

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

**November 14, 2019  
6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on November 14, 2019, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall.

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Minister Charles Cochran with East Ridge Church of Christ 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, City Manager Dorsey, City Attorney Litchford, and Deputy City Recorder Qualls.

**Consent Agenda:**

- A. Approval of Minutes October 24, 2019 Regular Council Meeting

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

**Communication from Citizens:**

Earl Wilson, 2019 Pioneer Ridge Trail, asked the Council to work with the Post Office about getting them to recognize East Ridge as a City and not part of Chattanooga. Mr. Dorsey stated it would be difficult, but it would not hurt to try. Councilmember Cagle stated this has been tried before without success.

**Communication from Councilmembers:**

Mr. Cagle would like a status report on the problem at Clemons Road. Mr. Dorsey stated the resident has been cited to go before the Administrative Hearing Officer. Mr. Cagle also asked about a sink hole on Edwin Drive. Assistant City Manager Custer stated WWTAA will check the line with a camera to see if there is a leak.

Vice Mayor Helton had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Chauncey wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Witt stated that she and Councilmember Chauncey graduated from the Local Government Leadership Program at UT in Knoxville. She also thanked Earl Wilson and Casey Tuggle for working on the Census Christmas float. She also thanked the East Ridge Food Pantry for providing Census information at the Jones Memorial Thanksgiving Service.

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- November 5<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Strategic Planning Session for the Council. They drafted a mission statement and conducted an environmental scan to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the city. There will be another session on Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The Complete Count Committee is having a coloring contest that ends November 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Check out the Facebook page for events in the Library.
- RAM Clinic at Camp Jordan Arena this weekend Saturday, 6 am – 4 pm and Sunday 6 am – 3 pm – They will have free medical, dental, and optometry services.
- November 23<sup>rd</sup> - Christmas Parade beginning at 6:30 pm
- Food Pantry Drive – Bring food items or monetary donations to Council meetings through the end of the year.
- The Mayor wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- No Council meeting on the fourth Thursday due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

**Communication from City Manager:**

- City Manager Dorsey thanked the Chamber for inviting them to the chili cook-off this past week. The winner was the entry from Local Coffee.
- Mr. Dorsey stated the Strategic Planning Session was a very good exercise in the Council setting priorities and coming up with a vision for the City.

Mr. Dorsey asked Assistant City Manager Custer to make an announcement. Mr. Custer stated the Animal Shelter was contacted by Core PR, an entertainment public relations firm, regarding a program they do called Songs and Shelters, to try to raise awareness for shelter animals. They would like to do a performance at the shelter by country music star Ben Cesare, to help bring in donations. It will be December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:30 at the shelter.

**Old Business:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 1118 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2020 OPERATING BUDGET, ORDINANCE NO. 1105, FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND ENGINEERING EXPENDITURES (2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading)** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Vice Mayor Helton, made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Ordinance No. 1118. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**New Business:**

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE NO. 1119 - Rezoning of 1018 and 1022 LeClercq Drive from C-2 Commercial District and R-1 Residential District to RZ-1 Zero Lot Line Residential District and RT-1 Residential Townhome District** – Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. The Mayor asked the applicant James Hathcock to come forward. Mr. Hathcock stated he wants to rezone the back half of the property to zero lot line and add townhomes on another portion of the property. He will build a road from Blackhawk in order to decrease traffic. He will also add landscaping. Mayor Williams asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of or in opposition to the rezoning.

- Randa Mertens, 1033 LeClercq, asked if there would be a traffic light on Ringgold Road and Blackhawk Trail and get sewer improvements. Assistant City Manager Custer stated he does not see a traffic light being installed. Mr. Custer stated that sewer rehabilitation is ongoing throughout the City.

Councilmember Cagle asked if the road the owner intends to build will be private and will he have dumpsters. Mr. Hathcock stated it will be private. The businesses will have dumpsters and the residences will have trash cans to be picked up by the City. Mayor Williams stated Mr. Hathcock will have to sign a waiver if the trash trucks come onto the private road. At this time, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1119 – 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 PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 1018 AND 1022 LECLERCQ DRIVE, TAX MAP #156-N-J-010, 010.01, 010.02, AND 011.02, FROM C-2 COMMERCIAL DISTRICT AND R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO RZ-1 ZERO LOT LINE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AND RT-1 RESIDENTIAL TOWNHOME DISTRICT (1<sup>st</sup> reading)** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Helton, to approve Ordinance No. 1119 on first reading. Councilmember Chauncey stated he believes this will be a significant improvement on the west end of Ringgold Road; it is something residents have been asking for. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE NO. 1120 - Rezoning of 1507 Rebecca Drive from R-1 Residential District to R-3 Residential District** – Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. The Mayor asked the applicant Michael Hunter to come forward to discuss the request. Mr. Hunter stated there have been apartments at this location for a number of years and this would just correct the zoning. Mayor Williams asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of or in opposition to the rezoning. There was no one that came forward. The Mayor closed the public hearing.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1120 – 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 1507 REBECCA DRIVE, TAX MAP #169-J-A-022.01, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-3 RESIDENTIAL APARTMENT DISTRICT (1<sup>st</sup> reading)** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Ordinance No. 1120 on first reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2995 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH SETH R. CHAMPION RELATING TO A PROJECT IN THE BORDER REGION RETAIL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS RELATING THERETO** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mr. Litchford stated this relates to the development of a Champy's Restaurant to be located at 6515 Ringgold Road. This will be the largest of Mr. Champion's nine stores. Seating capacity will be 267, as compared to the Lee Highway restaurant which seats 180 - 190. Full development of the

restaurant could be approximately \$5.5 million. City property taxes could be approximately \$412,000 over the next 22 years, with a \$2.1 million growth on the Local Option Sales tax. With the certification of the Border Region District, the City will receive 75% of the State's portion of sales taxes over the next 22 years. Total Border Region would be \$7.8 million. The Industrial Development Board approved a 30/70% split with the City receiving approximately \$4.9 million and the developer receiving approximately \$5.4 million over the next 22 years. That would cover the cost for the developer to locate here. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 2995. Mr. Cagle asked with the drive-through would there be enough room for parking. Mr. Custer stated based on the code, there would be. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2996 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AWARDED BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF 24 SETS OF PROTECTIVE CLOTHING/TURNOUT GEAR FOR THE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Williams stated we received one bid from Nafeco Fire and Equipment in the amount of \$52,324.00. They met all the specifications that were requested. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Helton, to approve Resolution No. 2996. City Manager Dorsey stated this will assure that all firefighters have two sets of turnout gear. Chief Williams stated keeping the turnout gear clean will help alleviate contaminants and they will have turnout gear if they immediately have another call. Mr. Dorsey stated this is not a budgeted item, but this is necessary for firefighter safety. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2997 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF INTEREST-BEARING EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION CAPITAL OUTLAY NOTES, SERIES 2019, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$132,748, AND PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF SAID NOTES** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Helton, to approve Resolution No. 2997. Finance Director Qualls stated this is for the police vehicles that are on order. We will have to present a budget amendment in January to reflect this. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2998 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO MEMORIALIZE THE APPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ TO THE EAST RIDGE BEER BOARD (Vice Mayor Helton)** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Vice Mayor Helton reappointed Carnell Storie to the Beer Board. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 2998. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2999 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO MEMORIALIZE THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE BEER BOARD** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mayor Williams reappointed Carnell Storie as Chairperson of the Beer Board. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 2999. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3000 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, MEMORIALIZING THE APPOINTMENT BY MAYOR WILLIAMS OF \_\_\_\_\_ TO THE EAST RIDGE PLANNING COMMISSION** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mayor Williams stated at this time,

he is not prepared to make this appointment. He feels he needs to do more due diligence and encouraged the Council to do the same when they make appointments. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey, to table Resolution No. 3000 until the December 12, 2019 meeting. Councilmember Chauncey stated that he has spoken to representatives from other cities that have an application process for Board appointments. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3001 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO MEMORIALIZE THE APPOINTMENTS BY COUNCILMEMBER CAGLE AND COUNCILMEMBER WITT TO THE EAST RIDGE LIBRARY BOARD AND APPOINT ONE MEMBER TO THE EAST RIDGE LIBRARY BOARD** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Cagle reappointed Dianna Mansfield to the Library Board. Councilmember Witt appointed Carolyn Tucker to the Board. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Helton, to appoint John Brit as the Council appointee. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey, to approve Resolution No. 3001, appointing Dianna Mansfield, Carolyn Tucker and John Brit as Library Board members. The vote was unanimous. City Attorney Litchford stated these appointees would serve 3-year terms. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3002 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE ADVANCEMENT OF STATE SALARY SUPPLEMENT PAYMENTS FOR ELIGIBLE FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Acting Chief Allen stated that he has 42 eligible officers at \$800 each for a total of \$33,600. Chief Williams stated he has 25 eligible firefighters at \$800 each for a total of \$20,000. The supplements will be advanced and then reimbursed by the state in the spring of 2020. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3002. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3003 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO CANCEL THE SECOND MEETING IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2019** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Vice Mayor Helton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey, to approve Resolution No. 3003. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3004 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ACCEPT A DONATION FROM OSBORNE-LAFAYETTE, INC.** - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mr. Litchford stated that Mr. Luken, the owner of Osborne-Lafayette, Inc., has property north of Camp Jordan that he wishes to donate to the City of East Ridge. Mr. Luken wishes to retain the rights, including any renewals, to the cell tower located on the property. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Helton, to approve Resolution No. 3004. Councilmember Chauncey asked if the city would be exempt from paying taxes on this property. Mr. Litchford stated the City would be exempt and that Mr. Luken would be responsible for any taxes owed up until midnight tonight. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

## Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the December 12, 2019 Council Meeting

- **Presentation of Life-Saving Awards – Police Department** – Acting Chief Allen stated he will present awards to two officers for pulling two citizens out of a burning home.
- **Presentation of Christmas Parade Awards**
- **Presentation of the FY 2019 audit– Jason Martin and Zach Hutcherson with HHM**
- **Old Business:**
  - **ORDINANCE NO. 1119 - 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 PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 1018 AND 1022 LECLERCQ DRIVE, TAX MAP #156-N-J-010, 010.01, 010.02, AND 011.02, FROM C-2 COMMERCIAL DISTRICT AND R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO RZ-1 ZERO LOT LINE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AND RT-1 RESIDENTIAL TOWNHOME DISTRICT (2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading) - No discussion**
  - **ORDINANCE NO. 1120 - 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 1507 REBECCA DRIVE, TAX MAP #169-J-A-022.01, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-3 RESIDENTIAL APARTMENT DISTRICT (2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading) – No discussion**
- **New Business:**
  - **RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ - Award bid for installation of equipment for police vehicles** – Acting Chief Allen stated this is a bid for the equipment for the new police vehicles which should be here sometime in February.

Mayor Williams stated he has an item to add to the next agenda. The Mayor stated he has been approached by Coach James regarding the field house and weight room at the high school. The Mayor stated that the Coach and Boardmember Tucker McClendon have secured funds from the County Board of Education to combine with the funds raised by the Alumni Association to build these facilities. The location is behind the football field which is currently owned by the City of East Ridge. The Board of Education desires to take back ownership of the athletic fields in order to do this. He stated he wants continued access to the football field for the recreation leagues and access to the tennis courts that the City recently upgraded. He would like to have an Interlocal Agreement on the next agenda.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY RECORDER