

**MINUTES OF THE AGENDA WORK SESSION
December 10, 2015 – 6:00 pm**

**To Set the Agenda For The
January 14, 2015 Council Meeting**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on December 10, 2015 at East Ridge City Hall to set the agenda for the January 14, 2016 Council Meeting and other items.

Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Gravitt, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Sewell, Interim City Manager Williams, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1001 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND THE EAST RIDGE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 481), WHICH AMENDS TITLE 14, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE VI, SECTIONS 108 THROUGH 110 OF THE EAST RIDGE MUNICIPAL CODE, AS IT RELATES TO ON-PREMISE AND OFF-PREMISE SIGN AND BILLBOARD REGULATIONS (Possible 1st reading – if tabled on 12/10/15) – Mayor Lambert stated this would be discussed further at tonight’s Council meeting, since it will be on the agenda for first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 1002 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 989 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT . . .” BY CHANGING THE REVENUE OF THE GENERAL FUND, GRANT FUND AND DEBT SERVICE FUND AND BY CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES OF THE GENERAL FUND AND GRANT FUND (2nd and final reading) – Mayor Lambert stated first reading will be at tonight’s regular Council meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 1003 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AMENDING TITLE 18 OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY CODE BY REVISING CHAPTER 6, ENTITLED HAMILTON COUNTY STORM WATER POLLUTION PROGRAM (2nd and final reading) – The Mayor stated this will also be on tonight’s regular Council meeting agenda for first reading.

New Business Discussion:

ORDINANCE _____ – AMEND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ORDINANCE TO ADD WINE SALES IN GROCERY STORES (1st reading) – City Attorney stated that a referendum

passed to allow sales, but the City's alcoholic beverage ordinance will have to be amended to provide businesses the ability to sell wine, if they meet the proper criteria.

RESOLUTION NO 2533 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE FY 2016 TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S 2015 MULTIMODAL ACCESS GRANT – Mayor Lambert stated since this is in red on the agenda, staff is requesting that it be moved forward to tonight's regular meeting agenda. Chief Williams stated it is a time sensitive matter. Amanda Miller stated this would be a continuation of the grant we received last year. Without objection, Mayor Lambert moved this forward to tonight's regular meeting agenda as Item M under New Business.

Discussion of National League of Cities Conference – Washington, DC – Interim City Manager Williams stated he had Account Specialist Qualls come up with a cost for this trip. He also stated the TML Legislative Conference is also coming up in March.

Councilmember Manning had nothing at this time

Councilmember Sewell had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Cagle discussed the Façade Grant Program. He stated that a business owner had applied and was turned down. Chief Williams stated this owner did not meet the requirements; it has to be an open, occupied business. He also stated that the former City Treasurer was handling this grant program before he left the City. Mayor Lambert stated he would have no problem amending the program and would like for this to be on the next agenda.

Councilmember Cagle stated we need to provide the City of Ridgeside a cost for our service by the first of next year. Mayor Lambert stated he has discussed this with Mayor Jobe of Ridgeside and he would be fine leaving the cost at what we now charge. He also stated that because of jurisdictional issues we do not charge for code inspections. Chief Williams stated that we went up on Ridgeside when our property taxes were increased. Mr. Cagle would like to get a price by next meeting of what we will charge Ridgeside.

Councilmember Cagle asked if we have applied for reimbursement of the \$5 million we gave in incentives for the developers of Bass Pro. Account Specialist Qualls stated we have sent in those expenses and have been reimbursed \$772,000, of which the developers were paid \$412,000 in incentives. The Mayor stated we will receive a check from the State within 90 days of the end of each fiscal year.

Vice Mayor Gravitt had nothing at this time.

The meeting was adjourned.

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

**December 10, 2015
6:30 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on December 10, 2015, 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.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Gravitt, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Sewell, Interim City Manager Williams, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton.

Christmas Parade Awards - Amanda Miller presented the 2016 Christmas Parade Awards as follows:

Non-Education

- 3rd Fellowship Baptist Church
- 2nd Chattanooga Lacrosse
- 1st Camping World of Chattanooga RV Sales

Education

- 3rd (\$100) Cub Scout Pack 3007
- 2nd (\$200) Belvoir Christian Academy
- 1st (\$300) Cub Scout Pack 3062

Grand Marshal

Grand Marshal – ERHS 2015 Football Team

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes November 12, 2015 Agenda Work Session
- B. Approval of Minutes November 12, 2015 Council Meeting
- C. Approval of Minutes November 19, 2015 Work Shop
- D. Approval of October 2015 Financial Report
- E. Declaration of Surplus Property

Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve the Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens:

Ann Cox, 5328 Dupont St., spoke representing “Friends of East Ridge Animal Services.” She presented a petition with 1,200 signatures of citizens who support building a new shelter. Mayor Lambert thanked Ms. Cox, but stated he would like to discuss this at budget time.

John Woodham, 6700 Jordan Run, asked in the event of emergencies, how would emergency vehicles navigate Frawley Road. Chief Williams stated they have a plan in place to take care of all emergencies. They have a fire truck staffed that is stationed at the entrance to Camp Jordan. They have police officers present if they have to open up traffic and more officers stationed at Camp Jordan Road and at Ringgold Road. The Chief stated they have a practice run every Friday afternoon and are prepared to do whatever it takes if there are emergencies.

David Lynn, 4109 Ringgold Road, stated he is tired of waiting on the Façade grant and has already started the renovations. He stated it has taken five months for the City to get pictures. Mayor Lambert stated this was discussed in the agenda session. He stated that the City has no documentation of what the former City Treasurer did on this grant. Mr. Lynn stated that Mr. Jablonski sent him an email stating he was approved and also, Ms. Mahoney in Codes told him he was approved. He does not have the email. Chief Williams stated the property has to be occupied with an open business, but Council could amend that if they wish. He will check with our IT person to see if the email Mr. Lynn discussed can be retrieved.

Elaine Taylor, 3902 S. Mission Oaks, stated she is opposed to changing the name of Ringgold Road. Mayor Lambert stated he understands the historical significance and ties we have to the name, but feels we can honor that without telling people that the most important thing about Ringgold Road is that it will get you to Ringgold, Georgia. He wants our main thoroughfare to be reflective of East Ridge, not another City. Businesses could have a phase-in period of 12 to 18 months to change their addresses.

Councilmember Cagle brought up the Façade Grant again. He asked if Mr. Lynn could go ahead and start on his improvements to his business. Chief Williams stated that no work can begin without approval and a signed contract. Mayor Lambert suggested either having a called meeting or putting this on the January 14th agenda to amend the grant program guidelines.

John McNeel, 2017 McBrien Road, stated he was hit for a third time and want sidewalks, crosswalks, and disabled transportation. Mr. McNeel threatened a lawsuit, so Mayor Lambert told Council not to make any comments.

Linda Woodham, 6700 Jordan Run, also discussed the traffic congestion on Frawley Road due to the Christmas Nights of Lights show. She also asked the status of the new fire station. Chief Williams stated we are working with an architect now. We will be able to use some of the metal from the old fire station and will possibly have to move the bays, living area and the training room. He also stated that as long as we have a plan in place, our ISO rating will not be affected.

Matthew DeGlopper, 706 Pyron Lane, stated there are things Council is working on that are not getting “wrapped up” such as the wrecker ordinance and the sign ordinance. Mayor Lambert stated some of these issues are very complex, but we are making progress.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Manning had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Sewell wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He also asked if it would be possible to have police escort Frawley Road residents to their homes during the Christmas Nights of Lights show. Chief Williams stated this is not a good idea because if something happened then both lanes would be blocked. Chief Reed stated it would be difficult to maneuver if there was an emergency situation. Chief Reed also stated that he could use reserves to help with traffic.

Councilmember Cagle stated that Traffic Control put No Parking signs on telephone poles on Altamira and asked if this was permissible. Chief Williams stated that in the past it was against code but now it is legal to put the signs on telephone poles.

Vice Mayor Gravitt asked what the status is for the banners about pollution on Ringgold Road that a citizen had suggested earlier in the year. Chief Williams will check on this.

Mayor Lambert thanked the City Manager and the Street Department for clearing a clogged storm drain that he received an email about. Mr. Manning stated there is another clogged drain behind the old "K Mart" building. The Mayor also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and stated there are good things ahead for East Ridge.

Mayor Lambert added Resolution 2533 as Item M under New Business, since it is a time-sensitive matter.

Mayor Lambert moved Ordinance No. 1003 and Resolution No. 2530 to this part of the agenda, since there were visitors present to discuss it.

ORDINANCE NO. 1003 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AMENDING TITLE 18 OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY CODE BY REVISING CHAPTER 6, ENTITLED HAMILTON COUNTY STORM WATER POLLUTION PROGRAM (1st reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Ordinance No. 1003. Mr. North introduced Neill Southerland, Assistant County Attorney, to discuss the interlocal agreement. She stated the only change is that they are adding the City of Walden to the agreement. Ms. Southerland introduced Crystal Piper, Stormwater Director. She stated there are no changes to the interlocal agreement, but there are a few changes to the stormwater ordinance regarding stormwater runoff management. She stated the changes would be revenue neutral. Ms. Southerland stated there would be no cost increase in the stormwater fee this year. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2530 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/ OR INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, AND VARIOUS LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES, CONCERNING THE PHASE II STORM WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM – City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion,

seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Resolution No. 2530. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Communication from City Manager – Interim City Manager Williams had nothing at this time.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1000 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO AMEND TITLE 8, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 8-212 OF THE EAST RIDGE MUNICIPAL CODE (ORDINANCE NOS. 555, 858 AND 905) TO ALLOW FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BEER PERMITS WITHIN TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY FEET OF ANY RESIDENCE (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Ordinance No. 1000. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Gravitt - yes; Councilmember Cagle - yes; Councilmember Manning - no; Councilmember Sewell - yes; Mayor Lambert - yes. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 1001 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND THE EAST RIDGE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 481), WHICH AMENDS TITLE 14, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE VI, SECTIONS 108 THROUGH 110 OF THE EAST RIDGE MUNICIPAL CODE, AS IT RELATES TO ON-PREMISE AND OFF-PREMISE SIGN AND BILLBOARD REGULATIONS (1st reading – tabled November 12, 2015) – Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to leave this item on the table until the next meeting. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Issuing City Identification Cards for Retired Employees – Councilmember Manning – Mr. Manning stated we have retired police officers who would like to have an identification card that states they are retired from the City. Mr. Manning made a motion for the City to issue these cards without any reference to a gun carry permit, but wants police department on them.

Vice Mayor Gravitt stated there was an issue about federal law when this was discussed previously. Mayor Lambert asked what the purpose is for these ID cards. Chief Reed stated that TCA 38-8-116 allows for these cards, but only for employees that retired in good standing. If the cards have Police Department on them, they must follow the guidelines of the TCA. Mr. North read the section of the TCA code to which Chief Reed referred. Mr. North and Mr. Gravitt stated this should be more of an administrative issue, not a Council issue.

Mr. North asked Mr. Manning if he wanted Council to direct Chief Reed to issue these ID cards for retired Police officers. Mr. Manning stated yes. Mr. Manning would also like to include Fire Department and other employees. Mr. Lambert asked again what the purpose is for these cards. Mr. Manning stated they could use them if they apply for other jobs. Mayor Lambert asked if some retired officers wanted this card to be able to carry a firearm. Mr. Gravitt stated they would have to qualify every year; it would just be simpler for them to get their own permit. Mr. Manning's motion died for lack of a second.

New Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1002 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 989 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT . . .” BY CHANGING THE REVENUE OF THE GENERAL FUND, GRANT FUND AND DEBT SERVICE FUND AND BY CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES OF THE GENERAL FUND AND GRANT FUND (1st reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Ordinance No. 1002 on first reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2529 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR, AND ACCEPTANCE OF, THE AMERICAN POLICE AND SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION (APSA) EQUIPMENT DONATION GRANT FOR TASERS FOR THE EAST RIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT - City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Resolution No. 2529. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO 2531 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE FY 2016 BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES GRANT – City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Resolution No. 2531. This is a 100% grant with no match from the City. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2532 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO INCREASE THE GRANT MATCH FOR THE CAMP JORDAN PARK LOCAL PARKS & RECREATION FUND (LPRF) RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Resolution No. 2532. This is the grant for a restroom, a walking track, a dog park, and tennis and basketball courts at Camp Jordan. We will need approximately \$8,000 more in engineering fees. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Update on LPRF Grant – Mayor Lambert had asked for this update and a timeline for the funds to be spent. Amanda Miller stated the contract has been approved by the State. We will get the engineering plans to the State and then send out a notice to proceed. Ms. Miller stated we were awarded the grant in 2014. Monroe Street was the original location so we had to redo the application to move the location to Camp Jordan, since the Monroe Street property was sold to a developer. We received the contract in June of this year and have until June 2017 to spend the funds. Ms. Miller has also applied for a \$100,000 grant for a new Animal Shelter.

Discussion/Take Action on 95th Birthday Celebration – Mayor Lambert stated he would like to formulate a budget for this event. He would like to use funds from the Christmas Nights of Lights because this would have the least impact on the budget. This would not be Needy Child Fund money. We also have \$9,500 budgeted for Liberty Fest that could be used for this. Mayor Lambert made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to use the first \$30,000 that comes in from the light show for the birthday celebration. The Mayor and Mr. Manning then withdrew their motion and second. The Mayor will put this on the January 14th Council meeting.

Discussion of Road Project at Ringgold Road and Camp Jordan Parkway – Mayor Lambert stated he would like for the City to consider making the turn lane into Camp Jordan longer. He stated it is a shallow turn lane and causes back-up issues. We would have to work with the State on this, but it would not be done in time for the Bass Pro opening. He also stated the overpass could accommodate three lanes. Mayor Lambert made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to get a cost estimate to extend the turn lane going into Camp Jordan Parkway. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Advertise for City Manager Position – Councilmember Manning and Mayor Lambert – The Mayor stated he would like to finalize the qualifications for this as to what the Council wants and what is required by the Charter. The Charter states a minimum of a bachelors degree and a minimum of three years of direct supervisor experience in government and such other qualifications that Council may require. The Mayor would like to add experience in economic development and possibly planning and infrastructure. Chief Williams stated we would prepare the ad and send to the City Attorney to review. Mr. Sewell asked if the resumes should be sent to the City or the City Attorney. Mr. North stated the resumes should be physically sent to City Hall. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Gravitt, to advertise the position with the Charter qualifications, plus experience in economic development, city planning and/or finance with the salary negotiable. The ad is to run though January 29, 2015. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Selling Volkswagen Passat – Councilmember Manning – Mr. Manning asked that this be put on the agenda because the City bought the vehicle strictly for the City Manager to drive. Mr. Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve selling the vehicle. Mr. Cagle discussed selling the vehicle to another department. Mr. Sewell stated that staff drives the car frequently because the other vehicles are not road worthy. Mayor Lambert suggested reassigning the car to City Hall and Codes. Mr. Gravitt and Mr. Sewell stated this should be a city manager decision. Mr. Manning withdrew his motion and then made another motion to assign the car to the Codes Department. Mr. Cagle withdrew his second and then seconded Mr. Manning's new motion. Mr. North also stated the City Manager should be able to move the car wherever he wants. Mr. Manning called for the question. The Mayor stated you cannot call the question to cut off debate, but he would proceed with a vote. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Gravitt – no; Councilmember Cagle – yes; Councilmember Manning – yes; Councilmember Sewell – no; Mayor Lambert – no. Motion denied.

Purchase of Mobile Cad Licenses - Police Department – Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Gravitt, to approve the purchase. Chief Reed stated the licenses are the most expensive piece of the in-car computer purchase. He stated that 14 units will cost \$19,180 and 20 units will cost \$27,400. This is not a budgeted item. The Chief would

like to come back on January 14th with more information. Mr. Cagle and Mr. Gravitt withdrew their motion and second. Mr. Manning asked Chief Reed when the motorcycles would be in. The Chief stated in a week to 10 days.

RESOLUTION NO 2533 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE FY 2016 TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION’S 2015 MULTIMODAL ACCESS GRANT - City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Resolution No. 2533. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned.