

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

June 10, 2015 –11:00 am

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on June 10, 2015, 11:00 a.m. at East Ridge City Hall for the purpose of:

- Resolution No. 2483 - Consideration of a Department of Justice Grant
- Resolution No. 2484 - Consideration of an Aquatic Stream Grant
- Discuss/Take Action on the FY16 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 Gravitt, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North and City Recorder Middleton.

Vice Mayor Gravitt stated that his wife serves on the State Board of Distinguished Young Women, which is the Tennessee Jr. Miss program. He introduced Annslea Jolley from East Ridge who will be participating in the state pageant, which includes academics, talent, etc. Ms. Jolley stated this program provides scholarships and opportunities to meet other young women in the state who excel in various ways. Mr. Gravitt pledged \$100 and would like for Council to match his pledge and possibly the City donate. City Attorney North stated this could set a precedent for other people to approach the Council for money and does not recommend we do this. He also made a personal donation to Ms. Jolley. The Mayor congratulated Ms. Jolley and thanked her for representing East Ridge.

RESOLUTION NO. 2483 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPLYING FOR AND ACCEPTING THE FY2016 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,511 TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT AND/OR TRAINING 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. 2483. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2484 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING THE APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2015-2016 AQUATIC STREAM CLEANUP GRANT – Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Resolution No. 2484. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Mayor Lambert announced that the City has been awarded a TDOT grant in the amount of \$949,833 for a multimodal sidewalk enhancement grant. The area will be from Blackhawk Drive to East Ridge Avenue. It includes a 10-foot sidewalk on the north side of Ringgold and

a 5-foot sidewalk on the south side. The City will be responsible for a 5% match. The Mayor thanked Mr. Hyatt and Mr. Jablonski and others who had a part in submitting the grant application. He stated this is a “big deal” for the City.

Vice Mayor Gravitt stated that he, the Mayor, the City Manager, Chief Williams, Chief Reed and officials from TDOT, WWTa, and EPB met with officials from Bass Pro the day before. They were shown the design of the Bass Pro development. Mr. Hyatt stated they would submit initial drawings for approval in the last meeting in June. He also stated that construction should begin around the end of July.

Councilmember Manning stated that his wife, Shirley received the TML Spouse of the Year award at the recent conference. Mr. Hyatt stated that a press release has been sent out and it has also been posted on chattanooga.com.

Mr. Gravitt thanked Chief Williams and Chief Reed for their work during the recent storm. Mayor Lambert thanked County Mayor Copping for sending county crews to help with the storm clean-up.

Discuss/Take Action on FY2016 Budget – Mayor Lambert stated council is looking at Christmas bonuses and salary increases. Mr. Jablonski provided amounts for 1%, 2% and 3% raises, but these do not include the city manager or elected officials.

Mr. Cagle stated he wants the Parks and Recreation budget back in the General Fund and not create a separate fund for it. Vice Mayor Gravitt wants to keep it separate in order to better keep track of and for more transparency. Mr. Jablonski stated he has seen it done both ways and we will keep track of it either way. Mr. Gravitt stated his reasons why he wants it separate and wants to hear reasons why others want to keep it in the General fund. Director Martin stated it should not be in a separate fund because he feels like it puts a “target” on him and the Parks and Recreation Department and the citizens would not really understand it. Mr. Gravitt disagreed that citizens would not understand and it puts a “target” on no one or no department. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to keep the Parks and Recreation budget in the General Fund. Mr. Hyatt stated that if this is in the General Fund, it can be used for other departments to purchase items, for example a fire truck for the Fire Dept. Councilmember Manning called for the question. Mayor Lambert stated that according to Robert’s Rules of Order, a vote can be taken to either vote since the question has been called or not vote in order to discuss further. Roll call vote on calling for the question: Vice Mayor Gravitt – no; Councilmember Cagle – yes; Councilmember Manning – yes; Councilmember Sewell – no; Mayor Lambert – no. Call for the question was denied.

Vice Mayor Gravitt reiterated it was not placing a target on Parks and Recreation or Mr. Martin. He stated that Parks and Recreation provides many intangible benefits, such as revenue to hotels, restaurants, etc. He believes everything would be easier to track. He also stated that the park will never be able to totally support itself. At this time, Mayor Gravitt called for the question. There was no objection from other Councilmembers. The Mayor restated the motion is to have the Parks and Recreation budget in the General Fund and not create a separate fund for FY2016. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Gravitt – no; Councilmember

Cagle – yes; Councilmember Manning – yes; Councilmember Sewell – abstain; Mayor Lambert – yes. Motion approved.

Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to remove the Deputy City Manager title from the City Treasurer, to appoint the Fire Chief as Assistant City Manager and increase the Fire Chief's salary by \$1,000 per month while he is performing those duties. Vice Mayor Gravitt asked if anyone has read the charter, plus this is the first he has heard about this. City Attorney North read from Section 5-H of the Charter as follows:

SECTION 5-H. In the temporary absence or disability of the City Manager, the assistant City Manager, if such position be established, or other officer designated by the City Manager and approved by the Council, shall serve in this capacity.

Mr. Sewell stated this would be nothing against the City Treasurer, but he has too much to do to take on the Assistant City Manager position. He also stated this would not impact Mr. Jablonski's job or pay in any way.

Mr. Sewell restated his motion to remove the Deputy City Manager title from the City Treasurer position and add Acting City Manager to the Fire Chief's position so that Mike Williams will be Fire Chief and Acting City Manager, and due to these added duties and responsibilities increase his salary by \$1,000 a month while he is performing these duties.

The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

There was a discussion of the number of full and part-time employees. Mr. Jablonski stated that as of today, there are 125 full-time and 19 part-time employees.

At this time, the Council took a five minute break.

After returning from the break, Vice Mayor Gravitt discussed the position of Head Librarian. The job description currently requires a Master's Degree in Library Science. He suggested various options such as a degree in literature or a teaching degree.

Councilmember Manning discussed a 2% raise for full and part time employees. Mr. Gravitt also discussed leave buyback. He would like for Mr. Jablonski to provide a spreadsheet to council with how much each position pays including a separate column for leave buyback. Mr. Gravitt would like to consider all benefits, including take home vehicles, cell phones, insurance benefits, etc. He stated the City could possibly be fined for offering employees a "Cadillac" insurance plan.

Mayor Lambert stated that MTAS did a study on leave buyback a few years back and it actually saved the City money, especially in overtime costs. He does not want to do anything that would hurt employees, such as cutting their benefits or pay.

Mayor Lambert suggested we get comparisons from other cities and benefits and leave buyback and discuss this further in the June 16th meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE AGENDA WORK SESSION
June 16, 2015 – 6:00 pm

To Set the Agenda For The
June 30, 2015 Council Meeting

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on June 16, 2015, 6:00 pm at East Ridge Community Center to set the agenda for the June 30, 2015 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, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North and City Recorder Middleton.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 991 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO AMEND THE ZONING REGULATIONS AND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 322 SCRUGGS ROAD FROM M-3 WAREHOUSE AND WHOLESALE DISTRICT TO C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (2nd and final reading) – Mayor Lambert stated this will potentially be second reading if approved in tonight’s regular meeting. He stated this item was approved in the Planning Commission on June 1st and recommended to go to council for a deciding vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 992 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 971 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2014 TO JUNE 30, 2015 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT...” BY DESIGNATING FUND BALANCE AND CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (2nd and final reading) – Mr. Jablonski stated this amends the fiscal year 2015 budget related to capital projects such as computer upgrades, street projects, drainage projects and building improvements. He has been advised by bond counsel that this is appropriate.

ORDINANCE NO. 993 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE ADOPTING THE FY 2014 - 2015 ANNUAL BUDGET AS A CONTINUATION BUDGET FOR FY 2015 - 2016 UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A FINALIZED ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FY 2015 - 2016 IS ADOPTED (2nd and final reading – only if necessary) – This item will be on tonight’s regular meeting agenda for first reading, to consider only if the budget ordinance is not approved.

New Business Discussion:

Retail Strategies – Presentation on RECON Convention – Lacy Beasley with Retail Strategies, stated that RECON is the largest retail show in the world. Ms. Beasley stated that Retail Strategies was an advocate for the City at the show. She stated she discussed East

Ridge with developers at the show and gave out marketing flyers for East Ridge. Retail Strategies has done a gap analysis with the largest gap being in super markets/grocery stores. She will update this annually. She will come back before Council in mid-July with their marketing strategy.

Baseball Field Project for East Ridge High School – Mr. Hyatt stated this is a request from Crosspath Church for the City to match their donation of \$2,500 to the school for this project. Mr. Manning feels this is the County’s responsibility. Mayor Lambert stated it is, but there are times when the County cannot provide everything necessary, so the Church has approached the City for help.

Councilmember Cagle asked about the work the City is to do by the tennis courts at the high school. Mr. Hyatt stated that City crews have been cleaning up after the recent storm so this was delayed. He also stated that crews may have to go on private property to get some of the work done. Mr. North stated the City would have to have a release from each property owner.

Councilmembers Manning and Sewell, Vice Mayor Gravitt, and Mayor Lambert had nothing at this time.

Mayor Lambert stated that Vice Mayor Gravitt would like to have a short executive session.

The meeting was adjourned.

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

**June 16, 2015
6:30 p.m.**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on June 16, 2015, 6:30 pm at the East Ridge Community Center. 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, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North and City Recorder Middleton.

Consent Agenda:

- A. 1. Approval of Minutes May 26, 2015 Called Meeting
- 2. Approval of Minutes May 28, 2015 Agenda Work Session
- 3. Approval of Minutes May 28, 2015 Council Meeting
- 4. Approval of Minutes May 30, 2015 Recessed Meeting
- 5. Approval of Minutes May 31, 2015 Called Meeting
- 6. Approval of May 2015 Financial Statement

Councilmember Cagle stated that in the minutes of the May 28, 2015 regular council meeting, it was stated that Mr. Cagle made the motion and the second to approve Resolution No. 2481. The minutes should be corrected to reflect that Councilmember Manning actually made the second on the motion. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve the consent agenda as amended. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

- B. Approval of April 2015 Financial Statement – Mr. Cagle stated in the last meeting that the Council never approved moving the proceeds of the pool property sale to the Capital Improvement Fund. Mr. Jablonski stated that this was approved, as reflected in previous minutes. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve the April 2015 Financial Statement. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Gravitt – yes; Councilmember Cagle – yes; Councilmember Manning – yes; Councilmember Sewell – abstain; Mayor Lambert – yes. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens:

John McNeel, 2017 McBrien Road, discussed the need for sidewalks on Ringgold Road. He stated he has been hit twice and has an attorney.

Jeff Locke, 6726 Ringgold Road, Exit 1 Fireworks, asked if fireworks tents were going to be allowed to set up in East Ridge. City Attorney North stated that beginning June 20th by order of the Chancery Court of Hamilton County, they will be allowed. The City's fireworks ordinance was found to be in violation of equal protection rights. Mr. North appealed for an immediate hearing but the court denied the appeal request. The vendors must comply with all other zoning regulations of the City.

Frances Pope, 1913 Close Road, stated the City's Personnel Committee should be changed to a civil review board. She believes it is imperative, since some of the Councilmembers are getting involved in personnel issues, which is a violation of the Charter. She stated Council needs to stay out of day-to-day operations and let the City Manager do his job.

Matthew DeGlopper, 706 Pyron Lane, discussed putting "Communication from Citizens" on called meeting agendas. He also stated that Parks and Recreation needs its own fund as Mr. Gravitt suggested and the City Attorney's records need to be on the city's server. Mr. DeGlopper discussed the fire station property on Camp Jordan Parkway

Mimi Lowrey, 819 Mt. Belvoir Drive, discussed the sale of the property on Camp Jordan Parkway to the developers of the Bass Pro Shop. She stated that the former City Attorney used his title company for the closing and the fire station restriction should have been discovered. She also asked if all bids have to be sealed. Mr. North stated technically the City would have the right to reject bids that are not sealed or rebid.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Vice Mayor Gravitt had nothing at this time.

Mayor Lambert stated there would be an organizational meeting at Jenkins Buffet on June 18th at 6:30 to discuss organizing a Lion's Club in East Ridge, partnering with Signal Mountain, Lookout Mountain and Dayton. He stated they need 20 charter members to organize the club. The main purpose of the Lion's Club is to prevent vision loss in small children.

The Mayor also stated that Jfest will be at Camp Jordan this Saturday.

Councilmembers Sewell and Manning had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Cagle congratulated the Optimist Club on the success of their recent car show at Camp Jordan.

Communication from City Manager:

Mr. Hyatt stated he appreciated the Fire and Street during the recent storm. There were some homes heavily damaged during the storm and the Red Cross offered their assistance.

Mr. Hyatt announced that he has taken a position in another city. He had hoped to stay here until his daughter, who is in the 8th grade, graduated from high school. He stated that other opportunities have arisen, but he will fulfill his contractual obligations to East Ridge. Mayor

Lambert stated he appreciates Mr. Hyatt's service. He considers him a professional and it has been a privilege to call him a colleague and a friend.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 989 – Public Hearing for Budget – Mayor opened public hearing for budget. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to table the public hearing for Ordinance No. 989 and also table second reading of Ordinance No. 989. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 989 – AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016 AND APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT; FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION OF ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE CITY; THE TIME TAXES ARE DUE; HOW THEY SHOULD BE PAID; WHEN THEY WILL BECOME DELINQUENT; AND PROVIDING FOR THE INTEREST AND PENALTIES ON DELINQUENT TAXES AND PRIVILEGES (2nd and final reading) – This item was tabled along with the public hearing for the ordinance.

Discussion/Take Action on Employee Insurance - Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to table this item and have a called meeting on June 29th at 6:00 pm to consider employee insurance and 2nd reading of the budget. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

New Business:

ORDINANCE NO 991 – Public Hearing for Rezoning of 322 Scruggs Road – Mayor Lambert opened the public hearing. He stated this request was approved by the Planning Commission on June 1, 2015. Mayor Lambert asked if anyone wanted to speak in opposition to the rezoning. There was no opposition. Mayor Lambert asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of the rezoning. Greg Jackson with CLO Environmental, LLC stated that the purchase of the property is contingent on the rezoning. He stated this would be a compressed natural gas station, as an alternative fuel for trucks and passenger vehicles. Everything will be above ground. They will tap into a 12-inch natural gas line that is already on Scruggs Road. Mr. Jackson stated that natural gas is safer than regular gas and the station will be monitored for vapor leaks. Cost will be around \$2.00 per gallon.

Emmett Gienapp, Chattanooga.com had questions for Mr. Jackson about how this process works.

The Mayor closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 991 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO AMEND THE ZONING REGULATIONS AND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 322 SCRUGGS ROAD FROM M-3 WAREHOUSE AND WHOLESALE DISTRICT TO C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (1st

reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Ordinance No. 991 on first reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 992 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 971 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2014 TO JUNE 30, 2015 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT...” BY DESIGNATING FUND BALANCE AND CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (1st reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Mr. Jablonski stated this is for the payment to the State of Tennessee for the old fire station property and for other capitalized projects. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Ordinance No. 992 on first reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 993 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE ADOPTING THE FY 2014 - 2015 ANNUAL BUDGET AS A CONTINUATION BUDGET FOR FY 2015 - 2016 UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A FINALIZED ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FY 2015 - 2016 IS ADOPTED (1st reading – only if necessary) – Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Ordinance No. 993 on first reading. Mayor Lambert stated we will know by June 30, 2015 if second reading will be necessary. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2485 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FIRE CHIEF TO THE ADDITIONAL POSITION OF ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER SHALL ASSUME THE DUTIES OF THE CITY MANAGER IN THE EVENT OF THE ABSENCE OR DISABILITY OF THE CITY MANAGER – City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Resolution No. 2485. City Attorney North stated that pursuant to the Charter, the City Manager must designate the Assistant City Manager, not the Council. Mr. North stated that by Mr. Hyatt signing this resolution, he intends to designate Fire Chief Williams as Assistant City Manager. Mr. Hyatt stated that he does intend to do so. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2486 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING A BID FOR MOWING SERVICES FOR THE I-75 EXIT 1 INTERCHANGE - City Attorney North read on caption. Mayor Lambert asked if staff had a recommendation. Mr. Jablonski stated we received bids from GIG Lawncare for \$2,950 per mowing cycle and from Chattanooga Property Maintenance for \$3,050 per mowing cycle. Vice Mayor Gravitt stated that originally this was his idea, but since that time the State has reduced what they are reimbursing the City for mowing. Since bids came in higher than anticipated, he is not sure that contracting out the mowing is the best option for the City at this time. Councilmember

Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to deny Resolution No. 2486. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2487 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE APPROVING PHOTOGRAPHY BIDS FOR THE 2015 - 2016 SPORTS SEASON – City Attorney North read on caption. Director Martin recommended School Days, Inc., an East Ridge company. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Resolution No. 2487. Mr. Manning then withdrew his second because he thought this was the same company we had last year. Mr. Cagle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2488 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING BIDS FOR THE OPERATION OF FOOD AND REFRESHMENT CONCESSIONS IN CAMP JORDAN PARK AND ARENA AND IN THE EAST RIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER – City Attorney North read on caption. Director Martin recommended Fun Time Foods. Mr. Martin discussed the fact that one bid was not sealed, but DeWayne Hale with Fun Time Foods handed the bid directly to the City Recorder. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Resolution No. 2488. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2489 - A RESOLUTION EXCLUDING CERTAIN PROPERTIES FROM THE BORDER REGION RETAIL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 405 OF THE 2015 ACTS OF THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY –City Attorney North read on caption. Mr. Jablonski stated this resolution and Exhibit A were revised today at 5:30 pm. Based on businesses listed in Exhibit A, Mr. Jablonski would like to get clarity with the Department of Revenue and with Attorney Mark Mamantov. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to table this item until the June 29th called meeting. Councilmember Cagle discussed sales tax from Camping World. Mr. Jablonski checked on this and stated the City collects some of the sales tax from Camping World. Mr. Gravitt would like for the City Attorney to check with the Department of Revenue to see if East Ridge could collect the RV sales portion of sales tax for Camping World, because they advertise that their business is in Chattanooga and there is no access from Georgia. After further discussion, the Mayor asked for roll call on tabling this item. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion/Take Action on Request for Proposals for Payroll, Time and Attendance Solution – Mr. Jablonski stated we received three RFPs but did not receive what we were looking for. We actually need timeclocks that interface with our payroll system. He would like to get with Local Government to get a cost for this interface. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to table this item until the June 30, 2015 meeting. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Beer Variance for Speedway – Cody Roebuck with Grant, Konvalinka and Harrison and Kirk Ellis with Speedway were present to represent Speedway. Mr. Ellis stated the issue is the distance to the playground behind Speedway. It is approximately 200 feet, but the minimum according to the ordinance is 250 feet. He stated there is a natural barrier between the store and the playground with hedging and landscaping. Mr. Ellis stated that Speedway is the second largest convenience store in the United States and are a responsible and reputable

retailer. They have company policies, point of sale procedures and training for all employees regarding beer sales. Mr. Ellis also stated they would be willing to put up a fence. Mayor Lambert stated that convenience stores of a certain square footage could also sell wine when the “wine in grocery stores” law goes into effect, and the City would have no control over that. The Mayor also stated we could not take the parking lot into consideration when considering the variance. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Gravitt, to approve the variance, with the condition that Speedway builds a five-foot high privacy fence between their building and the playground. Mac Pendley, 1706 East Ridge Avenue, stated he was opposed to the approval of the variance. Roll Call Vote: Vice Mayor Gravitt – yes; Councilmember Cagle – no; Councilmember Manning – no; Councilmember Sewell – yes; Mayor Lambert – yes. Motion approved.

Approval of Donation of fitness equipment for City’s work-out facility from Assemblers, Inc. – Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve the donation. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Mayor Lambert stated just for clarification on the Speedway issue, the “wine in grocery stores” law states that in order to sell wine the store must derive 20% of its sales from food and must be 1,200 square feet. The likelihood of Speedway selling wine in the future is very high. We have no control over that; it is through the state. This was voted in by referendum in East Ridge by 70% of the voters.

The meeting was adjourned.

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

June 30, 2015 –5:30 pm

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on June 30, 2015, 5:30 pm at East Ridge Community Center for the purpose of:

- Discussion/Take Action on Employee Insurance

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 Gravitt, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North and City Recorder Middleton.

Communication from Citizens: None

Councilmember Cagle asked about a supplement plan for retirees through the City. Tim Eachus with Insurity Group stated the City could not do this.

At this time, Mayor Lambert introduced the brokers in alphabetical order to give their presentations.

Benefits Inc. (Incumbent Broker) – Michael Curcio – Mr. Curcio stated they manage more than 600 groups, with multiple municipalities in Tennessee. Employees could call at any time and never get a voice mail. He stated they come in at open enrollment, plus meet one-on-one with new employees to enroll them. Mr. Curcio recommends the original plan they previously submitted which will lower the employee cost, plus save the City almost \$400,000 on the premiums. Employees would pay 10% of the negotiated Blue Cross rate. Benefits, Inc. is also willing to take a 3% fee from Blue Cross rather than a 5% fee. They are offering the P network at the same cost as S network which is less for employees. Dental benefits will increase from \$1,000 to \$1,500. Vision benefits would change from 24 months for new glasses to 12 months. He also presented a long term disability plan. Mr. Curcio stated that Benefits Inc. could provide timekeeping services at no cost to the City.

HCS – Tim Herndon, Financial Blueprint – Mr. Herndon stated his company has been in business for 27 years and handles some cities and counties. He stated they focused on what was requested, but can add options. They have contracts with all the major carriers and can match our current benefits. Mr. Herndon recommended the City stay with Blue Cross and offer a Plan P and a Plan S. Life insurance would be with Dearborn National Life. He stated he would set up quarterly meeting or more often if necessary.

Insurity Group – Tim Eachus and Emerson Russell – Mr. Eachus stated that he and Mr. Russell have been partners in this group since 2006. They are locally owned. Mr. Eachus

recommend the City stay with Blue Cross and offer both Plan P and Plan S. He recommended raising the deductible and out of pocket co-pays. He recommended Mutual of Omaha for life insurance. Mr. Russell also recommended the City stay with Blue Cross, but did recommend we use a local broker.

JMD Group – John Davis – Mr. Davis discussed the current plan and gave out information to Council with alternations for each company. Mr. Davis recommended staying with Blue Cross and keeping Plan S and Plan P for employees. He stated the deductible would be \$4,000 with the employee only responsible for 10% up to \$400. He also stated he would provide one-on-one enrollments and monthly billing audit and reconciliation services. He can also do a wellness program.

Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to retain the services of JMD Group, Option 1 of the proposal. Vice Mayor Gravitt recommended that staff start earlier next year on insurance proposals. Mayor Lambert reminded Council that it was the late decision of Council to bid this out, which put things late, not staff. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE AGENDA WORK SESSION
June 30, 2015 – 6:00 pm

To Set the Agenda For The
July 9, 2015 Council Meeting

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on June 30, 2015 at East Ridge Community Center to set the agenda for the July 9, 2015 Council Meeting and other items. The meeting was delayed until after the regular Council meeting.

Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

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

New Business Discussion:

RESOLUTION NO. ____ - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE TML RISK MANAGEMENT POOL “SAFETY PARTNERS” LOSS CONTROL MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM – City Manager Hyatt stated we apply for this grant every year.

RESOLUTION NO. ____ - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE, SALE, AND PAYMENT OF CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY BANK CAPITAL OUTLAY NOTES NOT TO EXCEED \$775,000 PURSUANT TO THE INFORMAL BID PROCESS – City Treasurer Jablonski stated he was contacted by the Comptroller’s office regarding these 2009 notes. He stated that the Finance Director at the time did not submit paperwork to the Comptroller’s office for their approval. Mr. Jablonski was told by the Comptroller’s office that he could submit the request for approval retroactively.

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - APPROVAL OF STREET PAVING BIDS - City Manager Hyatt recommended bidding the paving out yearly by square yard rather than by each project, such as we do with gravel, pipe, etc.

The meeting was adjourned.

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

**June 30, 2015
6:30 p.m.**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on June 16, 2015, 6:30 pm at the East Ridge Community Center. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Mayor Lambert added the following item from the work session agenda to the regular meeting agenda:

- Approval to waive the bids per Title 5, Chapter 4, Section 5-404(2) of the City Code for the emergency purchase of HVAC units for Fire and Police Station #1

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, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North and City Recorder Middleton.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes June 10, 2015 Called Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes June 16, 2015 Agenda Work Session
- C. Approval of Minutes June 16, 2015 Council Meeting

Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve the Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens:

None

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Cagle discussed the progress on Fire Station 2.

Councilmember Manning requested to add Christmas bonuses and employee raises to the agenda. Mayor Lambert stated this would be a part of the budget discussion.

Vice Mayor Gravitt asked for prayers for Martha Lee, owner of East Ridge Barber Shop, who is in critical condition.

Mayor Lambert announced that Camp Jordan Jams would be Friday, July 3rd. He also asked the status of the recreation grant for the tennis courts, basketball court, etc. Mr. Jablonski stated that a Request for Proposals has been sent out and we are moving forward.

Communication from City Manager:

City Manager Hyatt announced that City Hall will be closed on Friday July 3rd for the Independence Day holiday. He also thanked the staff for all that they do for the City.

Councilmember Manning suggested the City get a PA system with several microphones when it is necessary to have meetings at the Community Center.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 989 - AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016 AND APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT; FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION OF ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE CITY; THE TIME TAXES ARE DUE; HOW THEY SHOULD BE PAID; WHEN THEY WILL BECOME DELINQUENT; AND PROVIDING FOR THE INTEREST AND PENALTIES ON DELINQUENT TAXES AND PRIVILEGES. (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Ordinance No. 989 on second and final reading. Councilmember Cagle stated that the Recreation Fund is listed as a stand alone fund and should not be; it should be in the general fund. Mr. Jablonski recommended that Council amend the ordinance from the floor to make that change. He also stated there are 2 other spending items that were moved to the 2016 budget. One is the \$600,000+ for the purchase and transfer of the fire station property to Exit 1, LLC. We are waiting on the governor's signature so that did not make it in this fiscal year; it will have to be budgeted in 2016. There is also software for the court that will have to be moved to the 2016 budget. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Ordinance No. 989 on second and final reading, with the amendment to put the recreation fund back in the general fund rather than a stand-alone fund. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 991 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO AMEND THE ZONING REGULATIONS AND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 322 SCRUGGS ROAD FROM M-3 WAREHOUSE AND WHOLESALE DISTRICT TO C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (2nd and final reading) - City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Ordinance No. 991 on second and final reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Mayor Lambert readdressed the budget ordinance. He stated that the public hearing was tabled at the last meeting after it was opened and council approved it tonight without a public hearing. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to rescind the vote on Ordinance No. 989. The vote was

unanimous. Motion approved. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to remove the public hearing from the table. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

At this time, Mayor Lambert re-opened the public hearing for the budget. There were no comments from the public. The Mayor closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 989 - AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016 AND APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT; FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION OF ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE CITY; THE TIME TAXES ARE DUE; HOW THEY SHOULD BE PAID; WHEN THEY WILL BECOME DELINQUENT; AND PROVIDING FOR THE INTEREST AND PENALTIES ON DELINQUENT TAXES AND PRIVILEGES. (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney North read on caption again. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to give a \$250 bonus to full-time employees, a \$125 bonus to part-time and reserves and give a raise of \$.25 per hour to all employees. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Gravitt – pass; Councilmember Cagle – yes; Councilmember Manning – yes; Councilmember Sewell – yes; Mayor Lambert – no. Vice Mayor Gravitt – no. Motion approved. Mr. Gravitt stated he voted no because the City needs to build up their reserves without raising taxes. Mr. Manning stated that if we are watching our money, we should not have hired the “women” from Alabama. Mr. Gravitt stated our staff does not have the expertise to do what that company does. Mayor Lambert asked for less commentary from the audience. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Ordinance No. 989 on second and final reading as amended to include the Recreation in the General Fund and add the bonuses and raises as stated. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 992 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 971 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2014 TO JUNE 30, 2015 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT...” BY CHANGING THE REVENUE OF THE GENERAL FUND AND DESIGNATING FUND BALANCE OF THE GENERAL FUND AND CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE GENERAL FUND, STATE STREET AID FUND, FEDERAL FORFEITURE FUND, 212 DEBT SERVICE FUND AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Ordinance No. 992 on second and final reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 993 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE ADOPTING THE FY 2014 - 2015 ANNUAL BUDGET AS A CONTINUATION BUDGET FOR FY 2015 - 2016 UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A FINALIZED ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FY 2015 - 2016 IS ADOPTED (2nd and final reading – only if necessary) – Mayor Lambert stated that since the budget was approved, this ordinance will not be necessary.

Discussion/Take Action on Request for Proposals for Payroll, Time and Attendance Solution – **Councilmember Cagle stated that John Davis with JMD Group can do the time tracking for employees as part of his plan, as Mr. Davis stated in the meeting. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to table this item until a later date. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.**

New Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 2491 – A RESOLUTION EXCLUDING CERTAIN PROPERTIES FROM THE BORDER REGION RETAIL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 405 OF THE 2015 ACTS OF THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 2491. Mr. Jablonski gave out two revised lists of properties that came in late this afternoon. He recommended adopting both lists, one for addresses and one that list parcels and addresses. Chief Williams stated that GIS is revising parcel numbers. Mayor Lambert suggested doing another resolution with a third list just of parcel numbers. The proposed resolution was assigned #2493 and will be considered tonight. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 2491. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2492 – A RESOLUTION EXCLUDING CERTAIN PROPERTIES FROM THE BORDER REGION RETAIL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 405 OF THE 2015 ACTS OF THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Resoltuion No. 2492. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2493 – A RESOLUTION EXCLUDING CERTAIN PROPERTIES FROM THE BORDER REGION RETAIL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 405 OF THE 2015 ACTS OF THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve resolution no. 2493. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Baseball Field Project for East Ridge High School – Director Martin stated it would be between \$5,000 - \$10,000 to purchase dirt, but now is not the right time to do that. There was discussion on who should keep up he fields, the City of East Ridge or the County. Mayor Lambert stated that the school could possibly get donations. There was also a discussion of sodding the field. Mr. North will check into the possibility of the Hamilton County Commissioners using discretionary funds for the work. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to table this item until Mr. North brings back more information. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discuss/Take action on City Manager vacation/terminal pay - Mayor Lambert – The Mayor turned this issue over to City Attorney North. The issue is whether the City Manager can receive compensation for vacation and sick days. In 2012 an ordinance was approved that provided that all employees hired after July 1, 2012 would not have the right to sell any

accumulated leave to the city. He stated that Human Resources Manager Perry informed him that it has been the practice to pay this leave time when an employee left, even though they were hired after that time. Mr. North stated that this could be potential liability if we are treating employees differently. There is some ambiguity concerning leave buyback; the ordinance does not state that is it “use it or lose it.” Mr. North’s major concern is that we have not acted consistently since June 14, 2012. Mayor Lambert stated that he voted against this specific ordinance, but his understanding was that this pertains only to not offering new employees the leave buyback program. Mayor Lambert stated that if someone retires or resigns and they have accumulated leave time, it was never intended to deprive them of the time when they leave the City. It is not part of the leave buyback; it is accumulated leave pay. He believes we should pay the City Manager whatever time he has accumulated. City Manager Hyatt stated there is a leave buyback program, which is different from terminal pay. Ms. Perry stated that employees hired after July 1, 2012 are not eligible for the yearly buyback, but when they leave the City, they receive it. Mr. Hyatt stated that in the last meeting he was prepared to announce that he would work until July 24, 2015, but he stated Mr. Cagle told him in the “illegal” meeting to leave that night. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to pay Mr. Hyatt for four weeks of leave time. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Mr. North stated he needs guidance from Council on how to amend the ordinance. Mayor Lambert reiterated that leave buy back is a separate thing from accumulated leave. The Mayor would like to add discussion of the ordinance to the next agenda.

Discussion of City Manager position - Mayor Lambert – Mayor Lambert stated he has been approached by one employee who would like to apply for the position. He asked Council if they would like to start a search immediately or wait. He also stated that ICMA has a program that brings in retired city managers for a limited time until a permanent one is found. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to take no action at this time. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Approval to waive the bids per Title 5, Chapter 4, Section 5-404(2) of the City Code for the emergency purchase of HVAC units for Fire and Police Station #1 – Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle to waive the bids for the emergency purchase and not to exceed \$16,000. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned.