

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

**December 12, 2019
6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on December 12, 2019, 6:30 pm at East Ridge City Hall.

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Robert Jones gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were: Mayor Williams, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Chauncey, City Manager Dorsey, City Attorney Litchford, and City Recorder Middleton. Vice Mayor Helton and Councilmember Witt were not present.

Presentation - Life-Saving Awards – Police Department – Chief Allen presented a lifesaving award to Officer Brendan Beadle who, along with Officer David Boyd, helped 2 residents out of a burning house. Officer Boyd was not present to accept his award.

Presentation - Library Census Coloring Contest Winner – Jane Sharpe spoke as a volunteer with East Ridge Counts, an organization working with the Census. They held a coloring contest for ages 2 -5. They also participated in the East Ridge Christmas Parade. Ms. Sharpe presented a t-shirt to Gabriella Aguilar for winning the coloring contest. Mayor Williams thanked the Census people for the work they have been doing for the Census.

Presentation - Christmas Parade Awards – Community Involvement Coordinator Bowers presented certificates of appreciation to the judges Allen and Diane Qualls, and LaDonna Ryder. Ms. Bowers also presented a plaque to Mr. Glenn Meadows for being the Grand Marshal. She presented the awards for follows:

NON-EDUCATION

- 2nd Camping World RV Sales
- 2nd Melodee’s Diner
- 2nd Physician’s Surgery Center of Chattanooga
- 2nd Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 203
- 1st Action Church of East Ridge
- 1st East Ridge Electric

EDUCATION

- 2nd (\$200) Belvoir Christian Academy
- 2nd (\$200) East Ridge High School Football Team
- 2nd (\$200) East Ridge High School JROTC Marching Unit
- 1st (\$300) Cub Scout Pack 3003

Presentation - Citizen's Police Academy – Lt. Clint Uselton stated the goal of the Citizen's Police Academy was to let citizens know what the police do and get to know the officers. Mickey Spence and Earl Wilson did a PowerPoint presentation on the things they got to do during the academy, such as going to the 911 center, witnessing traffic stops, and going to court. They also did a mock crime scene with the Criminal Investigation Division. They commended the Police Department for everything they do.

Presentation - FY 2019 audit– Jason Martin and Zach Hutcherson with HHM – Mr. Martin thanked council for allowing them to perform the audit. He stated there were no findings this year and commended Finance Director Qualls for that. He stated that the City has a vacation and sick leave policy that is not capped which could be a large liability. Mr. Martin also discussed the fact that the police safe had large sum of cash in it and when Ms. Qualls found out, she called the auditors. State law requires that funds be deposited within 3 days. Mr. Martin stated the City has \$6.4 million in cash, \$15 million in total assets, \$2.5 million in liability, and total equity of \$7.1 million. He stated good practice is to have two to four months of reserve and the City has four months. City Manager Dorsey thanked the auditors for their thorough review. The Mayor commended Finance Director Qualls for her work on the budget.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes November 14, 2019 Regular Council Meeting
- B. Approval of October 2019 Financial Report
- C. Declaration of Surplus Property

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

Communication from Citizens:

Carnell Store, 620 Melville, wants to buy speed humps for his road. City Manager Dorsey stated that our insurers discourage the installation of speed humps on City streets. Basically, it could be considered a defect in the road and the City could be sued if someone is injured.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Cagle stated he received a thank you note from Bob Nevil with Remote Area Medical (RAM), for allowing them to hold their clinic at Camp Jordan Arena. Mr. Nevil stated 980 patients received dental, vision or medical care, with an estimated value of \$420,000.

Councilmember Chauncey stated he serves on the Future Ready Institutes of Hamilton County. They prepare students for real world experiences. They would like to do a field trip at City Hall and possibly do a mock council meeting in the spring. Mr. Chauncey wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- The Strategic Planning Session is complete. They did an environmental scan, and mission and vision statements. Next is to plan long-term goals.
- Tomorrow night is Library movie night.
- This is the last meeting for the food bank drive. Citizens may continue to contribute.
- The next charity recognized in Council meetings will be Friends of East Ridge Animal Services. Members came forward to speak. They have a monthly sale at 1032 Greenslake Road. They will take cat food and dog food and monetary contributions.
- The Mayor wished everyone a Merry Christmas

Communication from City Manager:

- We have received notification from the state comptroller that they received our request for debt service for new police vehicles and that we meet the state guidelines. It must be on record it was discussed in the meeting and handed out to Council.
- We also received a letter from the state comptroller that our FY 20 budget was approved.
- We received two checks from ASA Engineering, one in the amount of \$2,500 for the East Ridge Food Pantry and another in the amount of \$2,500 for the East Ridge Animal Shelter. We are doing a resolution in tonight's meeting to accept another donation for the Animal Shelter, so this donation can be added to that resolution.
- He has put out an internal posting for Police Chief position, which will run through this Friday. He also put out a report two weeks ago upholding former Chief Reed's termination.

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 (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey, to approve Ordinance No. 1119 on second and final reading. Councilmember Cagle asked if we foresee any problems with the City doing garbage pickup since it is a private road. City Manager Dorsey stated he will have to get with the individual property owners to sign a release. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

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 (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey, to approve Ordinance No. 1120 on second and final reading. 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 (tabled 11/14/19) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey, to remove this item from the table. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Mayor Williams appointed Dana Howe to the East Ridge Planning Commission. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 3000. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

New Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1121 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 1028, WHICH AMENDED THE EAST RIDGE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 481), RELATIVE TO SIGNS, SECTION 110. OFF-PREMISE SIGNS, SUB-SECTION D. SETBACKS AND SUB-SECTION E. SPACING OF SIGNS (1st reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City Manager Dorsey stated he would like to pull this item from the agenda. He talked to TDOT and other questions have come up. Mayor Williams removed this item from the agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 3005 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AWARING BIDS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT FOR FOUR (4) 2020 POLICE PURSUIT SUVs (AWD) FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Allen stated we received four bids as follows:

TRUCKER'S LIGHTHOUSE	ON-DUTY DEPOT	DANA SAFETY SUPPLY, INC.	MTN. VIEW FORD LINCOLN
\$23,850.08	\$24,092.00	\$25,620.00	\$26,814.00

Acting Chief Allen stated that the lowest and best bid was from Trucker’s Lighthouse in the amount of \$23,850.08. He also stated that the vehicle dealership where we are purchasing the cars can ship them directly to Trucker’s Lighthouse for the installation. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 3005 with the low bid from Trucker’s Lighthouse in the amount of \$23,850.08. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3006 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO WAIVE THE FEE FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES FOR USE OF THE CAMP JORDAN AMPHITHEATER AND TRACK FOR THE KAREN LAWRENCE 5K RUN AND WALK FOR KIDS – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey, to approve Resolution No. 3006. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3007 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ACCEPT A DONATION FROM SUSAN PERRUSO FOR THE EAST RIDGE ANIMAL SHELTER – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Finance Director Qualls stated she would have to amend the budget to reflect this donation for \$2,000 and one from ASA Engineering in the amount of \$2,500 which was added to this resolution. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 3007 with the amendment to add the donation of \$2,500 from ASA Engineering. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3008 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT TRANSFERRING THE EAST RIDGE ATHLETIC FACILITIES TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE BOARD OF EDUCATION – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mayor Williams stated that Coach Tim James with East Ridge High School and Tucker McClendon, Hamilton County School Board Member from District 8, have come up with additional funds to build a field house and weight room at the East Ridge High School athletic facility, to be used with the funds from the Alumni Association. The location would be on the athletic property that was deeded to the City. In order not to stand in the way of progress and to help the students, the City is willing to give the property back to the Board of Education. The City has improved the tennis courts, so we put a provision in the agreement to protect those, so they will not be built on or destroyed. If that happens, the Board of Education must construct four new courts to replace them before the old ones are demolished. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Chauncey, to approve Resolution No. 3008. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3009 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A STORAGE AGREEMENT WITH CHATTANOOGA PROFESSIONAL SOCCER MANAGEMENT, LLC (CPSM) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. He stated that CPSM needs to temporarily store equipment, benches and other items that will eventually come to Camp Jordan. CPSM will have insurance on the items. Councilmember Chauncey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 3009. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the January 9, 2019 Council Meeting

Old Business:

- A. **ORDINANCE NO. 1121 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 1028, WHICH AMENDED THE EAST RIDGE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 481), RELATIVE TO SIGNS, SECTION 110. OFF-PREMISE SIGNS, SUB-SECTION D. SETBACKS AND SUB-SECTION E. SPACING OF SIGNS (2nd and final reading)** – This item was pulled on first reading earlier in the meeting.

New Business:

- A. **ORDINANCE NO. ____ - Budget Amendment (1st reading)** – Finance Director Qualls stated the amendment would be for the capital outlay note for police vehicles, SWAT rifles, and \$4,500 in donations for the Animal Shelter.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

MAYOR

CITY RECORDER