

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2009

The Jackson, Tennessee City Council met for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 3, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in the George A. Smith Meeting Room at City Hall with Mayor Jerry Gist and Council members Charles “Pepper” Bray; Ernest Brooks, II; Harvey Buchanan; Johnny Dodd; Danny Ellis; Maurice Hays; Frank Neudecker; Charles Rahm; and Randy Wallace present. Also present was Anita Brooks, recorder of the minutes.

Council member Danny Ellis gave the invocation and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The minutes of the January 6, 2009 meeting were approved and signed.

Mayor Gist proclaimed February 3, 2009 as Toyota’s Bodine Aluminum Plant Team Members Day, James Cherry Day and Melvin Smart Day in the City of Jackson. Proclamations were presented to Jason Bates, representative for the Bodine Aluminum Plant team members, James Cherry and Melvin Smart. Mr. James Cherry was recognized for his contributions to the city’s cultural environment through the literary arts and Melvin Smart was recognized for his extraordinary act of bravery and courage in extinguishing a grease fire on December 27, 2008, that not only saved property but lives as well. Proclamations were also presented to Delita Johnson of Acts for Sexual Abstinence Until Married Month; and to Brenda Shepard, Lisa Jenkins and Harrell Carter for Black History Month. Mr. Tony Black, Director of Parks and Recreation, presented a plaque to Jason Bates in recognition and appreciation

for the Bodine Aluminum Plant team members community service work at the Cypress Grove Nature Park. Fire Chief James Pearson and Fire Battalion Chief Ronald Atwater presented Melvin Smith with an authentic Jackson Fire Department plaque with an inscription of the Firemen's Prayer in appreciation for his courage and bravery.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

On the motion of Council member Dodd, seconded by Council member Hays, an Ordinance to rezone property along the north and south sides of Wilshire Drive at its intersection with Summar Drive from RG-1 (General Residential) District to B-1 (Medical and Related Services) District containing 3.82 acres, more or less, submitted by Lester Sands, on behalf of West Tennessee Healthcare was approved 8-1, with Council member Neudecker voting nay. Mr. Lester Sands was present and explained about the long range concept plan for the medical expansion and answered questions. Ms. Charlene Walker and Ms. Teresa Kemmons were present and expressed opposition to the rezoning for various reasons.

SECOND READINGS:

On the motion of Council member Dodd, seconded by Council member Rahm, an Ordinance to adopt the official code of the City of Jackson relative to the Sign Code as amended was approved 6-3, with Council members Bray, Brooks, Dodd, Hays, Rahm and Wallace voting yea and Council members Buchanan, Ellis and Neudecker voting nay. Mr. John McCaskill, owner of City Sign Contractors, was present and expressed his differences with the Building Department concerning license inspectors.

NEW BUSINESS:

On the motion of Council member Buchanan, seconded by Council member Bray, a Resolution recommending the approval of a substantial amendment to the Community Development’s Annual Action Plan (2006-2007) was approved 8-1, with Council member Neudecker voting nay.

On the motion of Council member Rahm, seconded by Council member Neudecker, unanimous approval was given to the following FY09 budget amendment request:

GENERAL FUND		Current	Amendment	Amended
<i>Expenditures:</i>		Budget	Request	Budget
110-42140-900	Project Safe Neighborhood Gang Training Initiative		10,000	10,000
GENERAL FUND				
<i>Funding:</i>				
110-33140	Project Safe Neighborhood Gang Training Initiative		10,000	10,000

Police Department has received pass through grant from US Attorney’s Office Project Safe Neighborhood Gang Training Initiative for training in February. No matching city expense.

On the motion of Council member Neudecker, seconded by Council member Wallace, unanimous approval was given to the following FY09 budget amendment request:

GENERAL FUND		Current	Amendment	Amended
<i>Expenditures:</i>		Budget	Request	Budget
110-43190-931	Street Sealing and Resurfacing		1,000,000	1,000,000
CAPITAL FUND				
<i>Expenditures:</i>				
315-43190-931	Street Resurfacing Capital	3,950,000	(1,000,000)	2,950,000
GENERAL FUND				
<i>Funding:</i>				
110-37900	From Fund Balance	6,460,718.57	1,000,000	7,460,718.57
CAPITAL FUND				
<i>Funding:</i>				
315-36961	Transfer from General Fund	4,460,646	(1,000,000)	3,460,646

The Engineering Department will be utilizing the State Street Aid Reserve Balance for street resurfacing projects originally budgeted in the capital budget. By utilizing the SSA Reserve balance, the amount to be spent in capital will be reduced by \$1,000,000. The State Street Aid Reserve is currently listed on the balance sheet account number 110-27800.

On the motion of Council member Buchanan, seconded by Council member Bray, unanimous approval was given to a FY09 budget amendment request to transfer \$170,000 from the Capital Road Projects to the Capital Traffic Signalization Budget for the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Forest Avenue and North Royal Street.

On the motion of Council member Bray, seconded by Council member Buchanan, the payment of invoices over \$10,000 was approved 8-1, with Council member Neudecker voting nay.

Mr. Mike Hewitt and Mr. Jack Matthis, Certified Public Accountants with Alexander Thompson Arnold PLLC, presented an audit report on the city's finances for the year ended June 30, 2008 and made the following recommendations:

1. Daily deposits be made to the extent possible to ensure proper compliance with the three-day deposit rule and that the cash/check detail be completed for all receipts and all original receipts be given to the individual from which monies are being received.
2. Oversight on all grants, except for those operated by the Jackson Housing Authority, not only be vested in one person but that the accounting staff should be responsible for reconciling all grant transactions to the general ledger on a routine basis.
3. Proper care be taken to ensure actual expenditures do not exceed budgeted amounts.
4. Sportsplex sponsorship invoicing be processed centrally in the accounting office to strengthen internal controls.
5. All supporting documentation from the Sportsplex be remitted timely so that the deposits can be reconciled with the bank statements.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

JERRY GIST, MAYOR