

City of Crossville

392 N. Main
Crossville, TN 38555



Minutes

Friday, April 12, 2013

3:00 PM

Council Chambers

The City Council for the City of Crossville met in special session on Friday, April 12, 2013, at Crossville City Hall. Mayor J. H. Graham, III was present and presiding. He called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present - 5 - Council Member George Marlow, Mayor Pro-tem Danny Wyatt, Mayor J.H. Graham III, Council Member Pete Souza, and Council Member Jesse Kerley. Others present were City Attorney Kenneth Chadwell, City Clerk Sally Oglesby, Fred Houston, Heather Mullinix, Andy Vaughn, Karli Threet, Jeff Kerley, Tom Isham, John Isham, Harold Allred, James Perry, Chris South, Jeffrey Skidmore, Donna Skidmore, David Beaty, Ashley Allen, Ted Meadows, Jack Miller, Joe Miller, Lewis Stover, Judy Stover, Darlene Barnwell, John Turner, Margie Buxbaum, Judy Wojta, Jerry Kerley, Steve Hill, Lou Morrison, and Frances Carson.

ITEM #1 – Matters relative to interim City Manager

Mayor Graham read the letter of resignation of Bruce Wyatt from the City Manager's position (a copy of the letter is attached and made a part of these minutes). Mayor Graham expressed his sorrow and regret over accepting the resignation and praised his work as City Manager. Councilman Souza commented that he respects his wishes. Councilman Kerley expressed his pleasure in working with him and that he did a good job. Mayor Pro-Tem Wyatt thanked Bruce and the job he did on the budget for this coming year. Councilman Marlow thanked Bruce for his service and that he did a very good job pleasing the council and the employees.

Councilman Kerley stated that Dr. Jack Miller did a good job when he was City Manager and he wanted to correct the injustice he did when he made the motion to fire him in 2008. He further pointed out that Dr. Miller was very conservative and helped the City accumulate a lot of cash while he was City Manager. Councilman Souza stated that his second was not a prelude to who would be selected, but that he did feel that either Dr. Miller or Ted Meadows would help during the interim period because they had previously served in the position. Mayor Graham would be looking for a person that could move quickly into the position to finish the budget and keep the current projects moving. He disagreed with the argument about cash as being a method of judgment. It was his opinion that we have overcharged the taxpayers if we have more cash than necessary for bond requirements and rainy day funds.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wyatt emphasized that the City Council was going to have to learn to follow the chain of command in putting pressure on the City Manager. Councilman Marlow pointed out that it is the Council that spends the money and the cash reserves was not necessary in a determination. He had talked to several employees and they indicated they would be comfortable with either Dr. Miller or Mr. Meadows. He emphasized on moving forward as quickly as possible with the selection of a permanent City Manager. Councilman Souza pointed out that he took responsibility for a lot of pressure putting on Mr. Wyatt in a short period of time.

A motion was made by Council Member Jesse Kerley, seconded by Council Member Pete Souza, that Jack Miller be appointed Interim City Manager. The motion carried by the following vote: Aye: 3 - Council Member George Marlow, Council Member Pete Souza and Council Member Jesse Kerley. Nay: 2 - Mayor Pro-tem Danny Wyatt and Mayor J.H. Graham III.

Mayor Pro-tem Wyatt asked the City Attorney about conflicts with the lawsuit filed by Dr. Miller and being defended by the City. Mr. Chadwell responded that it would be awkward, but could continue.

A motion was made by Council Member Jesse Kerley, seconded by Council Member Pete Souza, that Jack Miller take office at 7:00 a.m. on Monday at a salary of \$75,000 with full benefits as any city employee. The motion carried by the following vote: Aye: 3 - Council Member George Marlow, Council Member Pete Souza and Council Member Jesse Kerley. Nay: 2 - Mayor Pro-tem Danny Wyatt and Mayor J.H. Graham III

Dr. Miller was present in the audience and accepted the offer.

Following discussion, Council agreed to try to make a selection of a permanent City Manager in six weeks. Mayor Graham stated that he would get with the Interim City Manager and have a job description and salary recommendation for Council approval at the May Council meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.