# MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE

# May 11, 2023 6:00 pm

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on May 11, 2023, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Danny 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:** 8

**Employee Milestone Awards for April 2023** – Mayor Williams announced the Milestone Award for April is for Ronald Kitchens with five years of service. He will receive a check, pin, and a certificate.

**Presentation of "No Shave" Donation to Friends of East Ridge Animal Shelter** – Chief Uselton presented a check to the Friends of the East Ridge Animal Shelter in the amount of \$575. He stated police officers who do not shave during April donate \$25 to a worth charity.

**Special Proclamation** – Mayor Williams presented a special proclamation to the East Ridge City Library on the occasion of their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Head Librarian Patty Weaver accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Library.

**Approval of Minutes April 27, 2023 Council Meeting** — Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve the minutes. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

#### **Communication from Citizens:**

Mike Trotter, 3315 Gleason Circle, stated he lives behind Action Church. He stated the church wants to build a road from Gleason to the church parking lot and construct another parking lot next to his property and clear all the trees. He believes it will devalue his property and none of his neighbors are in favor of this. City Manager Miller suggested that Mr. Trotter get with Chief Building Official Howell to see what the setbacks are for this type of construction. Mayor Williams stated he is not aware of this plan, plus the pastor of the church told him they are thinking of moving the church to another location.

Samantha Rajatakse, 3221 Westonia Drive, stated many people lost their homes during the pandemic. She is looking at tiny home communities and asked if East Ridge could change their codes to allow these. Mayor Williams stated, if Council is willing, we could look at the possibility of tiny homes communities. He believes that citizens would not like them in

established neighborhoods because they may believe it would devalue their homes. Mayor Williams asked Ms. Rajatakse to send him the information she has regarding tiny homes.

#### **Communication from Councilmembers:**

Councilmember Cagle thanked Mr. Miller for handling an issue on Poindexter Avenue. He stated that bushes need to be trimmed on Beulah Avene to keep them from scratching cars. On Frawley Road at the bird sanctuary fence, there is garbage and the grass is high. Mr. Cagle also thanked Director Skiles for taking care of the water fountain at the playground.

Vice Mayor Haynes wished all the moms a Happy Mother's Day, especially her mother, Louise Young.

Councilmember Witt had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Tyler attended the graduation dinner for the police citizen's academy. He stated it is a great outreach program, and he thanked the Police for all they do.

## Mayor:

- May 6-7 The Bacon festival was a great event held at Camp Jordan with food trucks, vendors, petting zoo, etc. Next year, the schedule will be reversed, with the Bacon Festival being held in the fall, and the Taco Festival being held in May.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 2:30 pm Game Time at the Community Center.
- May 12, 6 pm Scam Awareness Presentation by Assistant Police Chief Josh Creel at the Community Center.
- May 14, 1:00 3:00 pm The Community Center will host a Mother's Day Tea. Admission is free, but reservations are required.
- May 11 21 Thrillville Fair is opening today at 5 pm. Hours are Monday Friday from 5 pm 11 pm (approximate) and Saturday and Sunday 1 pm 11 pm (approximate.)
- The Mayor wished everyone Happy Mother's Day.
- June 24<sup>th</sup>, 8 am 12 pm Clean up day in East Ridge

### **Communication from City Manager:**

Public Works Week May 21–27<sup>th</sup> – Mr. Miller wished all of them, Building Maintenance, Sanitation, Street Department, and Traffic Control a Happy Public Works Week.

Ringgold Road Update – Work on the north side is progressing. Talley is working between Dover and Belvoir. Chattanooga Gas is working between Weldon and Cemetery. They should be completed with replacement line on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Heading to the east, the work on McBrien Road will take another 6 months. When Chattanooga Gas is completed with that section next week, Talley will move in and start installation of storm sewers and then sidewalks. WWTA will bring their camera truck in next Wednesday and Thursday to look at sewer lines at McBrien and then repair some of the sewer lines at McBrien going west. They will need to close the

outside lane between Ringgold Road and Weldon going westbound until the project is complete. Completion date is June 2024. Chattanooga Gas has expedited their work on this project, which must be done before Talley Construction can begin their work.

Chattanooga Dock Builders is working on the pier at Dickert Pond in Camp Jordan and hopefully will be finished around June 1<sup>st</sup> in time for the Optimist Fishing Rodeo on June 10<sup>th</sup>. There will be a ribbon cutting on that day.

The Mayor asked that since we have been working on Ringgold Road in two different directions, could the work be done in stages. Mr. Miller stated if we can, we will, but we probably could not, because we have the gas company, WWTA, and EPB working there now, and then Talley Construction after that. The Mayor asked everyone to be patient because the upgrades to the stormwater system are well worth the wait.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** 

RESOLUTION NO. 3388 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO WAIVE THE FEE FOR USE OF CAMP JORDAN ARENA BY EAST RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR THEIR FIFTH GRADE GRADUATION – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Director Skiles stated that East Ridge Elementary School has requested use of the Arena from 12:30 to 3:30 PM and that the City waive the fee. Staff recommends approval. Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3388. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3389 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO WAIVE THE FEE FOR USE OF DICKERT POND AT CAMP JORDAN BY THE EAST RIDGE OPTIMIST CLUB FOR A FISHING RODEO – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Director Skiles stated this event is free to the community. Staff recommends approval. Vice Mayor Haynes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cagle, to approve Resolution No. 3389. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Haynes – yes; Councilmember Cagle – yes; Councilmember Tyler – abstain; Councilmember Witt – yes; Mayor Williams – yes. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3390 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO ALLOW THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR SEALING THE PARKING LOTS AT CITY HALL AND THE COMMUNITY CENTER** – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City Manager Miller stated this was last done in 2017. The quote we received was over \$10,000 so it must be bid out. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3390. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3391 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO ACCEPT A DONATION FROM THE EAST RIDGE CHAMBER COUNCIL FOR EAST RIDGE ANIMAL SERVICES** – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Uselton stated the funds were donation by the East Ridge Chamber from funds they collected for hosting a business expo. Vice Mayor Haynes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3391. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3392 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ASA ENGINEERING AND CONSULTING, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES AND, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, TO FILE AN AQUATIC RESOURCE ALTERATION PERMIT ("ARAP") WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION, DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES ("TDEC-DWR") REGARDING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5302 STONE STREET – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City Manager Miller stated there is a stream that runs through the property the City purchased for the Animal Shelter, which is a tributary of Spring Creek. We must have a setback on each side of the stream of 60 feet, but with approval of a variance from the Zoning Appeals Board it could be changed to 45 feet on one side and 75 feet on the other. By doing so we would need another variance to change the parking spaces from 16 down to 9.

The City would need to file an ARAP permit with TDEC. If approved, we would pipe the creek and fill in and would be able to use the site for a larger dog play area, plus we could expand the facility to the south. The cost for ASA Engineering to do the study and for the permits would be \$19,000. Cost of the work would be \$112,000. There is no guarantee that TDEC will approve the permit, but if they do, it will take 10 months. This will go before the Zoning Appeals Board on June 12<sup>th</sup> and before Council on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3392. Councilmember Cagle stated the City should have done a title search to find these issues before we bought the property. Mayor Williams stated that we purchased the property at a good price and by piping the stream, it will benefit the stream. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Haynes - yes; Councilmember Cagle - no; Councilmember Tyler - yes; Councilmember Witt - yes; Mayor Williams - yes. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3393 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO PURCHASE FIVE (5) IN-CAR CAMERAS FROM MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Uselton stated we have nine new vehicles but only four in-car cameras in stock. The total to purchase four cameras from Motorola Solutions that are compatible with what the Police Department currently uses is \$51,125 from Motorola Solutions. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3393. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3394 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ACCEPT A DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000 FROM HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER MIKE CHAUNCEY'S DISCRETIONARY FUND TO BE USED FOR UPGRADES TO THE CAMP JORDAN NATURE TRAIL – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Director Skiles stated that Hamilton County Commissioner Chauncey approached the City about this donation for upgrades to the nature trail. Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3394. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Mayor Williams thanked Commissioner Chauncey for the donation.

**Presentation of FY 2023 – 2024 Budget** – City Manager Miller discussed the following highlights from the budget.

### **Revenues** totaling \$26,091,960 include:

- Property tax revenue \$7,069,000
- Other local taxes \$4.5 million
- Licenses and permit \$540,000
- Intergovernmental revenues \$3.1 million (about \$825,000 is generated from Camp Jordan, Community Center, and Arena)
- Incremental State sales tax (Border Region) \$9,304,000
- Miscellaneous Revenues \$1.4 million

# **Expenditures** totaling \$26,091.960 include:

- Personnel \$11,404,000
- Operations \$4.1 million
- Material and supplies \$710,000
- Capital outlay \$580,000
- Debt payments (Capital Outlay) \$233,467, (Equipment for Fire/Police/Streets)
- Transfers to Other Funds (Debt) \$1,167,000
- Transfers to other funds (Border Region Payments) \$5,557,000
- Transfers to Capital Improvement Fund \$2,279,613

Total Proposed All Funds Budget (less transfers out) - \$47,858,374

#### **General Fund**

#### **Revenues**

- Property Taxes Mr. Miller stated as of August 2022, the preliminary assessed valuation provided by the Assessor of Property is \$529,571,102. Adding to this are new businesses that will fully come online in FY 23-24 plus 40 plus new homes. These will increase the total assessed value to \$542,053,412. However, the personal property assessment must be discounted by 30% because 2023 is a ratio year for Hamilton County, making the total \$536,230,812, an increase of approximately 1.26% from last fiscal year. Estimated revenue from property taxes is \$6,569,000.
- Other Revenues (less property taxes and Border Region sales taxes) These are anticipated to increase by \$1,085,965 due to increases in the Business Tax; Alcoholic Beverage Tax; Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical Permits, State Mixed Drink Tax; and Recreation Program Fees and Facility Rentals.

The general fund unassigned balance for FY 2022 is \$8,958,263. The General Fund anticipates an overage for FY 2023 of \$2,541,540, which added to the previous year's total gives the City an unassigned fund balance of \$11,499,803. This is unaudited.

# **Expenditures**

Proposed expenditures show an increase of \$2,713,823 or 11.6%. This is partially due to a bond issue, an ARPA of \$1.3 million, and an increase in the Border Region payouts.

#### **Personnel Costs**

- Personnel will increase by 7 new positions 6 in Fire, 1 in Police, 1 in Recreation, and 1 in Court has been eliminated. The 6 in Fire are due to new businesses on the east end of the City. We currently only have 2 employees at Station 2.
- A 4% across the board salary increase is proposed. A \$3,000 increase is proposed for all sworn police officers to make their salary competitive with Hamilton County and other cities in the County. Salary adjustments are proposed for 8 full-time employees and 12 part-time employees for a total of \$28,000.
- Mr. Miller is proposing the implementation of the Bridge Plan for Firefighters and Police Officers.
- Increase in Education and Training primarily for Fire, Police and for certification of Animal Control Officers.

**Operational Expenses** – some major increases outlined but not discussed.

# Capital Outlay – Total \$580,200

- Police 7 cruisers and 1 canine vehicle \$431,000
- Street Department 1 replacement truck \$40,000 1 replacement salt and sand spreader \$6,200 guardrail replacement \$10,000.
- Traffic Control 1 replacement truck \$40,000
- General Recreation Mower (replacement bush hog) \$13,000 1 replacement truck \$40,000

Transfers to Other Funds – Mr. Miller discussed transfers from the Geneal Fund to the Debt Service Fund to pay off various notes and bonds, and to the Economic Development/Border Region Fund for financial incentives to businesses. He also stated the balance of \$2,279,613 left over from the Border Region after incentive payments will be transferred to the Capital Improvement Fund.

#### **Special Funds**

- State Street Aid Fund Mr. Miller projects we will have close to \$3 million in this fund in the 2023-2024 budget. He proposed \$1.7 million for street paving.
- Grant fund Expected revenue should be \$210,000 with proposed grants including aquatic clean stream project, driver safety, police traffic services, and violent crime intervention.
- Drug Investigation Fund These funds are received from Federal/State grants, seizures and award from the Court, drug fines, etc. Anticipated revenues total \$67,000.
- Economic Development Fund The amount anticipated to be returned from the State is \$9,304,398. After transfers out, the total would be \$6,628,998.
- Solid Waste Management Fund the fund projects total revenue of \$1,640,979 which is sufficient to meet operating costs. Assessment fees are \$180 per year, and Mr. Miller asked the Council to consider raising them by \$1.00 to \$1.50 per month in FY 2024 2025 to cover recycling expenses.

- Debt Service Fund This is a special fund to account for bond issues and notes for various major projects. The hotel/motel tax and the transfers to the General Fund are enough to pay our debt service.
- Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Fund The projected revenue is \$13,279,613. Appropriations include upgrades to various City buildings, Ringgold Road multi-modal project, resurfacing of City owned parking lots, construction of Animal Shelter, and an undesignated allocation for CIP projects identified throughout the fiscal year.
- American Rescue Plan Fund This fund is used to account for and report
  proceeds of the Federal grant allocations to the City. The first round was
  approximately \$3.1 million and the second round was also \$3.1 million. These
  funds must be spent by the end of the 2026 calendar year. It will be used for
  drainage improvement for the multi-modal project and the N. Mack Smith
  Road widening project.

Mr. Miller concluded his presentation by saying the budget is a financial plan that can be amended during the year. Mayor Williams was pleased that no tax increase was proposed. He asked if Councilmembers wanted to address any questions individually with Mr. Miller or would like to have a workshop. Councilmember Cagle stated he would like to have a workshop. Mayor Williams asked councilmembers to get with Mr. Miller to let him know if they want to have a workshop, so a date can be scheduled.

# Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the May 25, 2023 Council Meeting

Old Business: None

• New Business: None

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

# MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE

# May 25, 2023 6:00 pm

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on May 25, 2023, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Pastor Will Gann, with Fearless 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: 7

### **Consent Agenda:**

- A. Approval of Minutes May 11, 2023 Council Meeting
- B. Approval of April 2023 Financial Report

Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve the Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. City Manager Miller stated that, as of April, the Parks and Recreation Department has collected 98% of the amount budgeted for this fiscal year. He commended them for bringing in more revenue without increasing fees.

**Communication from Citizens:** None

### **Communication from Councilmembers:**

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

Councilmember Cagle stated the new pier at Dickert Pond looks great, and he believes it will be completed for the fishing rodeo.

Mayor Williams discussed the following:

- The Mayor wished Councilmember Tyler a Happy Birthday.
- Library:
  - O Summer reading kicked off with a foam party yesterday, with snowcones, bubbles, etc. They had 80 to 100 people attending.

- Parks and Recreation:
  - Animal Camp Parks and Rec and Wilderwood are partnering to teach about animals and play games from 9 am-2 pm.
- Clean up day June 24<sup>th</sup>, 7 am-12:30 pm The City and the East Ridge Council of the Chattanooga Chamber are partnering to clean up trash and do minor repairs. Online registration is on the website. Deadline to register is June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Sanitation schedule If your pickup is on Monday, Memorial Day, your trash will be picked up on Tuesday.
- Memorial day event at 1 pm in front of Pioneer frontier The Mayor stated we have this event annually at Pioneer Frontier along with the American Legion. Councilmember Cagle will be speaking in absence of the Mayor. He asked everyone to remember the service members who lost their lives.

# **Communication from City Manager:**

- The last call for carryout alcohol expires July 1, 2023. The law that allowed carryout during COVID will not be extended.
- The City Manager, Mayor, and Councilmembers attended a recognition ceremony at Erlanger for first responders for an incident on Poindexter Avenue two weeks ago. Police and Fire first responders performed life-saving measures prior to the patient being transported to the hospital. The trauma surgeon stated without the quick response of our personnel, the patient would not have made it. We will recognize these first responders in June at a Council meeting.
- A Ringgold Road progress meeting was today with representatives from Talley Construction, Chattanooga Gas and their sub-contractors, and TDOT. Talley is installing storm drains between Dover and Belvoir on the north side, as well as conduit and wire for streetlights. Streetlights are not part of the contract but we will look at this further when the project is completed. The gas sub-contractor is working on the gas mains on the north side in the area of Dover and McBrien. Hopefully, this will be completed at McBrien and Ringgold within the next two weeks. The project is moving along because of the good weather.

**Old Business**: None

#### **New Business:**

Bridgett Raper, Communications Strategist, Small Cities Coalition of Hamilton County – Update on bills passed during the Legislative Session - Ms. Raper gave highlights of the following bills.

- Annexation allows owners of agricultural property previously annexed to petition the municipality to be de-annexed if property lies within one mile of municipal boundary. Signed by the Governor.
- SB75 Deletes requirement for urban growth plan. Deferred to 2024.
- Codes lowers the population threshold from 25,000 to 20,000 allowing cities to share one building inspector. Developers could also have their own inspectors. Deferred to 2024.
- Firearms and Ammunition Firearms bills were shut down after the mass shooting in Nashville. Deferred to 2024.

- Firefighters Post Traumatic Stress Disorder can be incurred in the line of duty by responding to one or more incidents. Signed by the Governor.
- Holidays/Special Observance Days Recognizes Juneteenth as a legal holiday.
- Open Meetings Requires that agendas and supplemental documents be available to the public 48 hours in advance of the meeting. There was pushback from cities, so it was amended to state that only agendas be available 48 hours in advance.
- Political parties Officer of elections must post a sign at polling places that it is a misdemeanor to vote in a primary without being a member of or affiliated with that political party. Signed by Governor.
- Purchasing procurement Raises the threshold from \$10,000 to \$25,000 to require sealed bids.
- Sexual Offenses Requires law enforcement agencies to assemble an adult sexual assault team.
- State Government Requires governmental entities to provide a period of public comment at public meetings and allows entities to place reasonable restrictions on the public comment period.
- Taxes Business tax Bill introduced to eliminate all business tax. Increased threshold to \$100,000. This will impact East Ridge. Deferred to 2024.
- Real Property –Sets the income limit for persons 65 years of age and older at \$60,000.
- Sales tax Restricts the types of costs of projects within the Border Region and other revisions. City Attorney Litchford stated this passed in the Senate but not the House. It could affect the City. Taken off Notice
- TML bill State shared sales tax This will come back next year. Taken off Notice.
- Sales tax holidays Extends until June 2024 the sales tax holiday for retail sale of gun safes and gun safety devices. Taken off Notice.
- Traffic safety Authorizes the Legislative body to increase fine for speeding to \$200.00.
- Zoning Permit applications will be judged on the law in effect at the time of application.
- June 14 and 15 Alicia Hodge will hold a 3 hour online to go over the new laws.

RESOLUTION NO. 3395 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ("TDOT"), FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE TO PROVIDE MOWING SERVICES AT THE 1-75, EXIT 1 INTERCHANGE, FOR FY 2023-2024, ON A REIMBURSEMENT BASIS - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City Recorder Middleton explained that this is an annual contract with TDOT where the City mows the right-of-way at the I-75, Exit 1 Interchange, and is reimbursed \$9,800 from TDOT for six mowings. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3395. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3396 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A GENERATOR FOR THE COMPUTER SERVER ROOM FROM STOWERS/CAT THROUGH THE SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING ALLIANCE - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Human Resources Manager Sinigaglio stated the servers needed to be moved to a stable location, which is temperature controlled. The generator will

ensure operation of the servers during power outages. Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3396. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

# Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the June 8, 2023 Council Meeting:

- Employee Milestone Awards for May 2023 Mayor Williams stated we will have one milestone award for the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Old Business: None
- New Business:

**ORDINANCE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_ - **FY 2023 – 2024 Budget Ordinance (1st reading)** – City Manager Miller stated the first reading of the budget ordinance and the tax rate ordinance will be June 8<sup>th</sup> and the second reading will be June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Miller is not proposing a tax increase and we will have the same level of services.

**ORDINANCE NO.** \_\_\_\_ - **FY 2023 – 2024 Tax Rate Ordinance** (1<sup>st</sup> reading) – No further discussion.

**ORDINANCE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_ - Budget Amendment (1<sup>st</sup> reading) – Finance Director Qualls stated the amendment is for the initial payments on the new fire engine and the new sanitation truck. She also stated that in 2019, Council approved an interfund loan from the General Fund to the Grant Fund. As of today, the Grant Fund has paid the General Fund back over \$1 million.

**RESOLUTION NO.** \_\_\_\_ - Acceptance of the Tennessee American Water 2023 Environmental Grant - Development Administrator McAllister stated this is a grant from Tennessee American Water for the Tennessee River Rescue in the amount of \$1,000. There will be a check presentation at the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**RESOLUTION NO.** \_\_\_\_ - Approval of bids for McBrien resurfacing — Mr. McAllister stated resurfacing will be from Ringgold Road to Anderson Avenue. Bids open on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**FY 2023 – 2024 Budget Work Session –** City Manager Miller stated he would not go through the budget message again; he would like to take questions from the Council. He stated that revenues look healthy and we will hire new personnel. There will be no tax increase and we will keep the same level of services.

Councilmember Cagle stated he would like to raise the minimum amount required in the fund balance from \$4 million to \$6 or \$7 million. City Manager Miller stated at the end of FY 21-22, we had a fund balance of \$8.9 million. This will be added to the agenda for June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Cagle discussed the retirement bridge plan for Police and Fire. He asked if the plan stops at age 65 when people go on social security. City Manager Miller stated the plan starts at age 55 and stops at age 62. Mandatory retirement is age 60, except for the Chiefs and

some other administrative personnel. The City would pay 3.5% per year into the bridge plan with TCRS.

There was no other discussion regarding the budget.

Mayor Williams wished everyone a nice Memorial Day and asked everyone to remember the military service members.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.