup. We don't have that type of manpower on our own with the East Ridge club.

Martin: And you've got a whole lot more people volunteering at the other places to do that.

Gravitt: So that's 70,000. Is that right? Is it 70,000?

Bethune: \$67,500

Yelton: The revenue, I don't deal with that side of it.

Gravitt: Let's just use the figure 70 grand. OK. Who knows if that number is correct or not. So the City of East Ridge got 33% of that. Of the 70,000.

Martin: Plus we charge them to use our fields, plus we get a percentage of the concessions.

Gravitt: So that's 20,000 we got, right? That's before expenses?

Yelton: No that's after expenses. Once the revenue comes in and the expenses are paid that's when the distribution is made.

Martin: We get a percentage of that.

Lambert: So if it's 70,000 revenue and your expenses are 50,000

Yelton: We're estimating somewhere between 35,000 and 40,000 profit.

Gravitt: That what I'm getting at.

Lambert: You're going to have a 30,000 pie to carve up. And the city would get a third of that. You're looking at 9,000.

Bethune: But that's just on this tournament, because once they take over you only get your 34,000.

Martin: No we still receive this. That doesn't change.

Bethune: For any tournament that comes in.

Martin: No we are talking about Scenic City Cup. The Scenic City Cup we still receive our portion of that. Nothing changes on that. If it gets to 250 teams, we still, East Ridge Futbol Club still gets their 30% out of that.

Gravitt: Is that correct Mike. What Stump just said?

Yelton: The East Ridge Futbol Club gets 30% of the profit of the Scenic City Cup.

Martin: After this.

Gravitt: Hold on a minute. After this agreement, is what Stump just said correct?

Bethune: No it can't be.

Yelton: For Scenic City Cup, ERFC will get 30% of the profit from Scenic City Cup. The other three tournaments we operate we will pay the city for usage of the fields

Bethune: is that in the contract.

Yelton: It is in the contract. Well I don't know if the 30% part is in the contract but....

Martin: That is agreed on with all of us and always has been. It's something totally different than this.

Bethune: We've got six coaches we paying, correct?

Martin: We don't pay anybody.

Yelton: the city of East Ridge pays nobody; the East Ridge Futbol Club pays them.

Bethune: we're not paying the coaches now?

Martin: No, East Ridge Futbol club which is a 501c3, that money Mr. Bethune comes from kids paying 600 – 800 apiece to play. They take that money and buy uniforms, pay for their travel, there's 400 and something to get in the tournament. They pay that.

Bethune: I believe you told me we pay 6 or 7 coaches \$500 a month.

Hyatt: We don't pay them. I sign checks but it's out of the Futbol club.

Qualls: Futbol club, no that's not us.

Yelton: That's a 501C3.

Martin: That's not us. That's not our money. We didn't start that money. That's their money.

Gravitt: OK, I'm sitting here, it says tournament. (Reading from contract)

CFCA shall have the right to host soccer tournaments at the Complex. In order for CFCA to host major soccer tournaments at the Complex, which both parties acknowledge significant benefit from their occurrence, City agrees to allow CFCA to lease the remaining four soccer fields 6, 7, 8 and 9 as defined in Exhibit 1 at the Complex as available ("Overflow Fields") at a rental amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) a day. (quit reading) Etc. etc.

And over on the next paragraph, on the next page, paragraph c. (reading from contract) City grants CFCA the right to lease the Overflow Fields for two (2) existing tournaments, Shamrock Cup and Fall Classic, each year at the rental stated herein (quit reading) For \$500. It doesn't say anything about 33%

Martin: The Chattanooga Futbol club. It remains East Ridge Futbol club. Chattanooga Futbol club will get a percentage but it's the smallest percentage in the pie, because Chattanooga Futbol club doesn't have any kind of fields. So we will continue to get that money each and every year, to go into our Chattanooga Futbol club. It will be used for our recreation program to build our recreation and to purchase things we need in the park for soccer.

Gravitt: OK Mike, and I apologize for calling you Mike. Mike, Matt, what is your last name.

Yelton: it's Yelton.

Gravitt: Yelton, I apologize, sorry about that. So it's your understanding that this field usage agreement that ya'll have asked the city to enter into with your guys will have no bearing in that the City of East Ridge will still receive that 33% of the Scenic City cup. Are there any other tournaments that the City will receive 33% of?

Martin: Not unless we start our own.

Gravitt: Only the Scenic City cup

North: This agreement ought to say that, so there's no misunderstanding

Bethune: That's absolutely right.

Gravitt: Well Stump said they had another agreement

Martin: The Scenic City cup, we're going to charge for the Scenic City Cup.

Sewell: It's a whole different thing.

Martin: It's a whole different thing. Even with us getting our percentage, we will still charge for the fields for the Scenic City Cup.

North: But there's no reason not to put one sentence in to reference...

Martin: No I don't have a problem with that.

Yelton: I don't think anybody would have a problem stating that the Scenic City Cup portion would still be directed to East Ridge Futbol club in the future..... That's not a problem at all.

North: Or reference the other agreement.

Gravitt: Mr. Yelton, do you have the authority by the soccer group to make that change?

Yelton: Yes I do

Martin: Mr. Skelton could not be here tonight. We called him and I talked to Mr. North and he said we needed to get both of them here tonight. He's in Miami, Fl tonight

Yelton: Yes on business.

Manning: So what you're saying is that the Scenic City club. That's over with. Any team that comes in, ya'll can lease the fields to anybody ya'll want to.

Yelton: No, we cannot sublease to anybody.

Martin: I checked with Mr. North on that this morning. It was a concern. Mr. North says no they cannot do that.

Manning: Let our attorney read it.

North: Section 20 assignment. (Reading from contract) CFCA shall not assign any of its rights under this Agreement without the express prior consent of City.

Gravitt: I'd like to withdraw my second.

Sewell: I withdraw my motion.

Lambert: OK

Gravitt: I'd like to make a motion to accept the agreement per the stated changes adding the language that the City of East Ridge will retain the 33% of the Shamrock....

Martin: Scenic City Cup tournament

Gravitt: Scenic city Cup. There's too many cups. Too many futbols

Sewell: Second

Manning: I think the last time we discussed this you said none of our men in East Ridge would not have to put out no money and we wouldn't use any of our men for working.

Bethune: No that's not true.

Martin: We're still going to continue to take care of the fields

Manning: I didn't say this gentleman, I'm talking about Stump.

Martin: We're still going to continue to take care of the fields; that doesn't change now or in the future. Now here's what I said. The fields, they will paint their own fields. We will mow them and they will give us 15,000 to pay for the price of top dressing them. And then they will paint and move their own goals around and do that just like they do now. They already do that. The only thing we will do will be mow and take care of the fields to try to keep the fields nice as we already do, which we do it now for the

Bethune: Something else, in the last tournament, I seen them carrying goals off of our...

Martin: Yes

Bethune: Are they authorized to do that. Can they do that?

Yelton: They brought the goals back because we borrowed two sets of goals from Readout because what we had were not large enough. We didn't have enough sets. We are planning on buying an additional set of goals from ERFC funds that will remain the property of the city, but again we are doing things to enhance the park with the money that's coming in.

Manning: I do know when we bought the last goals, when the other folks left, when we bought the goals, we sat up here and agreed to do it, and Larry probably remembers it too; we agreed that the goals would never leave the park.

Lambert: But these were borrowed.

Yelton: They were borrowed.

Manning: Not let nobody borrow them

Lambert: No we borrowed them.

Martin: We borrowed two sets of goals. Did we take any over to Readout.

Yelton: One set of small goals.

Martin: We got two large sets from them and they got one small set from us. And then we brought them back.

Yelton: It was in order for us to operate the tournament.

Martin: We did the same thing last year. They only difference is and Diane will tell you, last year when we did it, it had to come out of our expenses because we had to get one of the wreckers here in town to use their rollbacks to carry them that way. We could have bought two sets of goals, but then we would have been spending 2,000 - 3,000 a set to do that.

Gravitt: Mr. Martin are you keeping up with our equipment?

Martin: Yes sir.

Gravitt: Do you know where it is?

Martin: Yes sir, and Mr. Thompson and Mr. Owens know where it is.

Gravitt: OK thank you.

Manning: I know last time we had, and I'm not accusing nobody of nothing, but I know we had a lot of stuff disappear before, and I'm not saying when or what year, and I'm not accusing nobody of nothing.

Bethune: Anything that is taken out of the city should go through this man right here.

Manning: Should have went through this man right here.

Bethune: If he says it's OK then it's OK.

Manning: Mr. Hyatt, did you know they took them out?

Hyatt: Not until after the fact.

Martin: That's my fault then.

Manning: And I say from now on anything that goes out better go out through him.

Martin: There's no problem with that.

Lambert: I'm in favor, quite frankly of allowing Mr. Martin to do his job.

Bethune: I am also, if he does it properly and goes through the proper channels

Lambert: I have no problem with chain of command or anything like that. I just think we are attempting to micro-manage what he is doing and that's not our job. If this man wants to micro-manage, he can.

Bethune: That's exactly what

Lambert: This council is attempting to micro-manage.

Bethune: We got the right to sit here and ask

Lambert: You do, you absolutely do.

Bethune: Did he ask permission to take them out.

Martin: No I did not, and I didn't last year either.

Bethune: Do you feel you should have known he was taking equipment out of the city?

Hyatt: Oh absolutely.

Martin: Again, I have no problem with that.

Manning: And that's what I was asking him Mayor, did he know about it.

Gravitt: We're getting off track.

Lambert: Roll call please.

North: Can I make one commentary. As I understand I wasn't here last Thursday, I understood an agreement in concept perhaps was reached. I haven't had the opportunity to look over the agreement, but I've had at least 3 councilmembers and others mention to me their concern about the provision where it's a one year lease with an automatic right of renewal at the election of CFCA. The city doesn't have the right to walk away after the first year.

Bethune: I'm the one that asked the question and he stood and thought it over for a second and said no.

Manning: That we had no rights.

North: That's true. If they are current on their payments and they renew the contract and they give us the requisite notice, we don't have the right to say no we don't want to go another year.

Gravitt: As long as they are current on their payments

Sewell: If they are doing what they're supposed to do we don't have a problem with it. If they're not doing what they are supposed to do they don't get renewed.

North: Fine, but it's not an equal right. They have greater rights than we do.

Manning: Their rights is over our rights

Gravitt: As long as they are doing what they are supposed to do, as long as they are paying, OK. If they're not, guess what, we can terminate the agreement.

Manning: Do you understand that?

Yelton: I do. And we fully anticipate that we are going to do everything that we need to do that the city is going to want to have us as a tenant at Camp Jordan Park.

Lambert: Any comments or questions. Roll call please:

Middleton: Vice Mayor Bethune

Bethune: No

Middleton: Councilmember Gravitt

Gravitt: Yes

Middleton: Councilmember Manning

Manning: No

Middleton: Councilmember Sewell

Sewell: Yes

Middleton: Mayor Lambert

Lambert: Yes

North: Let me get with Mr. Skelton and finalize this so we can reduce this to a resolution.

Yelton: I'll have him contact you.

North: When will he be back in town?

Yelton: I'm not sure. But I'll call him on my way out.

North: thank you.

Discussion of Employee Bonus vs. Raise – Councilmember Sewell stated this is an issue that should be brought up in budget discussions. City Treasurer Jablonski discussed two alternatives – one is for all full-time employees to receive a one-time bonus of \$600 and part-time employees to receive a one-time bonus of \$300. This would be a \$93,000 increase in the budget. Raises of anywhere from 2% to 5% would range from \$50,000 to \$250,000. Councilmember Sewell stated that although employees appreciate bonuses, they would rather have a raise that helps them on their retirement. Vice Mayor Bethune believes that council should do a raise rather than a bonus. This item will be discussed in budget workshops.

Discussion of City Manager Evaluation and Salary – Councilmember Gravitt asked that this be put on the agenda. He stated that when the City Manager was first hired, Council discussed raising his salary after he had been here for a few months. At the time, Mr. Hyatt agreed to reduction in salary compared to what the previous city manager made. Mr. Gravitt stated that Mr. Hyatt has done an outstanding job, and we need to look at his salary. Mr. Gravitt stated that Mr. Hyatt currently makes \$90,000, whereas the previous City Manager was hired in at \$116,000 and then raised to \$125,000. Councilmember Sewell stated this issue should wait to be discussed in the new budget. Mayor Lambert believes a raise may be in order but would also rather wait until the new budget. Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to increase Mr. Hyatt's salary to \$100,000. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Bethune – yes; Councilmember Gravitt – yes; Councilmember Manning – yes; Councilmember Sewell – no (believes this should come at budget time ;) Mayor Lambert – yes (also believes this should be discussed at budget time.) Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 970 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, ESTABLISHING A FEE SCALE FOR INDIVIDUALS WISHING TO TAKE BULK TRASH ITEMS TO THE SANITATION DUMPSTER

STATION IN THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE (1st reading) - City Attorney North read on caption. Amanda Miller stated this sets fees to drop off bulk items at the dumpster station. Residents can drop off items twice a month at no charge, but non-residents will have to pay a fee that ranges from \$5.00 - \$20.00. Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Ordinance No. 970 on first reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

A called budget meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 15, 5:30 pm.

Councilmember Manning recognized his daughter and grandson in the audience.

The meeting was adjourned.

**CALLED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE**

May 15, 2014 – 5:00 pm

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on May 15, 2014, 5:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall for the purpose of:

- Consideration of accepting a community garden grant
- Discussion of FY 2015 Budget

Mayor Lambert called the meeting and all councilmembers were given notice of the call. Vice Mayor Bethune called the meeting to order. Councilmember Manning gave the invocation and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Present were: Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Gravitt, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, and Deputy City Recorder Qualls. Mayor Lambert was not present for roll call but came in later in the meeting. City Recorder Middleton and City Attorney North were not present.

Vice Mayor Bethune stated that Mayor Lambert will be here later in the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2384 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE APPROVING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2014 TRPA COMMUNITY GARDEN GRANT – City Manager Hyatt read on caption. Amanda Miller stated this is a \$2,000 grant with no match from the city. Funds have to be spent by June 15, 2014. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by councilmember Sewell, to approve Resolution No. 2384. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of the FY 2015 Budget

City Manager Hyatt stated this meeting was set to go over the budget and add or delete items as necessary. At this time, the City Manager turned over the meeting to City Treasurer Jablonski. He stated that there are some changes due to budget amendments. Changes are as follows:

- General Fund – Expenditures in Administration – Increased the salary, payroll taxes and retirement for the City Manager due to his salary increase approved in the last meeting.
- Special Projects – Vietnam Memorial – He has included an amount of \$5,000 spent in this fiscal year.
- Contracts with Other Governments (911) – There was an increase from Hamilton County for this service. It is paid 70% from police and 30% from fire. This increase is due to increases in insurance costs for the City of Chattanooga and Hamilton County.
- Fire - Salary increase due to three firefighters who become engineers when they get their certifications.
- Community Garden Grant – These funds have not yet been spent but will be before year end.

- Economic Development – a budget has been created. Councilmember Sewell suggested checking with the City of Bristol to see what they budget.
- Library Services – A part time position has been added and will extend into the new fiscal year. This will not increase any health care benefits.
- Grant Fund – Several grants have been added such as a fire prevention and safety grant, and the community garden grant. There is also a Homeland Security fire and police grant that will be used for radios.

Mr. Jablonski entertained questions from Council.

Councilmember Manning asked about raises. Mr. Jablonski stated that an addendum was included for debt obligations, raises/bonuses, and information on the leave buyback program. Mr. Hyatt stated that he discontinued the practice of employees buying back leave for hardship purposes because there was no approved policy for this practice. Mr. Hyatt stated that the current leave buyback is still in place for current employees, but does not include new hires. This year \$237,577 has been paid out on the approved buyback program with an additional \$10,000 anticipated to be paid by fiscal year end.

Mr. Jablonski provided information on the medical employee health reimbursement plan (MERP). Council had requested this information

Councilmember Gravitt would like to implement a program to pay down smaller debts and then consolidate the remaining debts. He would then like to apply for a better bond rating in anticipation of the possible Camp Jordan development. Mr. Hyatt agrees that this would be the best thing to do. Mr. Jablonski recommended paying off the debt fund 211 with a remaining approximate amount of \$187,000. Mr. Gravitt also suggesting paying off the fire truck in the amount of \$228,000.

Councilmember Sewell also asked about employee raises and stated that employees need raises to help on their retirement. Vice Mayor Bethune stated that employees deserve a raise. He gave employees credit for the City having a \$700,000 + surplus this fiscal year.

Mr. Jablonski discussed three alternatives:

1. A bonus of \$600 for full time and \$300 for part-time employees at a cost of \$93,333.
2. An employee raise from 1% - 5% which 1% being \$48,000 2% 96,000, 3% 144,000 4% 192,000 and 5% 241,000. These numbers include additional taxes.
3. Raising each employee \$.50 which would be a cost of \$183,000.

Councilmember Manning suggested giving all employees a 5% raise. Councilmember Sewell stated that \$.50 per hour would be fair for everyone. Councilmember Manning suggested raises of \$1.50 per hour. Councilmember Sewell recommended putting this item on hold until the Mayor returns later in the meeting.

Councilmember Gravitt discussed the Judge's salary. City Manager Hyatt stated that the judge's salary cannot be raised during the judge's current term. We currently pay our judge \$18,000, but both Collegedale and Red Bank pay more.

At this time, Council discussed various departments and line items.

Community Center – Part Time Leisure Service Coordinator – Councilmember Gravitt asked what this position is for. City Manager Hyatt stated this person works with seniors and on senior programs. Director Martin stated this position only deals with seniors. Mr. Martin stated he or Shawwna Skiles could do more with the seniors and this position could be taken out of the budget.

Councilmember Gravitt stated that two positions are coming out of the budget for the two recent retirees, and asked if there were any positions that were added or deleted that are not listed. Mr. Hyatt stated they have looked at other positions and other opportunities that they will bring back later, possibly consolidating some positions.

Licenses/Permits – Vice Mayor Bethune asked if the fireworks stores have paid for their permits. Director Qualls stated those bills go out the first of June for the next fiscal year.

Intergovernmental contracts – Vice Mayor Sewell asked what we charge for the Ridgeside fire and police contracts. He asked if this is going up every year. Mr. Hyatt stated that in 2012 the amount went down. Director Qualls stated they were a little behind in their payments but caught up in 2013.

Baseball – Vice Mayor Bethune stated revenues are down \$20,000. Director Martin stated that last year the teams raised the money for their own all star uniforms and gave the city the money to purchase the uniforms. This year Mr. Martin has cut out buying all star uniforms.

Concessions – Director Martin stated that this report is through March and now is their busy time of the year. These amounts will go up for the 4th quarter.

Tournament fees – Vice Mayor Bethune stated these revenues are down \$3,000. Director Martin stated that some of our tournaments were held at the same time as other tournaments in the area. This would cause a drop in revenues. He also stated we have three City tournaments that we get all the gate fees for.

Vice Mayor Bethune stated that overall Parks and Rec revenues are down by over \$40,000. Mr. Martin does not understand that because we have rented out the arena more and had more tournaments this year. He also stated that the expense for Monroe Park is \$80,000 which comes out of parks and rec budget. Mr. Martin stated that we will also get workers from the Tennessee Career Center for six weeks at no cost to the city

Municipal Court fines and cost. – Councilmember Gravitt stated that last year we budgeted \$250,000 in revenue, which is down \$100,000. He asked why they would budget that high on this line item. He would like for the City Manager to address this with the court. Mr. Bethune asked if we were still turning over information to the collection agency. Director Qualls stated that since the first time the information was turned over to the collection agency, nothing else has been turned over for collection. She stated the Court is responsible to turn over the collections information to Solutia. This has not been done in over a year. Mr. Hyatt stated he will look

further into this matter. Councilmember Sewell stated that we may possibly need an additional person to handle the warrants.

Police – Chief Reed stated that the Police Dept. has lost seven employees in the past year. He has advertised and hired two employees. He stated that they are testing again and three out of ten passed the test. He stated they are also short on reserves. He stated they try to look at certified officers first but at this point he stated it may be better to hire non-certified personnel and send them to the Police Academy. The Chief also stated the department is short on reserves.

Administration – Mr. Jablonski stated this reflected the increase in the City Manager's salary. Mr. Hyatt stated that Amanda Miller's position has been removed from City Services and added to Administration.

Mr. Sewell asked about the line item for computers and software. Mr. Hyatt stated we have upgraded some computers this year because the XP computers are no longer supported by Microsoft.

Court – Mr. Hyatt stated there is an increase in salaries, because of the elected court clerk, plus court has another employee that was added mid-year.

Audit – Ms. Qualls stated that extra was added for actuarial costs.

City Services – The salary for the administration assistant was moved to Administration.

Building Maintenance – Mr. Hyatt stated the building maintenance was taken out of each department and put into one department. The budget was increased this year by \$52,000.

Special Projects – Councilmember Gravitt stated that Crosspath Church was upset because World Changers had been taken out of the budget. He stated the funds from the City went through East Ridge Revitalization but that organization no longer exists. He stated that Libertyfest has increased by \$5,000. Mr. Gravitt would like to reduce Libertyfest back down to \$10,000 and give World Changers \$5,000. Mr. Hyatt stated we would work out a way to get these funds to World Changers.

At this time, Mayor Lambert came into the meeting.

At this time, council took a short break.

After the break, Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to give employees a \$.50 per hour raise. Mr. Bethune discussed giving police reserves and fire volunteers a \$300 bonus. Mr. Sewell withdrew his motion, and Mr. Manning withdrew his second. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to give full-time and part-time employees a \$.50 per hour raise and give police reserves and fire volunteers a \$300 one-time bonus. Mr. Hyatt asked when council wished to pay the bonus. This will be paid out on the first payroll in July. Christmas bonuses will be removed from the budget. Mr. Hyatt stated he would like to see future raises based on performance. Mr. Gravitt clarified

that city employees have received bonuses the last three years, but have not received raises in four years. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Police Administration – Vice Mayor Bethune asked that the Christmas bonus be taken out of this line item. Each department's bonus will have to be taken out.

911 – Mr. Hyatt stated this fee has been increased by Hamilton County.

Councilmember Manning commended the fire and police departments for the good job they do escorting funerals.

Fire – Mr. Hyatt stated there is a proposed increase in salaries due to promotions. He also stated there would be a 30% increase for 911 fees.

Fire - Codes/Building – Councilmember Gravitt stated he would like to see no overtime in Codes, but have employees use flex time. Mr. Hyatt stated that is an option. There was a discussion of having one employee work Saturdays and take off Sunday and Monday. Mr. Gravitt questions the line item for training of \$5,000 for Codes. Mr. Hyatt stated that Codes has to have a lot of training, plus Mr. Dempsey is taking engineering college courses. Mr. Gravitt asked if Mr. Dempsey was going to school during the day and if he is paid any overtime. Mr. Hyatt stated that a few employees were found to be exempt but according to FLSA they should be non-exempt and not get overtime. Mr. Dempsey is one of those employees. Mr. Hyatt stated that Mr. Dempsey is flexing his time to make up for classes he takes during the workday.

Councilmember Gravitt asked Mr. Hyatt if he thinks the Administrative Hearing Officer position is worth paying for. Mr. Sewell stated that one of the problems with Codes was that when cases went to court, the only fine that could be levied was \$50 so nothing was getting cleaned up. The hearing officer can levy up to \$500 a day. That is how we got rid of the burned out Thrippence apartments. He stated it is worth the money. Mr. Hyatt will check with the City Attorney, but stated it is worth the investment. Mayor Lambert stated that the Administrative Hearing Officer position is well worth the money.

Street Department – Mr. Jablonski stated that the Street Supervisor and Traffic Control supervisor will be paid out of the State Street Aid fund.

Mayor Lambert would like to go on record that Black Hawk Trail needs paving. It is in terrible condition.

Traffic Control – Mr. Sewell asked why there was no leave buyback in the budget. Amanda Miller stated that the current employees do not have enough time to get this.

Grants – This item has been moved to a special revenue account in 2015. These are not guaranteed funds, only anticipated.

Sanitation Fund – This item has been moved into a Special Revenue Fund

Animal Services – Mr. Gravitt asked how many employees are in this department. Mr. Hyatt stated 2 full-time and one part-time. Mr. Manning suggested that if Animal Control needs help, then Codes could make up some of their time in that department. There was a discussion of hiring an additional part-time person. Chief Reed would like for the shelter to be open six days a week. We have volunteers but they are limited on what they can do. Mr. Sewell stated that building maintenance was zero, but he stated the building needed plumbing and other repairs. This was moved to the Building Maintenance Department.

General Recreation – Mr. Bethune stated last year we budgeted \$35,000 and this year \$55,000. Mr. Martin stated that he added \$5,000 and then \$15,000 was added for soccer

Arena – Mr. Sewell stated there is a lot of overtime in this department. Director Martin stated that this includes overtime for weekend events. Mr. Sewell suggested hiring seasonal employees for mowing. Mr. Gravitt stated that year to date is only \$5,000 and you could not hire people for that amount. Mayor Lambert asked what is included in operating supplies and equipment. Mr. Martin stated, for example, we have only one sound system for the Arena and Community Center. We are getting quotes on a sound system for the Arena. This is also for trash bags, or any supplies that are needed.

Community Center – Mr. Bethune asked about the salary line item. Mr. Martin stated that the Leisure Services part time employee has been taken out. Mayor Lambert stated that the blinds in the large meeting room needed to be replaced. Mr. Martin stated that Byron Ray is getting prices on this.

Monroe Street Park – This is a new item for the 2015 budget. Mr. Bethune stated the grant would cover the updates to this property.

McBrien Complex – Mayor Lambert stated council has discussed in the past about what to do with this property. He stated it could be used for charter school. Mr. Hyatt stated we need to look for some type of grant to do something with the building, plus look at other options for the property.

Soccer – Mr. Bethune asked why we are not bidding out sports uniforms. Mr. Martin stated we buy these through U.S. communities, a nationwide buying group, that council previously approved to make purchases through. U. S. Communities has already priced these items nationwide and gives us the lowest prices.

At this time, Council decided to stop at this point of the budget discussion and move the remainder to the next regular council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

AGENDA WORK SESSION
May 22, 2014 – 5:00 pm

To Set the Agenda For The
June 12, 2014 Council Meeting

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on May 22, 2014, 5:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall to set the agenda for the June 12, 2014 Council Meeting and other items. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Gravitt, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton.

Old Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 2385 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING BIDS FOR THE CLOSURE OF THE UNDERGROUND FUEL TANKS AT THE CITY GARAGE (if tabled on 5/22/14) - Amanda Miller stated that one of the bids had been misplaced before the time of opening. To avoid any controversy, she is asking Council to table this resolution. This will be rebid and be placed on the next council meeting.

New Business Discussion:

RESOLUTION _____ – APPROVE YEARLY BIDS FOR STREET DEPARTMENT MATERIALS – City Manager Hyatt stated this is standard procedure for the yearly bids for these materials.

RESOLUTION _____ - APPROVE BIDS FOR HVAC AT CITY HALL – Mr. Hyatt stated we are having issues with some of the units and the thermostats in city hall. The thermostats are outdated and we can no longer get replacement parts. This item is currently out for bid.

Discussion of FY 2015 Budget – The budget will be discussed in tonight’s regular meeting and any items not discussed will continue on to the next council meeting.

Bill Breneman – Mr. Breneman spoke representing various businesses in East Ridge. He stated he and these other business people want references to hotels and restaurants outside of East Ridge taken off the East Ridge Parks and Recreation website. He also wants the link for the Chattanooga Convention and Visitor’s Bureau taken off the website, stating they compete against East Ridge for events. He also stated the city promotes Hamilton Place on the website and wants that removed. He stated we are “coat tailing” the City of Chattanooga. Mayor Lambert asked Mr. Breneman what he meant by “coat tailing” Chattanooga. Mr. Breneman stated that East Ridge does not have anything to offer, so we are advertising attractions in Chattanooga to draw people in to the City. He stated that East Ridge is using our tax dollars to promote other cities. Mayor Lambert stated that he is sure that other cities in the state promote cities that have regional attractions that would help bring people to their area. He also stated that we do not need to take out references to Hamilton Place Mall.

City Manager Hyatt stated that he received a fax on May 5th from Chattanooga Lodging and was not sure at first if it was from Mr. Breneman. Mr. Breneman stated that his hotel group is called Chattanooga Lodging.

City Treasurer Jablonski stated that Lakeland, TN, where he previously worked, is a bedroom community and they included regional attractions on their website.

Mayor Lambert stated that the website first mentions hotels in East Ridge and makes a secondary reference to the Hamilton Place area hotels. Councilmember Gravitt stated that if we remove the last sentence referencing Hamilton Place, then we may as well go ahead and remove the next two paragraphs promoting Rock City, Lake Winnie, the Tennessee Aquarium, Imax, etc. Mr. Breneman stated he would take these attractions off the website as well. Mr. Gravitt stated the whole purpose of the website is to attract events to Camp Jordan and this information on the website helps to inform people about area attractions. Amanda Miller stated that she wrote the information that is on the website and at one time there were links to the Tennessee Aquarium and other facilities.

There was a discussion about the hotel/motel taxes being down this year. Mr. Gravitt stated that when visitors get off the interstate and are faced with some of the facilities, they get back on and keep going. Mayor Lambert suggested we ask the Aquarium and other facilities to put a reciprocating link to Camp Jordan and East Ridge on their websites. He also suggested that the website be programmed so that the East Ridge hotels will be the first ones to pop up.

Mr. Breneman stated we do not need to advertise Chattanooga on the city and park websites; that we need to cut ties completely on our website. Mayor Lambert stated that is a terrible idea, but Mr. Breneman stated he wants an answer now. The Mayor stated we could tweak the wording. Mr. Hyatt suggested changing the wording to "within 10 minutes of the park, there are 3,500 hotel rooms".

Mr. Gravitt stated that the purpose of the website is not to necessarily put people in hotel rooms, but to gain attractions and events to Camp Jordan, and by doing that it will fill up the hotel rooms. Mr. Gravitt stated we have to get the people here by advertising attractions, and it would be "stupid" to take out any reference to Chattanooga.

Mayor Lambert stated that Mr. Breneman does not want us to mention Chattanooga at all, and that it would be "lunacy" to cut ties with the Chattanooga Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Vice Mayor Bethune stated that Mr. Breneman needs to get with the owners of the "trash" hotels to get them cleaned up and do what is right.

Mr. Hyatt stated there are a lot of things happening in East Ridge that they cannot talk about, but currently East Ridge does not have a lot to offer other than Camp Jordan. He stated that Camp Jordan is a regional draw and mentioning Chattanooga with its attractions and historical areas would help bring in visitors. That is part of marketing and public relations.

Ms. Miller stated there is a point's map on the website that gives the location of hotels, restaurants, etc, and businesses can put their logos on the website map.

Mr. Hyatt stated we will review all the options and get back with Mr. Breneman.

City Attorney North discussed the new state law regarding wine sales in supermarkets. He stated the City must submit a petition by August 21st of 10% of East Ridge residents that voted in last gubernatorial election. Mr. Gravitt stated he does not think East Ridge can qualify for supermarket sales because the law states a city must have package stores. Mr. North read from the law which states a city must have “liquor by the drink or package stores.” The Attorney will check on this and get back with Council.

Councilmember Gravitt stated he will be leaving after the agenda session, but will return hopefully by 7:15 pm. He also stated that Ordinance 968 should not have been on the agenda for tonight’s meeting and would like for it to be on the next meeting agenda. He also stated that he would like to discuss changes to the ordinance concerning peddlers and door-to-door sales people and possibly have an ordinance ready for the next meeting.

Mr. Gravitt stated there is a lot of speculation about the development at Camp Jordan. He stated he met with Mr. Healey, one of the developers, this afternoon and Mr. Healey requested that the Council try to keep talk and speculation down about what is coming into that development.

Other:

None of the Councilmembers had any further items to discuss at this time.

The meeting was adjourned.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE**

May 22, 2014 - 6:30 p.m.

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on May 22, 2014, 6:30 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Rev. Billy Dean gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton. Councilmember Gravitt was not present for roll call but came in later in the meeting.

Mayor Lambert stated that Mr. Gravitt had a function he had to attend but will be back later in the meeting.

The Mayor stated that Item B under Old Business is on the table and will not be considered tonight. It will come back at a later date before the Council.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes May 1, 2014 Called Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes May 8, 2014 Agenda Work Session
- C. Approval of Minutes May 8, 2014 Council Meeting
- D. Approval of April 2014 Financial Statement
- E. Declaration of Surplus Property

Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve the consent agenda. City Attorney North stated that the minutes from May 8, 2014 Council Meeting included a verbatim transcript of the soccer agreement discussion. Vice Mayor Bethune stated that one of the Councilmembers suggested that this be included in the minutes. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens:

Demitris Agrafiotis, 6407 Ringgold Road, stated he is the Executive Director of the Tennessee Smoke Free Association. He discussed the e-cigarette law and opposed them being classified as tobacco. He stated he has no problem with the city restricting their use in city buildings, but they should be legal in public areas and buildings. City Attorney North stated he has been drafting an ordinance for e-cigarettes that is separate from the no-smoking ordinance. There would be no fine for use of e-cigarettes in city buildings, but violators would be asked to leave.

Mimi Lowrey, 819 Mt. Belvoir Drive, discussed some of the hotels that visitors see when they get off the interstate at Exit 1. She stated we have had a lawsuit with one of the hotels and it seems to have fixed the problem. She suggested that more lawsuits might fix the problem with the other hotels. She also discussed some of the hotels still operating as extended stay hotels. The Mayor stated we have attempted to deal with these places in the past with tougher regulations and we did set a precedent with the hotel that was involved in the lawsuit. Chief Reed stated there have been more arrests in these areas and they are policing heavily.

Ms. Lowrey stated the community garden is moving along. She had purchased vegetable plants and seeds and most everything has been planted. She stated she needs more volunteers to help. She also needs cane poles for the tomatoes and donations are always welcome.

Elaine Taylor, 3902 S. Mission Oaks Drive, stated the City needs to purchase a new flag for the councilroom; the one in there is getting worn and faded. She also stated she would like to see the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in place on Memorial Day.

Councilmember Manning asked Director Martin to come forward to discuss the Memorial Day celebration. Mr. Martin stated we would have a rendering of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial and a wreath. He stated that representatives from the American Legion would be there and Don Hays with the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 203 would be speaking, as well as Congressman Chuck Fleischman. State Representative Vince Dean will be singing.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Manning invited everyone to the Memorial Day program at the Veteran's Memorial next to Pioneer Frontier at 1 pm on Monday.

Vice Mayor Bethune had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Sewell had nothing at this time.

Mayor Lambert reiterated what Councilmember Manning announced about the Memorial Day ceremony on Monday. The Mayor also congratulated all of the East Ridge graduates.

Communication from City Manager/Staff:

City Manager Hyatt stated he has tried hard to get the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial here in time for Memorial Day, but could not. It will possibly be here by July 4th. Mr. Hyatt encouraged everyone who would be traveling over the Memorial Day weekend to be safe, especially in construction zones.

City Treasurer Jablonski stated that according to the April Financial report revenues are at 82% of the budget, and expenditures continue to be down at 72% of the budget. Revenues exceed expenditures by \$1.1 million. Mayor Lambert stated that delinquent property tax collections are up by 150%.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 967 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION OF AN UNMANNED TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITY (CELL TOWER) ON A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED AT 1405A MACK SMITH ROAD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDINANCE 481, ARTICLE VII, REGULATIONS FOR USES PERMITTED ON REVIEW, SECTION 114 (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to approve ordinance No. 967 on second and final reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 968 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AMENDING TITLE 11 MUNICIPAL OFFENSES CHAPTER 6 MISCELLANEOUS, BY AMENDING SECTION 11-606, TITLED TOBACCO USE ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY AND IN MUNICIPAL VEHICLES PROHIBITED, TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES IN CITY BUILDINGS, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT (1st reading – tabled May 8, 2014) – Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning to table Ordinance No. 968. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 969 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 956 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT...” BY CHANGING THE REVENUES FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND BY CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND BY DESIGNATING FUND BALANCE FOR THE DEBT SERVICE FUND AND CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES OF THE DEBT SERVICE FUND AND CHANGING THE REVENUE FOR THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND. (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune (for discussion purposes), to approve Ordinance No. 969 on second and final reading. City Treasurer Jablonski stated this is a routine budget amendment, and gives the City legal authority to transfer money into certain funds in order to stay in compliance with state laws. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Ordinance - Amending City Code, Title 9, Chapter 2, Peddlers/Solicitors, Etc. - Peddlers Going Door to Door be Required to Wear Identification Lanyard and Have Magnetic ID on Vehicle – Councilmember Gravitt had asked that this be put on the agenda, so Council will wait to discuss this item until Mr. Gravitt returns to the meeting.

New Business

RESOLUTION NO. 2385 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING BIDS FOR THE CLOSURE OF THE UNDERGROUND FUEL TANKS AT THE CITY GARAGE - City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to table Resolution No. 2385 until June 12, 2014. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2386 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING FUNDRAISING BY FRIENDS OF THE PLAYGROUND TO UPDATE PIONEER FRONTIER AND TO BUILD A PLAYGROUND AT CAMP JORDAN - City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to table Resolution No. 2386, until the Friends of the Playground can have their first meeting. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

At this time, Councilmember Gravitt returned to the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2387 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING THE APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE NRPA 2014 BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES GRANT – City Attorney North read on caption. Amanda Miller stated this is a grant that Director Martin brought to her. It is through American Water Company, which uses natural areas, such as wetlands, creeks and ponds for play areas. The grant ranges from \$50,000 to \$150,000 with no match from the City. Ms. Miller is recommending the City apply for \$100,000. We can also use community partners. We have two partners already, Hamilton County Water Quality and the Tennessee Aquarium. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Resolution No. 2387. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Ordinance - Amending City Code, Title 9, Chapter 2, Peddlers/Solicitors, Etc. - Peddlers Going Door to Door be Required to Wear Identification Lanyard and Have Magnetic ID on Vehicle - Mr. Gravitt stated that his suggestions on identification for peddlers and door to door salespeople are a mechanism to help reduce crime. His residence is zoned commercial, but is constantly bothered by door-to-door salespeople, who have no ID or permit. Mr. Gravitt wants to make these people more identifiable, but stated his suggestions of increasing fees and having magnetic signs on vehicles may have been too strict and could have a negative impact on legitimate salespeople. Mr. Gravitt will change his recommendations to have the salespeople wear a permit on a plastic lanyard around their neck. Mayor Lambert suggested that council go through the entire ordinance and revise any language that could be outdated. He asked each councilmember to review the ordinance and bring back any change to the next meeting.

Discussion of FY 2015 Budget

Soccer Recreation - No questions or comments.

Indoor Soccer – Vice Mayor Bethune asked why we had no figures for insurance last year and this year we have \$6,500. Director Martin stated last year participants who were already signed up through Tennessee State Soccer did not have to have insurance. We have also had an increase in participation which increased the amount of the premium. Vice Mayor Bethune also asked why our gate was down 82% from \$40,000 to \$6,900. Mr. Martin stated these figures are from March and we haven't had all of our tournaments yet. Mr. Martin stated that the one tournament we did have did not bring in as much because of rain. Director Qualls stated that as of today, the gate is \$12,511.97. He stated there was another reason the gate was higher last year and will check with Shawna Skiles to see why.

Baseball/Softball – These figures are through March 31st and will go up.

Football/Cheerleading – No questions or comments.

Basketball – No questions or comments.

Volleyball – Director Martin stated we did not offer volleyball this year.

Economic Development Publicity and Marketing – City Manager Hyatt stated he is working on marketing and public relations with the Industrial Development Board. Mr. Hyatt also stated he will check with the City of Bristol to see how much they budgeted for their economic development through the border region act. The Industrial Development board will serve a dual purpose, also acting as an Economic Advisory Board. Mr. Hyatt stated on the next agenda, council needs to confirm the Economic Advisory Board. Vice Mayor Bethune stated the officers of the Industrial Development Board are Ruth Braly, Chairperson; Kelley Steele, Assistant Chairperson, and Mac Pendley, Treasurer.

Library – City Treasurer Jablonski stated that salaries and wages have increased, due to adding a part-time position.

History Museum – Vice Mayor Bethune asked if we are still manning the museum. Mr. Hyatt stated that someone will go over there on request. On some days, the part-time library person also works at the History Museum. Mayor Lambert stated that Ann Pruett, former head librarian, would be an ideal volunteer to work at the Museum, and we could possibly have other volunteers as well.

Transfers, Capital Improvement Fund, Transfer of Debt Service and TML Debt Fund – Mr. Hyatt stated that council has discussed paying off some debt and attaining a higher bond rating, possibly an AAA rating. We could pay down some of the debt out of our reserve fund. Mr. Jablonski is currently working on some proposals from private and public financing sources. He will bring those proposals back to council.

Special Projects – Mayor Lambert would like to give money to Spring Creek Elementary and East Ridge Elementary for art teachers, because Hamilton County does not fund these positions. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to give each school \$5,000 to help pay for art teachers. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

State Street Aid – Mr. Jablonski stated we receive this money from the State to maintain streets and roadways. This also funds two positions – Street Department Supervisor and Traffic Control Supervisor.

Grant Fund – A special revenue fund for grants is proposed in the new budget in order for better accounting.

Sanitation – Councilmember Sewell stated that Sanitation is in dire need of a new truck. One truck is being used for leaf collection because it is not in good enough working order to collect garbage. Mr. Hyatt stated that a used truck could cost approximately \$34,000.

Mr. Martin asked to address the Council regarding the gate fees being down from last year. We had all-star uniforms which the parents paid for in the amount of \$14,000. This amount went into the gate fund, which made it much higher.

Blueway – Mayor Lambert asked about the status of the canoe launches. Mr. Martin stated the Creek Launch (south) looks great. The pavers were uneven and they have poured concrete over them to level them out. They have also installed a walkway down the middle of the launch. They will start landscaping soon at that launch. He stated they are close to finishing the Cherokee Launch (north). Mr. Martin stated we will also have the digital sign sometime next week at the entrance to Camp Jordan. Mr. Manning asked when the sign for city hall would be in. Mr. Martin stated bids were only opened this week but it should be here hopefully within one month.

Department of Justice – Mr. Jablonski proposed a special revenue fund for forfeitures, which follows federal law.

Solid Waste – Mr. Jablonski is proposing a self-sufficient solid waste management fund. Mayor Lambert stated we are at 92.3% of sanitation fee collections, almost \$1.4 million.

Debt Service Fund – Mr. Jablonski stated that we currently have two debt service funds, one is 211 and one is 212. He stated that one will be paid out soon and he is recommending that the other one be rolled into the 2012 debt fund.

212- Debt Service Fund. – This includes both short and long term notes.

Capital Improvement Program Fund – Mr. Jablonski stated the fund will be started with \$1 million through a budget amendment to be transferred from the general fund. He also stated that in 2015 we will be starting out with \$1.5 million. This would be a fund to self finance equipment rather than taking out loans.

This concluded discussion of the budget items.

The Mayor stated we could be ready for first reading and a public hearing at the next meeting.

Councilmember Sewell discussed the city judge's salary. He stated we are not in line with what other cities pay their judges. Mr. Gravitt stated that Collegedale is proposing to raise their judge's pay to \$35,000 and Red Bank is proposing either \$25,000 or \$27,000. East Ridge pays their judge \$18,000, but this cannot be raised during the current judge's term of office. Councilmember Gravitt suggested \$25,000 and Mayor Lambert suggested \$24,000 which would make it an even \$2,000 per month. Vice Mayor Bethune would like this put on the agenda for the next meeting

Councilmember Sewell asked if councilmembers would be able to participate and vote via Skype if they are out of town. City Attorney North stated the law does not say one way or the other about voting via Skype. Mr. Hyatt stated that in the city he worked in previously, councilmembers could participate in the conversation but could not vote via Skype. Mr. North stated this could possibly be included in the Charter amendments.

Councilmember Gravitt asked if the Charter Study Committee had concluded their recommended changes to the charter. Robert Stahl, Chairperson of the Charter Study Committee, stated the committee has drafted their final version and ready for a vote on the following Tuesday.

Mayor Lambert wished everyone a safe and happy Memorial Day weekend and reminded everyone again about the Memorial Day ceremony at the veteran's monument.

The meeting was adjourned.