

**CITY OF EAST RIDGE
WORK SESSION
March 10, 2016– 5:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on March 10, 2016 at East Ridge City Hall to have a work session regarding the City of Ridgeside contract for fire and police services.

Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Gravitt, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Sewell, Interim City Manager/Chief Williams, and City Recorder Middleton. City Attorney North was not present for roll call *because he was attending an Administrative Hearing*, but came in later in the meeting.

Discussion of Ridgeside Contract

Mayor Janet Jobe, Commissioner Blaine Haywood, and Commissioner Kirk Faires were present to represent the City of Ridgeside.

At this time, the City Attorney came in.

Mayor Lambert stated the City entered into an agreement with Ridgeside in 2009 for Fire and Police Services. The amount is based on a per capita formula, a cost per citizen. He stated there is a difference in what Ridgeside citizens are paying compared to East Ridge citizens. East Ridge citizens pay \$247.33 per citizen for both services, comparably the City of Ridgeside pays \$230.95 per citizen for both fire and police services. Chief Williams also went over the number of calls to Ridgeside. Chief Williams stated that if the City increased by 7%, East Ridge citizens would still pay about \$.22 more per citizen. He stated this is based on the same formula we used in 2009. The Chief also stated since that time the department received an ISO 2 rating which is an excellent benefit for East Ridge and Ridgeside citizens. He also stated the Police go to Ridgeside as often as they can.

Mayor Lambert stated that the Police budget is \$3.6 million and Fire is \$1.6 million. Mr. Haywood asked if the \$3.6 million includes the Ridgeside portion. Chief Williams stated that it does not; theirs goes into the General Fund. Mayor Jobe asked if Code Enforcement is in that number. Chief Williams stated that it is not. Council discussed that but we were not able to do this because the judge has no jurisdiction to hear those case. Councilmember Sewell asked if the Administrative Hearing Officer (AHO) could hear the cases. Mr. North stated he could not, but Ridgeside could hire their own AHO.

Councilmember Sewell stated this amount includes codes, but Chief Williams sated that it did not; that was never finalized. The numbers now are based on a total of \$95,000. Mr. Haywood asked that if this is based on the number of residences, this amount would go up even more. Chief Williams stated that East Ridge residents are still paying more, a total of 7%.

Mr. Cagle discussed what it cost East Ridge to provide these services. Mr. Cagle stated he was told police officers go to Ridgeside approximately 3 or 4 times per shift. This amount would barely cover our cost. He suggested we implement a 20% increase.

Mayor Lambert stated in his opinion, that is too steep an increase. He would like to determine how many trips fire and police make to Ridgeside.

Mayor Jobe stated that 10 years ago, East Ridge charged \$34,000 for the Fire and Police services. In 2009, the cost went up to \$60,000 and later went up to \$95,000. She stated the cost has tripled in the last 10 years, but the services have stayed the same. She stated that it is their largest budget item, but Chief Williams stated it is also the City of East Ridge's largest budget item.

Mr. Haywood asked if there was documentation on the number of drive-throughs the Police do. Chief Williams stated they do radio dispatch. He also stated that sometimes if officers go downtown for court, they will drive back through Ridgeside to check on things.

Mr. Faires asked if these contracts could be separated, or do they have to use both services. Vice Mayor Gravitt sees an issue with that. If there is a structure fire, the police also go on the call.

Mayor Jobe stated Ridgeside used to receive a report from East Ridge stating how many and what types of calls they had. She asked if they could receive those reports in the future. She also stated some of the calls possibly could be eliminated. Chief Williams stated they have to be careful about liability calls. He doesn't want people to not call dispatch if they think they need to. This could be a liability to the City of Ridgeside.

Vice Mayor Gravitt stated someone said that fire and police services are Ridgeside's highest expense; it is also the City of East Ridge's. He stated we are both in the same position, an island community surrounded by Chattanooga and North Georgia. Mayor Lambert stated that is his concern. East Ridge can add to their sales tax; Ridgeside cannot. That needs to be taken into consideration.

Mr. Faires stated they appreciate East Ridge providing these services. He asked if these numbers were based on the number of citizens or the number of homes. Chief Williams stated the numbers are based on the population. Mr. Faires stated he would be surprised if the police drive through three times per shift. The Chief believes it is possibly one time per shift.

Mayor Lambert thanked Mayor Jobe and the Ridgeside commissioners for attending the meeting and giving their input on the services. Mayor Jobe commended the fire and police personnel who do answer the calls in Ridgeside.

The meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE AGENDA WORK SESSION

March 10, 2016 – 6:00 pm

To Set the Agenda For The March 24, 2016 Council Meeting

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on March 10, 2016 at East Ridge City Hall to set the agenda for the March 24, 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/Chief Williams, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton.

New Business Discussion:

ORDINANCE NO. – BUDGET AMENDMENT – Account Specialist Qualls stated this item will include any financing or debt the Council may do for Phase II of the Exit 1 project, plus it includes some adjustments in certain departments.

RESOLUTION NO. – 2016 AUDIT – Ms. Qualls stated this is in preparation of the 2016 Audit. She will have a proposal at the next meeting.

Discussion of Donation to Police Department – Chief Reed discussed this item and stated he is diligent about trying to find money for the Department. He stated that after selling cars from the impound lot, he began to try to find funds for a canine. He has spoken with the Elks Lodge and they are willing to donate \$10,500 for the City to purchase a canine. Hopefully by the first meeting in April, he will have all the details worked out for the donation.

Discussion of the Chattanooga Regional Talent Dividend Initiative – Mayor Lambert asked to place this on the agenda. He stated he is on the board for the Talent Dividend Initiative which is an effort to try to get people to complete their degrees. This initiative will encourage or find ways for them to finish. The Mayor stated the City has a tuition reimbursement program but it does not guarantee a raise in pay when it is attained. This program would provide them with an opportunity to get a raise when they attain their degree. He will bring back further information on this program.

Councilmember Manning and Sewell had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Cagle stated he was told by Matt Wood with MPL that they are 98% finished with the dirt work in the park and should be out of the park in a few days. He also stated they would be finished with the pavilion in the next two weeks.

Vice Mayor Gravitt and Mayor Lambert has nothing else at this time.

The meeting was adjourned.

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

**March 10, 2016
6:30 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on March 10, 2016, 6:30 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Mayor Lambert 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/Chief Williams, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes February 25, 2015 Agenda Work Session
- B. Approval of Minutes February 25, 2015 Council Meeting

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

Communication from Citizens:

Curtis Baker, 6820 Beulah Drive, is concerned about the sides of his road becoming a garbage dump. He would like to have court community service workers pick up trash on the roadsides. Chief Williams will contact the court clerk to see if this can be done. Mayor Lambert stated it is good to have citizens provide information on specific areas.

Councilmember Sewell suggested setting up radar on Frawley Road because people are running the stop sign.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Cagle asked everyone to remember Joann Thomas and her family in her recent passing. Ms. Thomas is a former employee of the City of East Ridge.

Vice Mayor Gravitt had nothing at this time.

Mayor Lambert stated the next council meeting falls during spring break week and Mr. Sewell will be out of town. The Mayor asked the Council to consider moving the regular meeting to March 31st and we would still have two weeks before the first meeting in April.

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

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1006 – 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 DESIGNATING A PORTION OF THE FUND BALANCES OF THE GENERAL FUND AND DOJ FEDERAL FORFEITURE FUND AND BY CHANGING THE REVENUE OF THE GRANT FUND AND BY CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES OF THE GENERAL FUND, GRANT FUND AND DOJ FEDERAL FORFEITURE FUND (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Gravitt, to approve Ordinance No. 1006 on second and final reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion/Take Action on Positions in Administration and Building/Codes Departments (tabled 1/28/16 and 2/25/16) – Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to remove this item from the table. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Mayor Lambert made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to create the position of Codes Inspector at a pay rate of \$31,200. Mr. Cagle asked Fire Marshal Custer if this was starting pay or top out pay. Mr. Custer stated this was a starting salary, but the salary could be increased each time this employee gets a certification. At the end of 24 months, if this employee does not have the required certifications, the employee could be terminated or moved to another department. That would be up to the City Manager. Mr. Custer also stated we need to develop a policy on how many times the employee could take the tests if they fail. Vice Mayor Gravitt suggested we put a salary range on the position and hire someone who already has the certifications. Mr. Custer stated it would be difficult to find a certified inspector at the salary of \$31,200. This could be increased depending on qualifications. Mayor Lambert and Councilmember Manning withdrew their motion and second. Mayor Lambert then made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to create a Code Inspector position at a beginning salary of \$31,200, which could be increased based on qualifications. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

New Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 2547 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF A PROPOSAL FOR UPGRADE AND REPLACEMENT OF THE CITY’S INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVER INFRASTRUCTURE – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Resolution No. 2547. Captain Mullinax stated we had one bid from eBryIT in the amount of \$37,810.55. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discuss/Take Action on Board Appointments:

Vice Mayor Gravitt	
Beer Board	Carnell Storie
Library Board	Mr. Gravitt stated his appointee has never been contacted about a meeting. He wonders if this board is necessary. City Recorder Middleton stated we must have a Library Board to apply for grants. Mr. Gravitt’s appointee from last year does not want to serve.
Zoning Appeals	No appointee at this time

Councilmember Cagle	
Beer Board	Charlie Snyder – 6124 Nottingham Drive
Library Board	Dianna Mansfield – 6915 Wake Robin Drive
Zoning Appeals	Mac Pendley – 1706 East Ridge Avenue
Councilmember Sewell	
Beer Board	Greg Shipley – 1311 Boyd Street
Library Board	Jane Sharp – 6112 Scofield Avenue
Zoning Appeals	Bill Voss
Industrial Dev. Board	Kelly Still
Councilmember Manning	
Zoning Appeals	Jim Bethune – 710 Haven Hill Drive
Beer Board	James Peels
Library Board	Janet Peels
Mayor Lambert	
Planning Commission	Mayor Lambert, Larry Sewell, Eric Avans, Ann Pruett, Ron Renegar
Zoning Appeals	Steve Leach
Beer Board	No appointee at this time
Library Board	No appointee at this time
Industrial Dev. Board	No appointee at this time

Mr. Gravitt would like to get a revised list of the Industrial Development Board with their terms. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve the board appointments. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Speed Humps on S. Smith – Vice Mayor Gravitt stated that citizens on South Smith St. have approached Council in the past about installing speed humps. He stated he lives on S. Smith Street and there is a problem with speeding traffic coming from Georgia. He has heard in the past that our insurance carrier, TML, was against installing speed humps because of the liability, but stated he does not care what TML recommends. Mr. Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell (for discussion only,) to install speed humps on S. Smith Street. Mr. Sewell stated that if we install speed humps on S. Smith, we will have to install on other streets. Chief Williams stated that Traffic Supervisor Mike Ailey contacted TML about this matter and he asked Mr. Ailey to come forward to share what he found out. Mr. Ailey stated he was told by TML that the City would have to adopt a policy for installing speed humps, they would have to be engineered and they would have to be professionally installed. He also stated he received a legal opinion from the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) that installing speed humps is like putting one hazard in the roadway that is supposed to solve another hazard. People would avoid these streets and just move over to the next street. Mr. Ailey also stated that he gets calls weekly from people wanting speed humps and believes this would open the door to have them on every street. Mr. Gravitt and Mr. Sewell withdrew their motion and second. Mr. Gravitt requested that radar be run on S. Smith Street more often.

Mayor Lambert stated he would like to readdress Item B –Board Appointments. Mr. Lambert would like to appoint Fire Marshal Kenny Custer as the City’s representative to the WWTA Board. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Gravitt, to approve the Mayor’s appointment. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Mayor Lambert would like to add Discussion of the Personnel Board to the next Council agenda.

Discussion of Phase II of the Exit 1 Interchange Project – Mayor Lambert stated he believes the time has come to select an engineer for this project. He stated we would have to send out a Request for Qualifications for engineering services. Account Specialist Qualls stated we have 2 million set aside for this project but it could run over that amount. Ms. Qualls stated she could have someone here from the TML Bond Fund at the next meeting to discuss borrowing funds if necessary. She also stated that according to our debt limit we can borrow up to \$17 million, with our total debt currently being at \$6.6 million, leaving a borrowing limit of approximately \$10 million. Ms. Qualls stated that Border Region debt is looked at differently on the debt level. Our Moody rating is still good and we should have no problem. Vice Mayor Gravitt would like for Ms. Qualls to look at private banks and compare up front costs, rates, and terms. Mr. Gravitt would also like for staff to get a list of Hall income tax participants to be sure everything is coming to the City that should be and not to Chattanooga.

Mayor Lambert stated that Phase I of the road project is coming along well. Chief Williams stated we have not received any money from the County and we have paid over \$500,000. City Attorney North suggested that the Chief call Mike Compton in the Mayor's office.

Councilmember Manning asked if we still had the funds to build the fire station. Chief Williams stated we have over \$1 million for that project. The Chief also stated we have not heard back from the architect. Mr. Manning asked if we had to bid out for architect services. Chief Williams stated this is a professional service that does not have to be bid, and he chose one that has built fire stations before.

Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to advertise for Request for Qualifications for an architect for Phase II of the Exit 1, I75 Road Project. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Bidding Out New Soccer Carpet for Camp Jordan Arena and Trading in Old Carpet – Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve. Councilmember Cagle stated this was on the list to declare as surplus in the last meeting so we have to put it on GovDeals. City Recorder Middleton stated that to declare an item surplus just means you can dispose of it, not necessarily on GovDeals. Mr. Gravitt asked how much we make off indoor soccer. Ms. Qualls stated we have taken in \$125,204.01 and have expenses of \$57,793.25. Mr. Gravitt stated he would also like to have a separate budget for Parks and Recreation. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to obtain bids for green carpet and for orange and navy carpet and factor in trading in the old carpet. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discuss/Take Action on LPRF Grant – Amanda Miller stated even if Council turns this grant back in to the State, the City would still have to pay \$4,000 to Southeast Tennessee Development district for grant services and \$2,840 to Ragan Smith for engineering services.

Staff presented resolutions as follows regarding the grant.

RESOLUTION NO. 2548 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE TO RETURN FUNDS FROM THE 2014 LOCAL PARKS AND RECREATION FUNDS (LPRF) GRANT – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a

motion, seconded by Mayor Lambert to approve Resolution No. 2548, to return the grant to the State. Vice Mayor Gravitt stated the fund to pay for grant services and engineering should come out of Parks and Recreation. Director Martin stated he agreed to do that, but since that time the park has had to purchase Automatic External Defibrillators. Mr. Gravitt amended his motion to add that the grant and engineering expenses come out of Parks and Recreation. Mr. Cagle seconded the motion. Mayor Lambert stated that it was Council who decided to sell the Monroe Street property to Walmart, which was the original location for the grant when it was awarded to the City. He believes the expenses should come out of the engineering line item. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Gravitt – yes; Councilmember Cagle – yes; Councilmember Manning – no; Councilmember Sewell – no; Mayor Lambert – no. Motion denied. Mayor Lambert then made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to pay the expenses out of the engineering line item. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Gravitt – no; Councilmember Cagle – no; Councilmember Manning – yes; Councilmember Sewell – yes; Mayor Lambert – yes. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2549 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A LOCAL PARKS AND RECREATION FUNDS (LPRF) 2016 GRANT – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle (for discussion purposes), to deny Resolution No. 2549, which would be not apply for the grant at this time, but wait until the next grant cycle. Councilmember Sewell would like to have a workshop to determine what is needed in the park for the grant. Motion approved.

Vice Mayor Gravitt asked Chief Williams if he could get the status of all grants which the City has applied for and received for the past twelve months. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Mayor Lambert discussed moving the next regular council meeting to March 31st because of spring break being the week of March 24th. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve moving the meeting the March 31, 2016. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Mayor Lambert announced that Honna Rogers, the City's MTAS consultant, has been ill but will have the City Manager rankings the first part of next week.

Councilmember Sewell asked the City Attorney the status of the walking track lawsuit. Mr. North stated they have had three depositions and more are scheduled for next month.

The meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE AGENDA WORK SESSION
March 31, 2016– 6:00 pm

To Set the Agenda For The
April 14, 2016 Council Meeting

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on March 31, 2016 at East Ridge City Hall to set the agenda for the April 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, Interim City Manager/Chief Williams, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton. Councilmember Sewell was not present.

Mayor Lambert stated that Councilmember Sewell was on vacation.

New Business Discussion:

ORDINANCE NO. – BUDGET AMENDMENT (1st reading) – Account Specialist Qualls stated hopefully this will be the last budget amendment for this fiscal year.

RESOLUTION NO. 2552 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WITH REGARD TO THE EXIT ONE INTERCHANGE RECONFIGURATION (PHASE TWO) – Mayor Lambert would like to move this item to tonight’s regular meeting agenda. He stated the City will put in 2 million on the project and we have already spent \$500,000, which will be reimbursed by the County. An additional \$500,000 will come out of Street Aid. Ms. Qualls will send an invoice to the County for the \$500,000. Without objection, this item was moved to tonight’s regular meeting agenda as Item J under New Business.

RESOLUTION NO 2553 – 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 GOVERNOR’S HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT – Mayor Lambert stated that both Resolution No. 2553 and 2554 are time sensitive. These are 100% grants with no match from the City. Without objection, these 2 items were added as a grant consent agenda to the regular meeting agenda as Item K.

RESOLUTION NO. 2554 – 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 HIGH VISIBILITY ENFORCEMENT GRANT

Discussion of Donation to Police Department – Chief Reed stated the Elk’s Lodge is still working on the donation of \$10,000 for a canine. He hopes to have everything back from them for the April 14th meeting.

Other Items:

Councilmember Manning had nothing at this time.

Vice Mayor Gravitt had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Cagle would like to add the volunteer program to the April 14th meeting agenda.

Mayor Lambert stated that anytime we have someone filling in for a higher paying position, we have always given that employee extra money for their efforts. He would like to pay Account Specialist Qualls extra money for taking on the duties of the City Treasurer after he left the City. He would like for Council to consider what amount they would think is fair and have this item on the agenda for the April 14th meeting.

Mayor Lambert stated that Camp Jordan Parkway looks good since the new road was constructed. Chief Williams stated the contractor is on schedule and will meet the deadline that is stated in the contract. The Mayor also stated the roof is on the new pavilion at Camp Jordan and progress is being made at Life Care Center.

Mayor Lambert also extended sympathies for the family of Cleveland Grimes, Executive Director of WWTA, in his recent passing.

The meeting was adjourned.

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

**March 31, 2016
6:30 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on March 31, 2016, 6:30 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Mayor Lambert gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Gravitt, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Manning, Interim City Manager/Chief Williams, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton. Councilmember Sewell was not present.

Mayor Lambert moved Item F to this portion of the agenda.

Presentation by Volks Folks and Request to Waive Fees to use Camp Jordan for Bug-a-Palüza in April 2016 – Director Martin introduced representatives from Volks Folks and from the Ronald McDonald House to discuss Bug-a-Palüza at Camp Jordan Park. The Ronald McDonald representative stated this is the 18th year for Bug-a-Palüza at Camp Jordan. She stated that over \$140,000 has been raised for the Ronald McDonald House. The Volks Folks representative thanked the Council for allowing them to hold the event at Camp Jordan. Mr. Martin stated we do not charge Volks Folks but we do get the camping fees. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to waive the fees for use of Camp Jordan for Bug-a-Palüza. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes March 10, 2016 Ridgeside Work Session
- B. Approval of Minutes March 10, 2016 Agenda Work Session
- C. Approval of Minutes March 10, 2016 Council Meeting
- D. Approval of February 2016 Financial Statement

Attorney North stated he would like the minutes of the March 10, 2016 Ridgeside Work Session to reflect that he was not present for roll call because he was attending an Administrative Hearing at the same time. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve the Consent Agenda with the attorney's amendment. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens:

Jim Bethune, 710 Haven Hill Drive, asked what the difference is in what we had as far as extended stay hotels, compared to what is planned for the new extended stay hotel. Mayor Lambert stated in the past these hotels could operate as apartments, but since the extended stay ordinance was amended in 2012, that can no longer happen. Hotels that are not in operation for

six months lose their grandfather status. After that, there is a 90 day limit on how long occupants can stay. Code Enforcement will police this. The Mayor also stated there are some issues coming up at the next Planning Commission meeting regarding extended stay hotels. Chief Williams discussed the Superior Creek Lodge. He stated that all four buildings were condemned, but the new owners have plans to rehab two of those buildings. There will also be random inspections of extended stay hotel. The hotels will also pay hotel/motel taxes. City Attorney North stated Superior Creek can reopen as an extended stay but now the definition is different. The 90 day stay is limited to a 12 month period.

Glenn Meadows, 6521 Ringgold Road, asked if there is a time table to either repair the buildings or tear them down after they have been condemned. Fire Marshal Custer stated Codes sends out letters giving the owner a time frame to make the repairs or demolish the building.

Matthew DeGlopper, 706 Pyron Lane, stated if the City does not do inspections on the extended stay hotel, they will do what they want to do. He believes it is a losing proposition for the City. Mayor Lambert disagreed. Mr. North stated if the extended stay hotels do not comply with the ordinance they risk losing their occupancy license. Chief Williams stated that the hotel that was remodeled as the LaQuinta had the same issues, but since LaQuinta took it over and remodeled, it was chosen by their corporate office as the best conversion of 2015. Vice Mayor Gravitt stated that some of the Hyatt's and Hilton's also operate as extended stay hotels.

Curtis Baker, 1620 Beulah Drive, stated that businesses close to Superior Creek are glad that it is gone. He also stated that another city had closed down three extended stay hotels. He believes council should have put a 30 day limit on stays, not a 90 day limit. Mayor Lambert stay the Regional Planning Agency recommended the 90 day limit. He also stated that the 90 day limit could accommodate someone burned out of a home, or construction workers working on the new developments in the city. Chief Williams stated that when Superior Creek was closed it was one of the hardest things he has ever had to do, but he believes that it sent a message to the hotel owners that we will not let it happen again.

Councilmember Cagle asked if the trash issue Mr. Baker's street has been resolved. Chief Williams stated he has met with Judge Helton about community service workers picking up trash but they are still working on the details. He will also talk to the Street Department supervisor to see if they could pick up some of the trash.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Cagle stated on March 14th, he advised City Manager Williams that a "girl" from administration had gone to Camp Jordan to pick up money from the tournament to transport it to City Hall or "wherever". He can't see paying "girls" in Administration overtime to do this when they have a safe at Camp Jordan. He stated that Kim Gann and the police officer could count the money and put it in the safe or make a night deposit.

Chief Williams stated that when former City Manager Gobble was here, there were accusations against an employee stealing money. Mr. Gobble put a policy in place that a city hall employee would help a park employee count money at the tournaments. Account Specialist Qualls stated this is a part of internal controls to safeguard all employees. Both employees count the money and then sign off on the amount. The money is verified the next day and deposited. This policy has been approved by the auditors and it is for the protection of every employee. Mr. Cagle

stated he is concerned about the overtime and said the employees' hours could be adjusted to cut down on the overtime. Ms. Qualls stated we only have three tournaments a year, with about 20 hours overtime for administration employees.

Mr. Cagle stated the Chief Williams had shown him pictures of the new fire station, but has told others he is not ready to present this to Council. Chief Williams stated these are preliminary drawings. The engineer is working on the blueprints and does not have them ready yet. Mr. Cagle stated he has also heard that Chief Williams has ordered a new ladder truck for the fire department. The Chief stated that he has not ordered a new truck that council would have to approve that purchase.

Vice Mayor Gravitt would like for Chief Williams to investigate if the City could have its own ambulance service, as far as budget and personnel. He stated he gets complaints about the big engine going on medical calls. This would also create more opportunities for advancement for firefighters. The Chief and Fire Marshall Custer will check into this.

Councilmember Manning asked the attorney if the City Manager works for the Council or does the Council work for the City Manager. Mr. North stated council has the hiring and firing authority over the City Manager, but the City Manager runs the day to day operations. He stated that when he told an employee to add something to the agenda, he was told by the "women" they would check with the City Manager. He stated they have never done that. City Attorney North stated the council sets the agenda and it is not appropriate for the City Manager to decide what is put on it. Vice Mayor Gravitt stated according to the Charter, Council cannot give direction to any city employee. Councilmembers have to go through the City Manager for everything. Mr. Manning stated we have never done it that way. Mayor Lambert stated it is best for employees to err on the side of caution and "check with the person that can fire them if they do something wrong." He stated the Council could send an email to the City Manager. Mayor Lambert stated he believes this is leading up to Item I on the agenda. He stated it is not hard to understand when you go after someone publicly. The Mayor stated council needs to establish a clear system for adding items to the agenda. They can send their requests to the Mayor or to the City Manager, not to employees. Mr. Manning stated he would notify the Mayor if he has agenda items.

At this point Mayor Lambert moved Item I to this portion of the agenda.

Discussion of Current Interim City Manager – Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to table this item and take action at the April 14th meeting. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Mayor Lambert told Chief Williams he is doing a very good job and he appreciates him.

Communication from City Manager:

Chief Williams stated that Ritchie King with Titan Light Shows contacted him to ask to be let out of his contract for the Christmas light show without any penalty. Mr. King stated that his show was under water for two of the days they were open, plus construction on Camp Jordan Parkway has been a problem for the show. The City Attorney drafted a letter that states the contract could be terminated by mutual agreement. Council would need to vote to terminate the agreement. Mayor Lambert would like to add this to the next meeting agenda for Council to vote on the termination.

Old Business:

Discuss/Take Action on Board Appointments

- Mayor Lambert appointed Robert Stahl to the Beer Board.
- Vice Mayor Gravitt reappointed Liz Norris to the Zoning Appeals Board.

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

New Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1007 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AMENDING TITLE 4, MUNICIPAL PERSONNEL, BY DELETING SECTIONS 4-245, STEP 4, AND 4-246 IN THEIR ENTIRETY (1st reading) - City Attorney North read on caption. Mayor Lambert stated this board has never met. Councilmember Cagle stated that Ordinance 575 created the board and was amended by Ordinance No. 656. He would like for staff to do further research on this before it is voted on. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to table Ordinance No. 1007. The Mayor would like to get copies of all the ordinances that pertain to the Personnel Board. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2550 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO APPOINT KENNETH W. CUSTER AS A BOARD MEMBER TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY WATER & WASTEWATER TREATMENT AUTHORITY - City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 2550. Mayor Lambert stated that WWTa requires a resolution for this appointment. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2551 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH HENDERSON, HUTCHERSON, AND MCCULLOUGH, PLLC FOR AUDITING SERVICES AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF TENNESSEE AND OTHER REGULATORY AGENCIES - City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Resolution No. 2551. Account Specialist Qualls stated the total is \$26,500, an increase of \$400 from the previous year. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Gravitt – Mr. Gravitt disclosed that he does work for Henderson, Hutcherson, and McCullough, PLLC and that being said he voted yes; Councilmember Cagle - yes; Councilmember Manning - yes; Mayor Lambert - yes. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discuss/Take Action on Beer Variance for Walgreen's at 3508 Ringgold Road – Philip Shandling was present from Walgreens to discuss and answer any questions the Council has. Mayor Lambert stated we typically get input from the Church about beer being sold next to them. Councilmember Manning made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to table this item until April 14th in order to check with the church to get their opinion on beer being sold at the Walgreens. Mr. Cagle asked Mr. Shandling if the store planned to sell wine. Mr. Shandling does not know at this point, but they have looked into that at other locations. He

stated he has been at this store for 10 years. He also stated they are very compliant and have had no issues with the neighbors. Vice Mayor Gravitt stated he would like to get a list of all variances that have been approved by Council in the last 24 months. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of the Chattanooga Regional Talent Dividend Initiative – Mayor Lambert – The Mayor gave out salary adjustment information for employees who attain a degree. A new hire would not be eligible for this program. We would leave the tuition reimbursement program as it is. In this program, the City would not be paying the tuition, only giving an increase in salary, for example 3%, if the employee attains a degree. This will be on the next agenda for consideration.

Discussion of City Manager Applicants – Mayor Lambert – Mayor Lambert scheduled a workshop on April 14th at 5 pm just before agenda session to discuss the City Manager applicants.

Grant Report – Amanda Miller, Community Involvement Coordinator, gave a report on all grants. She stated we have \$5,500,000 in grants. The Mayor asked when the design for the multi-modal grant will be complete. Ms. Miller will check into that. She also discussed the volunteer community outreach program and will have a resolution for the next meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2552 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WITH REGARD TO THE EXIT ONE INTERCHANGE RECONFIGURATION (PHASE TWO) – City Attorney North read on caption. Vice Mayor Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 2552. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Grant Consent Agenda:

RESOLUTION NO 2553 – 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 GOVERNOR’S HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT

RESOLUTION NO. 2554 – 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 HIGH VISIBILITY ENFORCEMENT GRANT

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

The meeting was adjourned.