

OAK RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Virtual Meeting

January 11, 2021

Minutes

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee convened at 7:00 p.m. on January 11, 2021 with Mayor Warren Gooch presiding. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and under the authority of Governor Bill Lee's Executive Order Nos. 16, 34, 51, 60, 65, and 71, the meeting was held via electronic video-conferencing.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Pastor Johnny Delaney, Calvary Lighthouse Pentecostal Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by City Manager Mark Watson.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call the following Councilmembers were present: Councilmember Kelly Callison; Mayor Pro Tem Rick Chinn, Jr.; Councilmember Jim Dodson; Mayor Warren Gooch; Councilmember Derrick Hammond; and Councilmember Charles J. Hope, Jr. and Councilmember Ellen Smith.

Also present were Mark S. Watson, City Manager; Tammy Dunn, City Attorney; and Mary Beth Hickman, City Clerk.

Prior to consideration of items on the meeting agenda, Mayor Gooch asked Oak Ridge Police Chief Robin Smith to provide on an update regarding any credible threats that may have been received by the City after events in Washington, D.C. the prior week.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PUBLIC RECOGNITIONS

A proclamation designating January 11, 2021 as Kenneth Krushenski Day.

Councilmember Dodson moved for approval of the proclamation, and Councilmember Callison seconded. The proclamation was approved unanimously by voice vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

SPECIAL REPORTS

Transmission of the latest Blueprint Annual Report from the Oak Ridge Municipal Planning Commission – Stephen Whitson, Chair

Planning Commission Chair Stephen Whitson transmitted the Blueprint Annual Report to City Council. Mayor Pro Tem Rick Chinn moved to receive the report for the record, and Councilmember Ellen Smith seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

City Manager Evaluation Committee Report – Councilmember Kelly Callison, Chair

Councilmember Callison presented the report to Council from the City Manager Evaluation Committee, which included himself, Councilmember Dodson, and Councilmember Hope. The committee's recommendations are outlined in the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CITY MANAGER'S EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT TO EXTEND THE TERM BY ONE YEAR, PROVIDE FOR A NEW ANNUAL BASE SALARY AMOUNT OF \$181,812.80, AND TO PROVIDE FOR A ONE-TIME CASH BONUS OF \$1,000.00.

Councilmember Dodson moved to accept the committee's report for the record, and Councilmember Hammond seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Callison moved for approval of the Consent Agenda as amended, and Councilmember Hope seconded.

The Consent Agenda was approved unanimously by roll call vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

Approval of the December 14, 2020 City Council regular meeting minutes

Transmittal of Reports on Debt Obligation – State Form CT-0253 \$9,000,000 in General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A \$3,135,000 in General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020B \$\$\$

Resolution No. 1-2-2021

A RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE EMPLOYEE MEDICAL, DENTAL, VISION, AND HEARING INSURANCE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE AND THE STATE OF TENNESSEE LOCAL GOVERNMENT HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,800,000.00.

Resolution No. 1-3-2021

A RESOLUTION APPROVING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE FEES FOR CITYVIEW SOFTWARE WITH HARRIS COMPUTER SYSTEMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,815.16.

Resolution No. 1-4-2021

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN AGREEMENT WITH ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, TO SHARE IN THE ANNUAL LOCAL COSTS FOR REAPPRAISAL OF REAL PROPERTIES.

Resolution No. 1-5-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TDOT) FOR THE CITY'S PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$170,500.00.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2, TITLED "THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE," BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP WHICH IS MADE A PART OF THE ORDINANCE BY CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT OF ANDERSON COUNTY TAX MAP 100B, GROUP D, PARCEL 006.00, LOCATED AT 689 EMORY VALLEY ROAD, CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 0.83 ACRES, FROM O-1, OFFICE TO O-2, OFFICE.

Mayor Pro Tem Chinn moved to approve the ordinance, and Councilmember Smith seconded.

Councilmember Callison moved to open the public hearing, and Councilmember Hope seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Seeing that no citizen had registered to participate in the public hearing, Mayor Pro Tem Chinn moved to close the public hearing, and Councilmember Hope seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Development Director Wayne Blasius provided an overview of the ordinance and answered questions from Council.

The ordinance was approved unanimously by roll call vote, with Councilmember Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING CERTAIN INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE CROSSROADS AT WOLF CREEK SUBDIVISION FOR PERPETUAL MAINTENANCE BY THE CITY.

Mayor Pro Tem Chinn moved to approve the ordinance, and Councilmember Callison seconded.

The ordinance was approved by roll call vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 1-2021

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2, TITLED "THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE," BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP WHICH IS MADE A PART OF THE ORDINANCE BY CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT OF ROANE COUNTY TAX MAP 030, PARCEL 001.00, APPROXIMATELY 20.095 ACRES, FROM FIR, FEDERAL INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH, TO IND-2, INDUSTRIAL.

Mayor Pro Tem Chinn moved for adoption of the ordinance, and Councilmember Dodson seconded. Community Development Director Wayne Blasius provided an overview of the ordinance and answered questions from Council.

Doug Colclasure, 103 Monticello Road, Oak Ridge, submitted the following written comments in opposition to the ordinance:

"The electricity for this Training Facility will be supplied from Wiltshire substation. Please insist that when power poles are set for running the line west along Oak Ridge Turnpike that the poles be sized to support 69kv conductors in the event there is more development at SSP-2 and to be ready if Horizon Center (directly across Rt 95) should need additional electrical service as has been discussed over the past 10 years.

April 2013 O. R. IDB Meeting Minutes, Horizon Center Electrical Power — Mr. Wilson (IDB Chairman) stated that he spoke with Mr. Jack Suggs, the City's Electrical Director and he said it would take up to one year to install the 69kv to the site by pulling electric power from the Wiltshire transformer. He stated that most potential industries could be satisfied with that.

Please take a look at attached Pictures of Clear Cutting Forest undisturbed for over 75 years- clearing for Oak Ridge Enhanced Technology and Training Center. A forest growing undisturbed for 75 years gone in a week. A site with no gas, no sewer, no water, no electric services and no highway access road. While 400 acres directly across Rt 95 is cleared with all infrastructure including access streets , even street lights , is undeveloped for last 25 years . No vision and leadership while the fractured, blighted, vacant landscapes become an ever increasing liability to our environment and economy.

Construction is well underway even though you (City Council) have yet to vote for (or not) the necessary Zoning to permit the proposed development.

What does that say about CNS-Y12/DOE/NNSA's (even Roane County Government) respect for the City, City Council , the Citizens (that means residents like me for one) ? For me personally it represents disrespect & even insult on several levels. Think about it on this level - CNS-Y12/NNSA/DOE/Roane County have such little respect that they send Mr. Barry Brooks of Lawler

Wood (the project A & E contractor with no linkage , no decision authority, or stakeholder ownership) to the first reading at City Council meeting as a project representative.

Please vote **no** on 2nd reading of Zoning change. Or at a minimum ask for accountability for the disrespect to you to begin construction before Zoning Approval and explanation why there is a lack of leadership and vision to be (re) utilizing vast areas of DOE ORR intended for repurposing & reindustrialization including Horizon Center, ETTP, Heritage Center, Power House area, Y-12 & ORNL areas cleared for redevelopment, etc.

Reminds me of the disrespect NNSA demonstrated with plans to clearcut the top of Pine Ridge . Remember how outraged Council and City Staff were on that occasion ? And here again, are we being told "nothing has changed " ? Remember how DOE voiced favorable involvement in the Blueprint & Guidebook, (documents that highlighted the incredible value of the undisturbed ORR Natural Assets) and now this blatant (literally in our face) disregard even before the ink is barely dry on these two documents.

This time unlike Pine Ridge, you have a vote."

The ordinance was adopted by roll call vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye," and Councilmember Hammond voting "No."

Ordinance No. 2-2021

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2, TITLED "THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE," BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP WHICH IS MADE A PART OF THE ORDINANCE BY CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT OF ANDERSON COUNTY TAX MAP 99L, GROUP A, PARCELS 006.00, 018.00, 018.01, 018.02, 020.00, 039.00, 040.00, AND 041.00 FROM B-2, GENERAL BUSINESS, TO D-1, DOWNTOWN, AND PARCELS 003.00 AND 007.00 FROM UB-2/PUD, UNIFIED GENERAL BUSINESS WITH A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY, TO D-1, DOWNTOWN, SAID PARCELS COLLECTIVELY CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 14.13 ACRES.

Councilmember Dodson moved for adoption of the ordinance, and Councilmember Callison seconded. Community Development Director Wayne Blasius provided an overview of the ordinance and answered questions from Council. Jim Palmer, Chairman of the Roane County Industrial Development Board was also online to answer any questions from Council.

The ordinance was adopted unanimously by roll call vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1-6-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF SINGLE-PHASE POLE MOUNTED TRANSFORMERS FROM UTILITY SALES AGENCY, LENOIR CITY, TENNESSEE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$290,720.00 FOR USE BY THE ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.

Councilmember Callison moved for approval of the resolution, and Mayor Gooch seconded. Electric Department Director Jack Suggs provided an overview of the resolution and answered questions from Council.

The resolution was approved unanimously by roll call vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

Resolution No. 1-7-2021

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CLARK NEXSEN, JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE, TO PERFORM ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE OAK RIDGE CONFERENCE CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$185,000.00.

Councilmember Dodson moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Smith seconded. City Manager Mark Watson provided an overview of the resolution and answered questions from Council.

The resolution was approved unanimously by roll call vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

Resolution No. 1-8-2021

RESOLUTION INDICATING INTENT OF CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO ISSUE ITS BONDS OR OTHER OBLIGATION OF INDEBTEDNESS RELATING TO PUBLIC PROJECTS OF THE CITY WITH THE PROCEEDS OF BONDS OR OTHER DEBT OBLIGATIONS TO BE ISSUED BY THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE

Mayor Pro Tem Chinn moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Callison seconded. Councilmember Kelly Callison, Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee, provided an overview of the resolution and answered questions from Council.

The resolution was approved unanimously by roll call vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

Resolution No. 1-9-2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS AND MAKE PURCHASES UP TO \$1,100,000.00 ASSOCIATED WITH THE INTENT TO REIMBURSE RESOLUTION (RESOLUTION 1-8-2021) FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY SAVING ENHANCEMENTS FOR SCHOOL AND CITY FACILITIES.

Councilmember Dodson moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Callison seconded. City Manager Mark Watson provided an overview of the resolution and answered questions from Council.

The resolution was approved unanimously by roll call vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith, Mayor Gooch and Mayor Pro Tem Chinn voting "Aye."

APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS

City Manager Mark Watson read the following comments from Katy Watt, President of Explore Oak Ridge thanking the City for assistance with the Secret City Half Marathon and 5K:

"Explore Oak Ridge would like to thank Parks & Rec, Oak Ridge Police Department, Oak Ridge Fire Department and Public Works Department for going above and beyond to help us with the Secret City Half Marathon and 5K. Without their help, we would not have been able to have a successful in-person race during the pandemic. We were able to have 600 runners participate in a safe and socially distanced race. The staff of Explore Oak Ridge, the volunteers and runners are extremely grateful for the dedication of the City employees and we look forward to having this event in 2021!

Thank you - - "

ELECTIONS/APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHEDULING

Elections/Appointments

(NONE)

Announcements

(NONE)

Scheduling

City Manager Mark Watson stated that meetings for the rest of January and February will be held virtually. This includes the work sessions and Budget and Finance Committee meetings.

COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR NEW BUSINESS ITEMS OR FUTURE BRIEFINGS

Councilmember Hammond requested an update regarding concerns about speeding near the Scarborough Oak Ridge Preschool. The City Manager stated there would be an update at the work session.

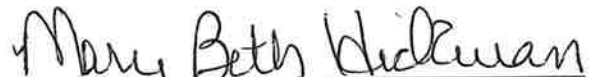
SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT


The City Manager had nothing additional report.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

New City Attorney Tammy Dunn thanked Council for the opportunity to serve as City Attorney and stated she looks forward to working with everyone.


Mary Beth Hickman, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
February 8, 2021


Warren L. Gooch, Mayor

ADJOURNMENT: 8:00 p.m.