

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

**February 9, 2023
6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on February 9, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

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

Present: Mayor Williams, Vice Mayor Haynes, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Tyler, Councilmember Witt, City Manager Miller, City Attorney Litchford, and City Recorder Middleton.

Attendance: 17

Milestone Award for January 2023 – Mayor Williams announced that Sinisa Stojnic has 10 years with the City and Hal Duncan has 35 years.

Special Proclamation – Mayor Williams and Council presented a proclamation to the McDonald family on the occasion of the 106th birthday of Delapheene (Della) McDonald.

Special Presentation – Mayor Williams and the Council recognized Officer Alan Resendiz, Officer Teddy Dyer, Officer Arthur Richardson, and Corporal Joseph Jansen for saving the life of a young child who was in a car accident on I-75. Mayor Williams expressed appreciation from the Council and presented them with City challenge coins.

Chief Uselton also announced that the Police Department is accepting applications for the Citizen’s Police Academy which will be starting on February 28th.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes January 26, 2023 Council Meeting
- B. Declaration of Surplus Property

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

Communication from Citizens: None

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Cagle and Vice Mayor Haynes had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Witt encouraged citizens to sign up for the Citizen’s Police Academy.

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- Library
 - February 14 - Storytime, 10:30 – 11:00 am
 - February 16 and 23 - Senior Bingo, 2:00 – 3:00 pm
- Parks and Recreation
 - Spring registration for soccer, baseball, t-ball, softball, adult softball is going on
 - April 25 - D-bat - Free clinic camp
 - April 28 - D-bat - Parks and rec night
 - June 13 - Softball night at Lookouts
 - Soccer all-star weekend with rec teams
 - April 29 - Red Wolves parks and rec night
 - March 5 - Last day of sign-ups for baseball, softball, t-ball
 - February 24 – last day for soccer sign-ups
 - March 19th – last day for sign-ups for adult softball

Go to agallum@eastridgetn.gov for more information.

The Mayor wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

Communication from City Manager:

- The new leaf truck arrived last week and is in operation in the northwest part of the City moving eastward.
- We will have presentations from three architectural firms on Tuesday, February 14th regarding the new animal shelter. It may be on the next agenda or possibly on March 9th.
- A Ringgold Road progress meeting was held today. Talley construction will be working on the south side for six more weeks until mid-March and then move to north side. Completion is scheduled for October or November 2023.

Old Business: None

New Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 3355 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO APPROVE AN APPOINTMENT BY COUNCILMEMBER CAGLE TO THE EAST RIDGE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF SUSAN THOMAS - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Cagle appointed Jeff Ezell. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Haynes, to approve Resolution No. 3355 appointing Jeff Ezell to the Industrial Development Board. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3356 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH FAMILY CONCESSIONS, LLC FOR THE OPERATION OF FOOD AND REFRESHMENT CONCESSIONS FOR THE EAST RIDGE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Parks and Recreation Director Skiles stated the term will now expire in 2027, and it can be renewed for one additional year after the fourth year. We have also added beer sales into the contract, giving

Family Concessions, LLC the first right of refusal to sell beer at non-city sponsored special events. Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3356. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3357 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT WITH ACADEMY SPORTS + OUTDOORS - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Director Skiles discussed the highlights which includes a \$2,000 sponsorship rider, a \$250 gift card, and startup packs of baseballs, softballs, and soccer balls. They also pay for our sports engine, which is the website. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 3357. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3358 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM CHATTANOOGA DOCK BUILDERS FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A BOARDWALK AND FISHING PIER AT CAMP JORDAN PARK - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Director Skiles stated we received one proposal from Chattanooga Dock Builders. Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Haynes, to approve Resolution No. 3358. Jeff Sikes with Asa Engineering stated there is a discrepancy in the amount of the proposal. Page 11 stated the amount as \$163,822.22 as opposed to page 12 that states the amount as \$150,054.01. Mr. Sikes discussed other issues, such as the warranty on work below the waterline, additional cost for pile driving, and no construction schedule provided. He recommends the City and Chattanooga Dock Builders clarify these issues during the contract negotiations. Councilmember Cagle asked Mr. Sikes if they foresee any dynamite blasting. Mr. Sikes stated if they hit shallow rock they will auger, not blast. Mayor Williams stated the amount of the proposal is still under the \$250,000 amount we were awarded in the grant. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3359 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH HHM, CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, FOR AUDITING SERVICES FOR FY 2022-2023 AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF TENNESSEE AND OTHER REGULATORY AGENCIES - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City Manager Miller stated we have used HHM since 2012 for our audits. The contract is for \$34,000, plus \$5,000 if a single audit is necessary. Mr. Miller stated the Multi-modal grant will have to be audited but not in this fiscal year; it will be in the next. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Haynes, to approve Resolution No. 3359. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3360 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO WAIVE THE FEE FOR USE OF CAMP JORDAN ARENA BY THE RIVER CITY CORVETTE CLUB FOR A FUNDRAISER TO HELP BENEFIT THE EAST RIDGE NEEDY CHILD FUND AND THE CHATTANOOGA FOOD BANK - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Director Skiles stated the event would be a car show on August 5, 2023. The amount we are waiving is approximately \$1,700. Vice Mayor Haynes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 3360. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3361 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE LOCAL PARKS AND RECREATION FUND 2023 GRANT PROGRAM - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Development Administrator McAllister stated the City must submit an intent to apply letter to be eligible for the grant. If awarded, we will use the grant for improvement and renovations at the Community Center. The grant has a maximum of \$2 million with a 50% match from the City. Mr. Miller wants to expand the gym in order to get it tournament certified. At the present time, it is not a full court. Vice Mayor Haynes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3361. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the February 23, 2023 Council Meeting (see Attachment A)

- **Old Business:** None
- **New Business:**
- **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Bids for Seal Coating the Splashpad (opens February 16, 2023)** – Director Skiles stated this was not done when the splashpad was built. Staff feels that it needs to be sealed for safety reasons.
- **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - RFP for Generator at City Hall (opens February 15, 2023)** Chief Building Official Howell stated the servers are currently located at the Fire and Police building but will be moved to City Hall, in order to protect them better.
- **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Development Agreement with Kelley X-ray (if approved by IDB)** – City Manager Miller stated this business located at 1500 Fruitland Drive in the summer of 2022. They have invested \$855,000 into the business. They sell x-ray equipment to hospitals, veterinarians, etc. The IDB will consider this agreement on February 16, 2023.
- **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - RFQ – Construction of Animal Shelter** – Mr. Miller stated we received letters of interest from three firms. On Tuesday, February 14th, we will hear presentations from all three firms.
- **Mr. Miller would like to add the following:**
 - **Safe Routes to Schools Grant** – Mr. Miller stated we received this grant in 2015. It included sidewalks on the west side of Belvoir Avenue going north, and a pathway from East Ridge Elementary School to John Ross Road. The Belvoir portion of the grant was eliminated and the only thing left was the walkway which goes from the school and ends at John Ross Road, with no sidewalks from that point to Ringgold Road. He feels this is not a safe environment. It would cost the City \$250,000 to build a sidewalk from that point to Ringgold Road. The City will have to reimburse the State approximately \$24,000 for the amount we have received and give up the grant. Mr. Miller’s recommendation is to give up the grant.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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

**February 23, 2023
6:00 pm**

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on February 23, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Rev. Jeff Baden, Hamilton Life Church, gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Mayor Williams, Vice Mayor Haynes, Councilmember Cagle, Councilmember Tyler, Councilmember Witt, City Manager Miller, City Attorney Litchford, and City Recorder Middleton.

Attendance: 19

Oath of Honor: Mayor Williams administered the Oath of Office to Officer Ackermann, Officer Resendiz, and Officer Wilson who all recently graduated from the Police Academy.

Approval of Minutes February 9, 2023 Council Meeting – Vice Mayor Haynes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve the minutes. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens: None

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Tyler, Councilmember Witt, and Vice Mayor Haynes had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Cagle asked for prayer for a former employee Ray Hudgins who is in the hospital.

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- The Mayor stated that Ms. Della McDonald passed away, just a few days after he presented her with a proclamation at the February 9th Council meeting for the occasion of her 106th birthday. He asked that everyone keep the family in their prayers.
- Library
 - Feb 28 and all Tuesdays in March is Storytime beginning at 10:30 am.
 - April 29 - Happy 50th anniversary celebration - It will be a carnival-type event with face painting, petting zoo, food, etc.
- Parks and Recreation
 - Spring sports registration for baseball, softball, t-ball, soccer, and adult softball will be ending soon. Late fees will apply for late sign-ups.
 - February 25 - Free clinic camp at D-bat.
 - April 28 – East Ridge Parks and Rec night at D-bat

- April 29th – East Ridge Parks and Rec night at the Red Wolves game
- June 13 – Softball night at the Lookouts game
- March 4th – Celebration for National Women’s Month at the Community Center
– 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Communication from City Manager:

- Leaf Collection - Crews have completed the second round on the south side of Ringgold Road. The second round on the north side is at Spring Creek. If you need collection after that, call City Hall and leave your address for pick up.
- Multi-modal project on Ringgold Road - On February 27th, Chattanooga Gas will be closing the westbound outside lane from Belvoir to Weldon to replace lines. The eastbound lane, closed for the sidewalk project, should be opened by mid-March. Once that is complete, we will close the westbound outside lane from McBrien to Weldon for the multi-modal project. Hopefully the entire multi-modal project will be completed by October or November 2023. We are putting progress reports on website. The Mayor asked for everyone’s patience because these are much needed updates for gas and other infrastructure.

Old Business: None

New Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 3362 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH KELLEY X-RAY CO., 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 was approved by the Industrial Development Board the previous week. He stated Mr. Kelley invested approximately \$855,000 and overall Border Region revenue is anticipated to be \$2.4 million. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3362. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3363 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE TO RETURN FUNDS FROM THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS GRANT TO THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Development Administrator McAllister stated the scope of the work for this grant was reduced so we are seeking approval to return the grant. We would have to reimburse TDOT \$15,860.61 for consulting services that the City had already paid and been reimbursed for by TDOT. City Manager Miller stated the original project consisted of sidewalks on the west side of Belvoir Avenue and up three streets, but this was scaled back. A sidewalk from John Ross at the school to Ringgold Road was never part of the project but would now cost around \$250,000. Since the project was scaled back, the only portion left would be a sidewalk from the school to the edge of John Ross Road, which is not practical. Vice Mayor Haynes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 3363. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the **March 9, 2023** Council Meeting

- Milestone Awards for February 2023
- **Old Business:** None
- **New Business:**
 - **ORDINANCE NO. ____ - Rezone 918 and 1000 S. Crest from R-1 Residential to R-2 Residential Duplex (1st reading)** – Mayor Williams stated when these items came before the East Ridge Planning commission, 918 S. Crest was approved but 1000 S. Crest was not. For that reason, the Mayor stated he would like to separate these into two ordinances. Chief Building Official Howell stated 918 S. Crest has an existing duplex on the property which is legal non-conforming. The property at 1000 S. Crest is two vacant lots, so two duplexes could be built, even though the owner stated he has no plans to build on the property.
 - **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Approval to rescind Resolution No. 3357 and Approve Revised Agreement with Academy + Outdoors** – Director Skiles stated Council approved an agreement on February 9th, but since that time, the agreement has been revised. Resolution No. 3357 will need to be rescinded and a new resolution and agreement approved.
 - **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Use on Review for Child Care Facility at 4308 S. Terrace** – Chief Building Official Howell stated child care is a permitted use, but with eight or more children a use on review is required.
 - **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Bids for Maintenance Garage at Camp Jordan (bid opening February 22, 2023)** – Director Skiles stated a recommendation will be presented at the March 9th council meeting.
 - **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - RFQ for Animal Shelter** – City Manager Miller stated the City received three proposals from Franklin Associates Architects, Allen and Hoshall, and MBI Companies, Inc. A committee consisting of the Police Chief, Deputy Police Chief, Animal Control Supervisor, a city resident and the City Manager reviewed the proposals. They are recommending MBI.
 - **RESOLUTION NO. ____ - Bids for Replacement Roof for Municipal Court** – Mr. Miller stated we have roof leaks over the court offices and holding cells. In 2002, we had a complete roof installed by JDH Inc., with a 10-year warranty, which was used one time. When we remodeled City Hall in 2021, a change order was done with Integrated Properties to replace the roof around the skylight area. Cost was approximately \$53,000. We need to reroof this quadrant of City Hall, which includes Council chambers, court offices, and the holding cells. He would like to use funds from the Capital Projects Fund.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.