

**OAK RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
Municipal Building Courtroom

August 9, 2021

Minutes

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee convened at 7:00 p.m. on August 9, 2021 in the Municipal Building Courtroom.

**INVOCATION**

The invocation was given by Pastor Rory Naeve of First Baptist Church.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Youth Advisory Board Chair Kira Palau and Vice-Chair Bryson Brown.

**ROLL CALL**

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

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

**PROCLAMATIONS AND PUBLIC RECOGNITIONS**

(NONE)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Smith requested that the following item be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) VEHICLES FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,061.00 UTILIZING STATE CONTRACT PRICING.

Councilmember Dodson moved for approval of the Consent Agenda as amended, and Councilmember Hammond seconded.

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

Approval of the July 12, 2021 City Council regular meeting minutes

**Resolution No. 8-83-2021**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO RENEW ITS GENERAL LIABILITY, LAW ENFORCEMENT LIABILITY, ERRORS AND OMISSIONS LIABILITY, AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY, AUTOMOBILE PHYSICAL DAMAGE, PROPERTY, AND WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE WITH PUBLIC ENTITY PARTNERS ("PEP") FOR ONE YEAR IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$850,000.00.

**Resolution No. 8-84-2021**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF AS NEEDED TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000.00.

**Resolution No. 8-85-2021**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH LDA ENGINEERING OF ALCOA, TENNESSEE, FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION OF A NEW MAIN WATER LINE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$130,000.00.

**Resolution No. 8-86-2021**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION (TDEC) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$124,404.50 FOR THE REMAINING IMPROVEMENTS TO BLANKENSHIP FIELD, SAID GRANT REQUIRING A FIFTY PERCENT (50%) LOCAL MATCH TO BE PROVIDED BY THE BLANKENSHIP FIELD REVITALIZATION FOUNDATION.

The item that was removed from the Consent Agenda was brought up next.

**Resolution No. 8-87-2021**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) VEHICLES FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,061.00 UTILIZING STATE CONTRACT PRICING.

Councilmember Hope moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Hammond seconded. Fire Chief Travis Solomon provided an overview of the resolution and answered questions from Council.

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

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES**

(NONE)

**FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES**

(NONE)

**RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution No. 8-88-2021**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$9,640,000, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES; MAKING PROVISION FOR THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND PAYMENT OF SAID BONDS, ESTABLISHING THE TERMS THEREOF AND THE DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS THEREFROM; AND PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS

Mayor Pro Tem Chinn moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Callison seconded. City Manager Mark Watson provided an overview of the resolution, and Chris Bessler with Cumberland Securities was in attendance to answer questions from Council.

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

**Resolution No. 8-89-2021**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PATTERSON & DEWAR ENGINEERS, INC., GALLATIN, TENNESSEE, FOR ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES TO IMPLEMENT A RELIABILITY AND RESILIENCY PLAN FOR THE ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$522,020.00.

Councilmember Dodson moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Smith seconded. Electric Department Director Ardo Ba provided an overview of the resolution and answered questions from Council.

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

**Resolution No. 8-90-2021**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF \$343,519.60 FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) VEHICLES AND ONE (1) BACKHOE FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT UTILIZING STATE CONTRACT PRICING.

Councilmember Dodson moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Smith seconded. Interim Public Works Director Patrick Berge provided an overview of the resolution and answered questions from Council.

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

**Resolution No. 8-91-2021**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF \$256,402.86 FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) VEHICLES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT UTILIZING STATE CONTRACT PRICING.

Councilmember Dodson moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Hope seconded. Police Chief Robin Smith provided an overview of the resolution and answered questions from Council.

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

**Resolution No. 8-92-2021**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF \$46,599.20 FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) VEHICLE FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT UTILIZING STATE CONTRACT PRICING.

Councilmember Dodson moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Smith seconded. Police Chief Robin Smith provided an overview of the resolution and answered questions from Council.

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

**Resolution No. 8-93-2021**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING ACCESS TO SOUTH TULANE AVENUE FROM ANDERSON COUNTY TAX MAP 099N, GROUP B, PARCEL 003.00 WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF SOUTH TULANE AVENUE AND SOUTH ILLINOIS AVENUE.

Councilmember Dodson moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Callison seconded. Mayor Pro Tem Chinn removed himself from the dais during discussion of this item. City Manager Mark Watson provided an overview of the resolution, and City Engineer Roger Flynn answered questions from Council.

The resolution was approved by board vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith and Mayor Gooch voting “Aye.” Mayor Pro Tem Chinn recused himself and did not vote.

**Resolution No. 8-94-2021**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MODIFICATION TO THE INTERSECTION OF SOUTH TULANE AVENUE AND SOUTH ILLINOIS AVENUE (SR-62).

Councilmember Dodson moved for approval of the resolution, and Councilmember Callison seconded. Mayor Pro Tem Rick Chinn removed himself from the dais during discussion of this item. City Manager Mark Watson provided an overview of the resolution, and City Engineer Roger Flynn answered questions from Council.

The resolution was approved by board vote with Councilmembers Callison, Dodson, Hammond, Hope, Smith and Mayor Gooch voting “Aye.” Mayor Pro Tem Chinn recused himself and did not vote.

**APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS**

Laetitia Delmau, 121 Normandy Road, Oak Ridge, addressed Council regarding the need for a mandate that masks be worn in schools.

Martin McBride, 954 W. Outer Drive, Oak Ridge, who also serves as Co-Chair of the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee to celebrate school integration, requested that the City Council write a letter to President Biden to invite him to visit the Oak Ridge-85 exhibit in the month of September.

**ELECTIONS/APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHEDULING**

(NONE)

**Announcements**

Councilmember Dodson stated that the waterfront is looking very good and thanked the Recreation and Parks Department for their hard work on the waterfront.

Councilmember Smith stated that the City Manager has mandated masks for all city employees who attend public meetings and meet in a group of four or more.

Mayor Gooch stated that the City Clerk will be drafting a letter to President Biden regarding the Oak Ridge-85 exhibit, and it will be circulated at the work session for all Council members to sign. A copy will also be sent to members of the congressional delegation.

**Scheduling**

City Manager Mark Watson informed Council that there will be a special meeting prior to the work session next Tuesday. The two items to be discussed are a change order for the schools on the ESG project and additional funding for Explore Oak Ridge in order to assist the hospitality industry due to the pandemic.

**COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR NEW BUSINESS ITEMS OR FUTURE BRIEFINGS**

Councilmember Dodson requested a future briefing on the regatta that is being held at the waterfront.

**SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

(NONE)

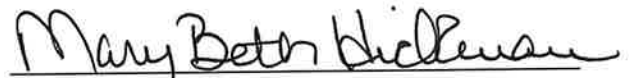
**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

(NONE)

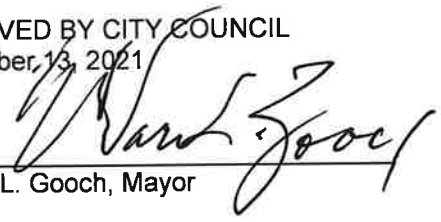
**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

(NONE)

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:02 p.m.

  
Mary Beth Hickman, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL  
September 13, 2021

  
Warren L. Gooch, Mayor