

**MINUTES OF THE
49th INAUGURAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE**

**December 10, 2018
6:30 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of East Ridge, Tennessee met pursuant to notice on December 10, 2018. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Reverend Bill Owens gave the invocation and everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Sewell, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Helton, Councilmember Williams, Assistant City Manager Custer, City Attorney Litchford, and City Recorder Middleton.

Welcome & Opening Remarks:

Mayor Lambert welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated it has been an honor and a privilege to serve his hometown. He is grateful for the many wonderful people he has had an opportunity to work with and will miss them dearly. The Mayor stated he believes the City will be in capable hands and that it has been an honor to serve with Vice Mayor Sewell and appreciates his service to the City.

Vice Mayor Sewell stated he believes the City is headed in the right direction. He enjoyed serving with everyone on Council and thanked the citizens who supported him. He also thanked his wife, Jane, for her support.

Mayor Lambert offered some “unsolicited” advice to the Council. He quoted the words of Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple, who said “if you want to make everyone happy, don’t be a leader, go sell ice cream.” The Mayor stated it cannot be done. He encouraged the Council to remember the words of Christ to bless those who curse us and pray for those who persecute us. He stated he would say a prayer before every Council meeting and encouraged them to stay in touch with the Lord.

Administering Oath of Office:

At this time, the Honorable Kyle Hedrick administered the Oath of Office to the Honorable Brian Williams.

The Honorable J. Cris Helton administered the Oath of Office to the Honorable Jacky Cagle.

The Honorable Kyle Hedrick administered the Oath of Office to the Honorable Mike Chauncey.

The Honorable J. Cris Helton administered the Oath of Office to the Honorable Patricia Cassidy. Ms. Cassidy thanked everyone who supported her and stated it is an honor to serve.

Special Presentations:

Mayor Williams presented a plaque to former Vice Mayor Larry Sewell in honor of his twelve years as Councilmember and Vice Mayor.

The Mayor then presented a plaque to former Mayor Brent Lambert in recognition of his ten years as Councilmember and Mayor.

Election of Vice Mayor:

Mayor Williams opened the floor for nominations for Vice Mayor. Councilmember Cagle nominated Councilmember Helton. Councilmember Chauncey seconded the nomination. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discuss /Take Action on Appointment to Vacant Council Position:

Mayor Williams stated that due to his election as Mayor, a seat on the Council must be appointed. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Helton, to appoint Andrea Witt to the vacant Council position. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Councilmember Cagle stated he would always like to see the person who received the next highest number of votes in the election receive the appointment in a vacancy situation.

At this time, the Honorable Kyle Hedrick administered the Oath of Office to the Honorable Andrea Witt.

Concluding Remarks from Mayor and Councilmembers:

Vice Mayor Helton stated it has been an honor to serve with Brent Lambert and Larry Sewell and feels they have accomplished many good things during their terms. She is happy to work with the new Council and believes good things will happen.

Councilmember Cagle thanked his wife for supporting him during his time on Council. He stated he plans to use the taxpayer's money wisely.

Councilmember Chauncey congratulated Councilmembers Cagle and Witt, and Vice Mayor Helton and Mayor Williams. He thanked all the citizens for their support and thanked all the candidates.

Court Clerk asked everyone to remember former Councilmember Denny Manning in their prayers during his time in the hospital.

Mayor Williams asked everyone to remember Carnell Storie in their prayers because of health issues.

Mayor Williams stated he is honored and humbled to serve. He congratulated Councilmembers Cagle and Witt, Vice Mayor Helton and Court Clerk Cassidy. He also thanked the candidates who were willing to serve. The Mayor stated he needs help from the citizens and will always listen to their concerns and suggestions.

The meeting was adjourned.

**MINUTES OF THE AGENDA WORK SESSION
December 13, 2018– 6:00 pm**

**To Set the Agenda For The
December 27, 2018 Council Meeting**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on December 13, 2018, 6:00 pm, at East Ridge City Hall to set the agenda for the December 27, 2018 Council Meeting and other items.

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Williams, Vice Mayor Helton, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Chauncey, Councilmember Witt, Assistant City Manager Custer, City Attorney Litchford and Deputy City Recorder Qualls.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1090 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 1078 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2018 TO JUNE 30, 2019 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT . . .” BY DESIGNATING A PORTION OF THE UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE OF THE GENERAL FUND AND DRUG FUND AND BY CHANGING THE REVENUES OF THE GENERAL FUND AND BY CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES OF THE GENERAL FUND, DRUG FUND AND CAPITAL PROJECT FUND (2nd and final reading) – Finance Director Qualls stated we are amending the revenues and expenditures to reflect the loan for the communications tower. She also stated we received a refund from 911 communications in the amount of \$23,000+. She also had to increase the line item for the election because so many people voted. There is also \$30,000 for engineering fees for an item that will be discussed later. The Drug Fund will have to be amended for bullet proof vests.

New Business Discussion:

RESOLUTION NO. _____ Bids for Fencing Project at Camp Jordan Park (bids to be opened 12/21/18) – Assistant City Manager Custer stated the City received only one bid, so we will rebid the project.

Special Presentation - Public/Private Venture – Mr. Custer introduced Bob Martino with the Chattanooga Red Wolves. Mr. Martino discussed entering into a public/private venture for a soccer training facility at Camp Jordan. The facility would have both male and female leagues and would have locker rooms. The facility would bring in amateur leagues and colleges and would attract more and larger tournaments. People coming into town would spend more money at restaurants and hotels.

The facility would be located where the stadium is now, but it would be enhanced. The audio would face the park, not the neighborhoods. The stadium would face Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain. Training starts February 1st and the season runs through October. Assistant

City Manager Custer stated although the stadium is used by the middle and high school and in some tournaments, it is really underused. The City would work with events that are already scheduled.

Proposed Water System Separation at East Ridge High School – Assistant City Manager Custer explained that due to the requirements in the interlocal agreement, the City must install a new water meter. Councilmember Cagle stated the fields at the high school are a money pit and the tennis courts have still not been done.

Discussion of the Purchase of Property located at Oakdale Avenue and East End Avenue for the construction of a dog park/Animal Control facility. – Mr. Custer explained that the basic survey work has been done, but this site will not support both a dog park and an animal control facility. After a discussion on using property on Springvale Road, Council stated they would like more research done on this project.

Regarding the property at Oakdale and East End, Councilmember Chauncey asked if we bought the property for a dog park, would it be reimbursable under the Border Region. Mr. Custer stated that the dog park would be but not the Shelter.

Other:

Councilmember Witt thanked everyone who voted for her and the Mayor and Councilmembers for appointing her to Council.

Councilmember Chauncey thanked everyone who was responsible for putting together a wonderful reception after the inauguration.

Vice Mayor Helton stated she is looking forward to the next two years working with everyone on Council.

Councilmember Cagle stated he appreciated everyone who came to the inauguration. He also thanked everyone who was responsible for putting together the reception. He welcomed the new Councilmembers.

Mayor Williams congratulated the new Councilmembers and thanked the citizens for their support. He also commended the employees who put the reception together.

The meeting was adjourned.

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

**December 13, 2018
6:30 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on December 13, 2018, 6:30 pm at East Ridge City Hall.

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Rev. Danny Lance, with True Life Church, gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were: Mayor Williams, Vice Mayor Helton, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Chauncey, Councilmember Witt, Assistant City Manager Custer, City Attorney Litchford, and Deputy City Recorder Qualls.

Presentation of Christmas Parade Awards: Community Involvement Coordinator Bowers presented the awards as follows:

NON-EDUCATION

- 1ST East Ridge Electric
- 2ND Ginger Brown's Academy of Performing Arts
- 3RD Infinity Dance Connection

EDUCATION

- 1ST (\$300) Belvoir Christian Academy
- 2ND (\$200) East Ridge High School Pioneer Cheer Squad
- 3RD (\$100) East Ridge High School JROTC Marching Unit

Participation – (\$200) East Ridge High School Marching Band

GRAND MARSHALL

Grand Marshal – Olive Branch Mediterranean Foods

JUDGES

Freida Wheeler
Rex Wheeler
LaDonna Rider

Presentation of Audit – HHM:

Zach Hutcherson with HHM, our auditing firm, gave a brief overview of the audit. He stated that the City's net position has increased over last year, partly due to an increase in capital assets. The General Fund is slightly over 5.2 million, which means the City has enough in the

fund balance to cover expenses for three or four months. This is a healthy amount. Mr. Hutcherson stated the City came in under budget of approximately \$213,000. Council had no comments or questions regarding the audit. Finance Director Qualls commended the Finance Department staff.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes November 8, 2018 Agenda Work Session
- B. Approval of Minutes November 8, 2018 Regular Council Meeting
- C. Approval of Minutes November 30, 2018 Called Meeting
- D. Approval of October 2018 Financial Report
- E. Declaration of Surplus Property

Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey, to approve the Consent agenda. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Helton - abstain on first two, yes on others. Councilmember Cagle - yes Councilmember Chauncey - yes; Councilmember Witt - yes; Mayor Williams – yes. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens:

Earl Wilson with the East Ridge Needy Child Fund asked for donations of canned food for the food baskets and also for pet food. Mayor Williams commended the Needy Child Fund for helping the citizens in East Ridge.

John Britt, 4305 Marion Avenue, asked humbly for a third-party review of the police department use of force policy. Mr. Custer stated that the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) will be coming to review the policies and procedures of the Police Department.

Laura Mathis, 2100 McBrien Road, thanked the new council. She also discussed the proposal from the Red Wolves and who would pay for this. He stated the Red Wolves would have an initial investment of approximately \$1 million for the soccer stadium and would pay the city \$40,000 per year as a usage fee. He also stated he has been contacted by other large corporations regarding field sponsorship.

Mayor Williams stated there is an extra sign-in sheet for people who did not have an opportunity to sign in before the meeting. He would like to get phone numbers and email addresses in order to respond to citizens' questions and concerns.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Cagle stated he was unable to go down to the front for the presentations because of pain he is having in his legs.

Vice Mayor Helton wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Chauncey wished everyone a Merry Christmas and asked everyone to keep Denny Manning in their prayers.

Councilmember Witt wished everyone a Merry Christmas and stated the East Ridge Food Pantry will be open on December 19th from 2 – 5 pm. They are always open on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

Mayor Williams wished everyone a Merry Christmas and asked everyone to keep Denny Manning in their prayers. He also asked for prayers for Carnell Storie.

Communication from City Manager:

Assistant City Manager Custer stated each councilmember has a file with all the applications for City Manager. He has not reviewed them and is asking for input on what they would like for staff to do next. Council would like for staff to review the applications and narrow the field to ten.

Mr. Custer also stated that the City would like to implement a volunteer program for such things as volunteering at the History Center, scanning old building plans, etc.

Mr. Custer also presented a report on debt obligation. He stated that \$725,000 was approved by the State for a communications tower for the Police Department in order to enhance the communications for officers.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1085 – 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 SO AS TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1509 EAST RIDGE AVENUE, TAX MAP #169H-D-006, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (2nd and final reading – tabled 11/8/18) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Assistant City Manager Custer stated that the owner, Wade Trammel, no longer wishes to purchase the property and is withdrawing his request for rezoning. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Helton, to remove this item from the table. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve the applicant’s withdrawal request. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 1087 – 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 SO AS TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6750 RINGGOLD ROAD, TAX MAP #170I-C-007, FROM A-1 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT AND C-1 TOURISM COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Helton, to approve Ordinance No. 1087 on second and final reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 1088 – 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 SO AS TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 730 FRAWLEY ROAD, TAX MAP #170J-B-025.01, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AND C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Cagle asked if the owner, Jeff Ellis, and the developer agreed over everything that was discussed in previous meetings, especially underground wires. Mr. Custer stated the ordinance states that Atlas will meet all underground utilities requirements. He will speak with EPB regarding this. Other items brought up were a privacy fence and a landscape buffer. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Ordinance No. 1088 on second and final reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE NO. 1089 - Use on Review for Communications Tower at Police Department – Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. No one came forward to speak in favor of or in opposition to the use on review. The Mayor closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 1089 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, PERMITTING MOTOROLA SOLUTION, INC. ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TO CONSTRUCT A COMMUNICATIONS TOWER WITH RELATED EQUIPMENT AT 1501 TOMBRAS AVENUE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDINANCE 481, ARTICLE VII, SECTION 113 TITLED USES PERMITTED ON REVIEW (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey to approve Ordinance No. 1089 on second and final reading. Mr. Chauncey stated the tower is an excellent idea to improve the safety of our first responders, but also stated he saw that the project is contingent on FAA approval and the City would pay for the FAA license. Mr. Chauncey would like to get FAA approval before any more taxpayer money is spent. Mr. Custer stated that Motorola is already working on the study. Scott Tidwell with Motorola came forward to discuss the tower. He stated once approved he will work with staff to try to minimize change orders. Mr. Cagle stated the tower has been needed for a long time to improve communications. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

New Business

ORDINANCE NO. 1090 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 1078 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2018 TO JUNE 30, 2019 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT . . .” BY DESIGNATING A PORTION OF THE UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE OF THE GENERAL FUND AND DRUG FUND AND BY CHANGING THE REVENUES OF THE GENERAL FUND AND BY CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES OF THE GENERAL FUND, DRUG FUND AND CAPITAL PROJECT FUND (1st reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Finance Director

Qualls stated this amendment includes the revenue and expenditure for the communications tower, engineering cost of \$30,000, a rebate from 911 communications, etc. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Ordinance No. 1090 on first reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2877 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AWARDED BIDS FOR THE RENOVATION OF EXISTING CONCESSION AND RESTROOM FACILITIES, AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW RESTROOMS AND CONCESSION FACILITIES WITHIN THE CAMP JORDAN ATHLETIC COMPLEX – City Attorney Litchford read on caption.

Assistant City Manager Custer stated that Director Wilson has worked hard to value engineer this project with the low bidder. When this proposal was first presented, site survey cost, engineering costs and utility upgrades were inadvertently left out, which has caused an inflation in the pricing. Director Wilson presented the bids as follows:

Integrated Properties, LLC	\$1,333,579.33
Helton Construction	\$1,685,200.00

Mr. Wilson stated he has worked with the low bidder, Integrated Properties, LLC, to value engineer the project to approximately \$1,157,920.33. Staff is recommending the bid be awarded to Integrated Properties, LLC. Mr. Cagle stated that some things were left out such as repainting and reroofing the amphitheater and moving one of the restrooms at the ballfields. Mr. Wilson stated the amphitheater is still scheduled to be painted, but the roof was value engineered just to replace the soffit. He also stated that moving the restroom will serve the purpose of having a restroom and concession in the quad fields and will save money on sewer costs. Councilmember Chauncey and Vice Mayor Helton both believe the layout is fine the way it is. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 2877 with the low bid of Integrated Properties, LLC. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO 2878 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AWARDED BIDS FOR THE RENOVATION OF THIRTEEN (13) SOFTBALL/ INFIELDS WITHIN THE CAMP JORDAN ATHLETIC COMPLEX – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Director Wilson stated we received four qualified base bids for this project as follows:

River City Athletic Fields	\$88,700
Athletic Fields, Inc.	\$90,500
Tifton Turf	\$233,930
Mid-America Sports	\$501,201

Staff is recommending awarding the bid to River City Athletic Fields in the base bid amount of \$88,700. Councilmember Cagle discussed the add ons to the base bid for Safcoat, Molena, and Rye Grass. Mr. Wilson is recommending the City go with the Safcoat in order to make the fields more playable in rainy weather. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Helton, to approve Resolution No. 2878 with the bid of River City Athletic Fields in an amount not to exceed \$105,000. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2879 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO COMBINE THREE (3) TASK ORDERS FOR STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS AND APPROVE THE DESIGN, BIDDING, AND CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE SERVICES OF CTI ENGINEERING FOR DRAINAGE REPAIR AND/OR REPLACEMENT FOR THE THREE (3) PROJECTS City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Assistant City Manager Custer stated he has been working with CTI on these drainage projects, at S. Seminole, Boyd Street, and the 700 block of Stateline. Combining these task orders should get the job done more efficiently. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Helton, to approve Resolution No. 2879, not to exceed the amount of \$30,400. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2880 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO APPOINT TWO MEMBERS TO THE EAST RIDGE LIBRARY BOARD – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mayor Williams stated that two members' terms are expiring at the end of this month. Councilmember Chauncey appointed Ms. Kathy Cook. Vice Mayor Helton reappointed Ms. Mary Lambert. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 2880. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2881 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO CANCEL THE SECOND MEETING IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2018 – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 2881. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2882 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE EAST RIDGE PLANNING COMMISSION – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mr. Litchford stated under the code for the planning commission, the Mayor or his designee must serve. When Mayor Lambert's term was up, so was his designee's term. The Council had previously appointed Larry Sewell as a member and now that position is vacant. Councilmember Chauncey also served on the Planning Commission. Mr. Litchford recommended Mr. Chauncey resign from that position because there would be three councilmembers on the Planning Commission. Mr. Chauncey officially resigned his position with the East Ridge Planning Commission. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to appoint Councilmember Chauncey as the Council's appointee to the Planning Commission. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

At this time, Mayor Williams reappointed Casey Tuggle, and appointed J. Scott Miller as his designee to the Planning Commission. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey, to approve the appointments of Casey Tuggle and J. Scott Miller as the Mayor's designee. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.