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

August 8, 2024 6:00 pm

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on August 8, 2024, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Rev. Daniel Beard, Action 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

Employee Milestone Awards for July – Mayor Williams announced two Milestone awards for July, Melissa Mahoney with 15 years of service and Allen Qualls with 5 years of service. The Mayor stated he appreciates these two employees as well as all City employees.

Approval of Minutes July 25, 2024 Council Meeting – Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve the minutes. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Haynes - abstain; Councilmember Cagle - yes; Councilmember Tyler - yes; Councilmember Witt - yes; Mayor Williams - yes. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens: None

Communication from Councilmembers:

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

Mayor Williams announced the following:

- Library
 - Novel Ideal Book Club August 10th, 11th, 12th Book of the month is Bad Monkey
 - Acrylic Pour Coaster Class August 15th , 2:00 3:30 pm
 - Learn how to draw Bluey and Bingo August 24th, 10:30 11:30 am, registration is required
- Parks and Recreation
 - Last minute School supplies pick up August 12th beginning at 9:00 am
 - $\circ~$ Pawsome event August 24, 11:00 am 3:00 pm adoption carnival, with games, and waiving adoption fee
 - Camp Jordan Events Director Skiles came forward to discuss the events.

- Fall Festival September 28th, from 10 am 5:00 pm free admission. We have expanded the Children's zone, plus we have 145 vendors. We have sponsors for the event – Asa Engineering, Parkridge Hospital, First Bank, and Jack's.
- Registration is still going on for t-ball, baseball/softball, flag football, soccer, and cheerleading. For more information, visit the website at eastridgeparksandrecreation.com

Communication from City Manager:

City Manager Miller provided updates on the following projects:

- N. Mack Smith Road EPB has completed the overhead lines and underground lines to Fairfield Inn and the Assisted Living Facility. Chattanooga Gas is working on gas lines and should be complete in two to two and one-half weeks. AT&T, EPB, and Comcast will install overhead lines, and Adams Contracting should be ready to start construction by the middle of September or first of October.
- Animal Shelter Mr. Miller had a walk-through with the contractor, architect, and City staff and developed a punch list for small necessary repairs. He signed off on a substantial completion certificate today, He stated staff could start moving their furniture, fixtures, and equipment in on Monday, August 12th. The contractor will complete the items on the punch list. We hopefully can open just after Labor Day.
- Town Center (Multi-purpose pavilion) Bids will be advertised on Sunday, August 11th and will be opened on September 10th. After review of the bids, they will be submitted to Council on September 26th for consideration of approval.
- Expansion of the Community Center We hope to bid this project out in April 2025.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1205 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND ORDINANCE 1028 WHICH AMENDED THE EAST RIDGE ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 481, BY ADDING AN ADDITIONAL SECTION THERETO, BEING SECTION 111 OF ARTICLE VI (SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS AND EXCEPTIONS), IN THE EAST RIDGE ZONING ORDINANCE (1st reading) (tabled June 13, 2024) - City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Haynes, to bring Ordinance No. 1205 off the table. Councilmember Cagle asked if this item had gone back before the Planning Commission. The Mayor stated that it has not. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Haynes - yes; Councilmember Cagle - no; Councilmember Tyler - yes; Councilmember Witt - yes; Mayor Williams - yes. Motion approved.

City Attorney Litchford read the caption of Ordinance No. 1205 again. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Haynes, to approve Ordinance No. 1205 on first reading. Councilmember Cagle asked if the lights hanging across Camp Jordan Parkway would be allowed. Chief Building Official Howell stated that is considered a canopy and will be allowed. Mr. Cagle also asked in Section B (3) if existing businesses had to conform

to the new regulations as long as they are open. Mr. Howell stated they would be grandfathered in.

Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to amend Ordinance No. 1205, page 5, to change the language from "shall have sixty (60) days" to "shall have ninety (90) days" and Section B, Part 2 from "business sold' to "business sold two years after the effective date of this ordinance". Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Haynes - yes; Councilmember Cagle - no; Councilmember Tyler - yes; Councilmember Witt - yes; Mayor Williams - yes. Motion approved.

Roll call vote on the original motion to approve Ordinance No. 1205 on first reading: Vice Mayor Haynes - yes; Councilmember Cagle - no; Councilmember Tyler - yes; Councilmember Witt - yes; Mayor Williams - yes. Motion approved.

New Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1209 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 OPERATING BUDGET, ORDINANCE NO. 1206, BY CHANGING THE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES OF VARIOUS FUNDS (1st reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Finance Director Qualls stated the amendment is for the down payment on the new fire engine in the amount of \$1 million. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Ordinance No. 1209 on first reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3580 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH S&ME TO PROVIDE DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS AND MONITORING SERVICES FOR THE ABATEMENT OF ASBESTOS AT THE MCBRIEN SCHOOL BUILDING – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City Manager Miller stated that S&ME did the asbestos assessment at McBrien and asbestos-containing materials were found. The next step would be to hire an engineering company to do the asbestos abatement design for removal of the asbestos and then put the project out for bid. We have a proposal from S&ME for design specifications and monitoring services in the amount of \$19,780. Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3580. Councilmember Tyler asked if it would be more cost effective to demolish the McBrien building. Mr. Miller stated we would still have to abate the asbestos for renovation or demolition. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3581 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE A USED PICK-UP TRUCK FOR THE BUILDING AND CODES DEPARTMENT – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Building Official Howell stated the Building and Codes Department has a 2012 F-150 Crew Cab that is in very poor condition. It was transferred from Parks and Recreation to the Fire Department and then to Building and Codes. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3581. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3582 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING BIDS FOR ATHLETIC FIELD EQUIPMENT AND FIELD MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES FOR BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL FIELDS AT CAMP JORDAN PARK FOR FY 2024 – 2025 – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Director Skiles stated bids were received from four companies. Staff recommends awarding bids based on the lowest bid per item per the attached spreadsheet. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3582. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3583 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO RESCIND RESOLUTION NO. 3542 WHICH APPROVED THE LOW BID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI-USE MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL AND PEDESTRIAN TRAIL AT CAMP JORDAN PARK AND TO APPROVE THE SECOND LOWEST BID FOR THE PROJECT – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Director Skiles stated the bid was awarded to Martin Land Clearing, but they withdrew their bid. Ms. Skiles is recommending the bid be awarded to Lumberjack's Tree Service, who was the second lowest bidder for the project. Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3583. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3584 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE AND THE CHATTANOOGA AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY ("CARTA") – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. City Manager Miller stated the City entered into an agreement with CARTA in 2017 to provide Care-A-Van (paratransit services) in the City. The cost is \$10.00 per one-way trip with the City paying \$7.50 and the rider paying \$2.50 per trip. CARTA is proposing a fee of \$20.00 per one-way trip, with the City paying \$17.50 and the rider paying \$2.50. Prices would be double that for round trips. Mr. Miller also stated a grant was involved so we cannot increase what the rider pays. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3584. Councilmember Cagle asked Mr. Miller if he has checked on the transport van the state provides. Mr. Miller is checking on that. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the August 22, 2024 City Council Meeting

- Special Presentation Community Spotlight Award -
 - Old Business:
 - ORDINANCE NO. 1205 Amendments to Sign Ordinance (Lighting Display and Storefront Display Regulations) (2nd and final reading) No further discussion.

- ORDINANCE NO. 1209 AN ORDINANCE OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 OPERATING BUDGET, ORDINANCE NO. 1206, BY CHANGING THE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES OF VARIOUS FUNDS (2nd and final reading) – No further discussion.
- New Business:
 - RESOLUTION NO. _____ Approval of Proposal for Audio/Visual System Equipment and Installation in City Hall Council Chambers Human Resources Director Sinigaglio stated the City received four proposals for this project. The proposal includes upgrades to the operating system, replacing both cameras and the TVs. Councilmember Cagle asked if we were going to do anything so that citizens in the back of the room can hear the Council. City Manager Miller stated that Councilmembers must sit within 6 inches of the microphone in order to be heard and must have their microphone on. New microphones were not included in the bid. He also stated you do not want the microphones so sensitive that it picks up everything. Councilmember Cagle asked if speakers could be installed in the back of the Council chambers. The Mayor would like for the City Manager to check the cost of additional speakers.
 - RESOLUTION NO. _____ Approval for the Purchase of Equipment and Upfitting of CID Vehicles from Trucker's Lighthouse, Inc. through the Tennessee Statewide contract – Assistant Chief Creel is requesting approval to purchase emergency equipment for the four trucks recently purchased for the Police Department. Cost is \$35,375.92 to be paid for from the Drug Fund.
 - RESOLUTION NO. _____ Approval for the Purchase of 10 Sets of Turnout Gear for the Fire Department from NAFECO through the Sourcewell Purchasing Alliance – Chief Williams stated the total cost for the turnout gear is \$37,120. This is part of a three-year plan to replace turnout gear.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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

August 22, 2024 6:00 pm

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on August 22, 2024, 6:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order.

Rev. 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: 11

Special Presentation – Community Spotlight Award – Mayor Williams stated he wanted to create this award and present it to organizations that provide a great service to the citizens. The Mayor read the award and presented it to the East Ridge Community Food Pantry. Carolyn Tucker, the Director of the Food Pantry, accepted the award on behalf of the group and thanked the Mayor and Council, and the citizens of East Ridge. She also introduced others who help at the Food Pantry.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes August 8, 2024 Council Meeting
- B. Declaration of Surplus Property Building/Codes, Administration, Building Maintenance

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

Communication from Citizens: None

Communication from Councilmembers:

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

Councilmember Tyler wished the East Ridge High School Pioneers good luck in their football season.

Mayor Williams announced the following:

- Library Events
 - August 24, 2024, 10:30-11:30 am Learn how to draw Bluey and Bingo
 - $\circ~$ August 26, 2024, 6:00-7:00 pm Cookin' the Books Cooking Club
 - o September 7, 2024, 11:30 am-12:30 pm Lego Club
 - September 14, 2024, 11:00 am-12:00 pm A Novel Idea Book Club
- Parks and Recreation The Mayor asked Director Skiles to announce the events.
 - August 24, 2024, 11:00 am-3:00 pm Pet Adoption Carnival at the Community Center
 - August 22, 2024 Pancake Breakfast for Seniors
 - August 28, 2024, 11:00 am Senior Fitness Luncheon at the Community Center sponsored by Giardino Restaurant
 - The splash pad is open only on weekends from 11:00 am 7:00 pm.
 - The Senior fitness program has walking at 9 am, aerobics, line dancing, pickle ball, etc.
 - Aerobics classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays
 - Open gym after school for youth
 - All sports registration has closed but there are a few spots left.

Communication from City Manager:

- Animal Shelter Contractors are completing the punch list items and should be finished this week or early next week. They are moving in furniture, appliances, and equipment. The shelter should be open sometime after Labor Day.
- Widening of N. Mack Smith Road Chattanooga Gas is installing the third and final section of gas lines on the east side. EPB is scheduled to test their new lines and Comcast and AT&T will start their transitions from the old poles to new poles. Adams Contracting should start their construction mid to late September with 270 days for completion.
- Multi-Purpose Building We are soliciting bids with bid opening on September 10th and award on September 26th. We have received ten inquiries for bid packages. Construction should begin in October or November.

Mayor Williams asked if traffic is moving on N. Mack Smith with all the construction. Mr. Miller stated it is and has heard no complaints. The Mayor also brought up the Fall Festival. Director Skiles stated we have 155 vendors for the festival. We have added sponsors, with Asa Engineering being our main sponsor, First Bank is sponsoring the petting zoo, Parkridge is sponsoring the Pumpkin Patch, and Allegiant Electric is sponsoring the inflatables and Kids Zone. There was discussion of having a two-day event next year.

Ms. Skiles also discussed the Christmas Parade. Applications will go out the second week in September. The parade will be November 23rd.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 1205 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND ORDINANCE 1028 WHICH AMENDED THE EAST RIDGE ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 481, BY ADDING AN ADDITIONAL SECTION THERETO, BEING SECTION 111 OF ARTICLE VI (SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS AND EXCEPTIONS), IN THE EAST RIDGE ZONING ORDINANCE (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mr. Litchford stated since this ordinance has been modified since it went before the Planning Commission, he believes it should go back before the Planning Commission, and then brought back before Council for first and second reading. Vice Mayor Haynes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to send Ordinance No. 1205 back to the Planning Commission. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 1209 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 OPERATING BUDGET, ORDINANCE NO. 1206, BY CHANGING THE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES OF VARIOUS FUNDS (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Finance Director Qualls stated this amendment is for the \$1 million down payment on a new fire engine. Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Ordinance No. 1209 on second and final reading. Deputy Chief Albright was present to answer any questions regarding the fire engine. Councilmember Witt asked how long it would take for the fire engine to be delivered. Deputy Chief Albright stated it would take 40 to 41 months. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved

New Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 3585 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM INPUT GROUP, LLC FOR UPGRADES TO THE AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Human Resources Director Sinigaglio stated three bids were received and is recommending the bid from Input Group, LLC in the amount of \$30,297.50 be approved. Ms. Sinigaglio stated the changes since it was presented on the tentative agenda are for TV screens, additional speakers in the rear of the chambers, and additional labor. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3585. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3586 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND UPFITTING OF EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT FROM TRUCKER'S LIGHTHOUSE, INC. FOR FOUR CHEVROLET COLORADO TRUCKS THROUGH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES STATE-WIDE CONTRACT LISTING #202, PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED 12-3-1201(b) – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Chief Uselton stated this is to upfit the new trucks for the Police Department, CID Division, in the amount of \$35,375.92. Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3586. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3587 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO PURCHASE TEN (10) SETS OF TURNOUT GEAR FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM NAFECO THROUGH THE SOURCEWELL PURCHASING ALLIANCE CONTRACT LISTING #010424-LIO – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Deputy Chief Albright stated this purchase is a continuation of the chief's replacement program. It will keep us in compliance with NFPA regulations which recommend that turnout gear be retired after ten years of service from the manufacturer's date. Vice Mayor Haynes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3587. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3588 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, APPROVING A NOMINATION TO THE EAST RIDGE HOUSING COMMISSION BY COUNCILMEMBER CAGLE – Councilmember Cagle made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3588, appointing David Sherrill to the Housing Commission. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Mayor Williams thanked Mr. Sherrill for his service on the Housing Commission.

RESOLUTION NO. 3589 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING A NOMINATION BY COUNCILMEMBER TYLER TO THE EAST RIDGE HOUSING COMMISSION – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3589, appointing Amanda Davis to the Housing Commission. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Mayor Williams thanked Ms. Davis for her service on the Housing Commission.

RESOLUTION NO. 3590 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING A NOMINATION BY MAYOR WILLIAMS TO THE EAST RIDGE PLANNING COMMISSION – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Mayor Williams nominated Dana Howe to the Planning Commission. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3590, appointing Dana Howe to the Planning Commission. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved. Mayor Williams thanked Ms. Howe for her service on the Planning Commission.

RESOLUTION NO. 3591 - A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH EASY AUTO POWERSPORTS, INC. 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 that this business is not associated with Honda Powersports; it is for preowned vehicles. Mr. Litchford stated this is state-funded revenue from state sales tax and does not involve any city taxes. He stated the development involves a 4,800 – 5,000 square foot building on property that has a zero-base line. The investments costs are projected to be \$2.3 - \$2.4 million. The recommended split from staff and approved by the Industrial Development Board is 60% for the developer and 40% for the City. The developer is projecting annual sales just under \$5 million, with a 2% increase in sales growth annually. Ben Chandler, 3215 Cumberland Hills Circle, Cleveland, Tennessee, representing Easy Auto Power Sports stated they are happy to have selected East Ridge for this venture. He stated they will sell motorcycles, ATVs, 4-wheelers, etc. Councilmember Witt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Tyler, to approve Resolution No. 3591. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 3592 – A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST RIDGE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY TO PROVIDE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS ("SROs") FOR EACH OF THE CITY'S FOUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND APPROVING THE CONTRACT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY FOR THE GRANT – City Attorney Litchford read on caption. Economic Development Administrator McAllister stated this resolution is to approve the contract; the MOU with Hamilton County has already been approved. If approved tonight, we can start the reimbursement process. Councilmember Tyler made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Witt, to approve Resolution No. 3592. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda Items for the September 12, 2024 City Council Meeting

- Milestone Awards for August 2024 Mayor Williams stated this is to recognize employees who have met their milestone service dates.
- Old Business: None
- New Business:
- **RESOLUTION NO.** _____ **APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE FEE WAIVER POLICY FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT** – Director Skiles stated she would like to add the following to the policy.

The organization/agency shall be responsible to contribute a minimum of 50% of the net receipts collected by their event or program, whereby the facility fee was waived, to a non-profit organization that is located and/or serves the residents of the City of East Ridge.

Councilmember Tyler asked, for example, if the Optimist Club is raising money for a Fishing Rodeo, would that qualify under this policy. Ms. Skills stated that it would.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.