

City of Crossville

392 N. Main
Crossville, TN 38555



Minutes

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

5:15 PM

Council Chambers

Call for Special Meeting

Mayor James Mayberry
Mayor Pro-Tem J. H. Graham, III
Council Member Pamala Harris
Council Member Scot Shanks
Council Member Danny Wyatt
City Manager Greg Wood
City Clerk Valerie Hale

Call to Order

Roll Call

Present 4 - Council Member Pamala Harris, Council Member Danny Wyatt, Mayor Pro-tem J. H. Graham, and Mayor James Mayberry

Absent 1 - Council Member Scot Shanks

Others present: Assistant City Clerk Malena Fisher, Fred Houston, Brad Allamong, David Beaty, Andy Vaughn, David Brockway, Kevin Music, Gary Nelson, Jim Young, Rob Harrison, Cliff Wightman, City Manager Greg Wood, City Clerk Valerie Hale, and City Attorney Will Ridley.

1. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mayor James Mayberry , seconded by Mayor Pro-tem J. H. Graham, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Council Member Pamala Harris, Council Member Danny Wyatt, Mayor Pro-tem J. H. Graham and Mayor James Mayberry

Absent: 1 - Council Member Scot Shanks

Ordinances on Third Reading

a. Ordinance closing an undeveloped right-of-way for McClanahan and Whitehead property

Roy J. and Nancy McClanahan and Charles W. Whitehead own property that borders an unimproved right-of-way off Old Jamestown Road. They have requested that the right-of-way be closed in its entirety and joined to their properties. Attached is a survey of the unimproved right-of-way that shows the agreed division of property between the two adjacent property owners. The unimproved right-of-way was originally a portion of Crabtree Rd that extends north of the interstate. When I-40 was constructed it bisected the road, leaving the southern portion as an unimproved right-of-way. A new road was constructed along the interstate's right-of-way for connection to the remainder of Crabtree Rd.

Planning Commission met on 11/16/2017 and recommended approval of right-of-way closure.

This Ordinance was adopted on third reading.

b. Ordinance amending the FY2017-18 budget for Depot flooring

At the December 12, 2017 meeting, Council approving reimbursing DCI for the cost of

the new flooring at the depot in the amount of \$9,108.

This Ordinance was adopted on third reading.

Ordinances on Second Reading

- c.** Discussion and action on part-time fraud examiner position in Police Department

The Police Department requests to hire a part time person who specializes in fraud and is a Certified Fraud Examiner. This person would only assist with investigations of financial fraud cases and deal with victims only. This position would be a civilian employee.

This Ordinance was approved on second reading.

- d.** Ordinance establishing a Crossville Sports Council

An ordinance has been prepared to create a Crossville Sports Council, as previously discussed with Council.

This Ordinance was approved on second reading.

- e.** Ordinance amending the 2017-2018 budget to purchase 2017 F-550 (Utility Maintenance Department)

The Utility Maintenance department supervisor is presenting a quote from Ford of Murfreesboro for a white, 2017 Ford F-550, regular cab, with service utility bed, 4x4. The 2017 truck will replace a 2000 4x4, F-350 diesel with 108,090 miles, which is requiring a new engine at a cost of \$10,000. The replacement vehicle will be upgraded to an F-550, 4x4 diesel for safety reasons. The 2017 vehicle is better equipped to pull equipment used by Utility Maintenance.

Ford of Murfreesboro has a contract with the State of Tennessee, Central Procurement Office. Cost for the truck, hitch and spray-in bed liner is \$56,000. The Utility Maintenance department supervisor has reviewed the quote and recommends purchasing the truck.

This Ordinance was approved on second reading.

- f.** Ordinance discouraging smoking at Garrison Park

The Parks and Recreation Director and the City Manager have had conversations with Mindy Doyle, Cumberland County Public Health Director, about using tobacco settlement funds to purchase playground equipment if the City adopts an ordinance discouraging tobacco use at Garrison Park.

Criminal enforcement by the City is not allowed due to pre-emption laws enacted by the General Assembly.

This Ordinance was approved on second reading.

- g.** Ordinance amending the 2017-2018 budget for K-9 replacement

The Police Department requested to purchase a canine from Southern Police Canine

to replace one of the older canines retiring and received approval from City Council on August 8, 2017 to make the purchase. The cost for the canine and training was \$14,000. The purchase was funded through the Drug Fund; however, funds were not budgeted and a budget amendment is required.

This Ordinance was approved on second reading.

h. Authorize submittal of application for US Bank Play Grant

The City Manager is requesting permission to apply to US Bank for a Play Grant to fund additional playground equipment for Garrison Park. This grant will be a 100% grant. The amount will be approximately \$10,000 for purchase and installation of musical play items which provides opportunities for developmentally challenged youth as well as the general population. If the grant is approved, the purchase will go through the buying cooperative.

This Resolution was approved as recommended.

2. Other Business

a. Discussion and action on resolution regarding hotel/motel occupancy tax

Council member Wyatt led a discussion about sending a resolution to the Tennessee General Assembly requesting to instate a tax of 3% on hotel/motel occupancies to be earmarked for economic development and tourism funding.

Currently, the County receives has a 7.5% hotel/motel occupancy rate and that will be still be in place. The dollars received from the County's tax go directly to the County's general fund, and the County gives \$30,600 to the Convention and Visitor's Bureau for marketing purposes.

Council member Harris voiced concern about feedback from local hotel owners and that an additional tax could possibly hurt tourism efforts.

Mayor Pro Tem Graham explained the tax would be in addition to other taxes, come into city's general fund, but earmarked for tourism/economic development and that this tax would be in line with other cities. He also asked if the newly established sports council could provide information about whether they could offer incentives to groups that would come to Crossville for events. Mr. Wood announced that the sports council has decided to be called "Crossville-Cumberland County Sports Event Committee" to be more inclusive.

Mayor Mayberry asked if the additional revenue would go directly to the Chamber of Commerce since they are responsible for the City's economic development. Council Member Wyatt stated his intention the City would spend the money however they felt was necessary through Parks & Recreation, the Chamber of Commerce, golf, retail development, etc.

The City Attorney advised that TCA 67-4-1425 prohibits the City from doing this and recommended that the City request the Tennessee General Assembly to amend the law to make an exception for the City of Crossville based on the City's population and the need of this additional tax because of the City's reliance on tourism. Since 1988, seventeen exceptions have been allowed, with six of those being in 2017.

Due to the nature of this resolution, it has to be read and approved two times. The deadline to file a bill for general law changes is February 1. The City Attorney recommended to have the two readings completed before February 1 because it is an amendment to the general law, not just a private act change. This meeting would count as the first reading. The next meeting was set for January 25, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Danny Wyatt, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem J. H. Graham, that the Council request a private act change to allow the City to collect 3% hotel/motel room occupancy tax. If passed, the City Attorney will draft a resolution to be sent to the Tennessee General Assembly to amend the City's charter to allow for such taxation, earmarked to improve tourism and economic development and that all revenue received from this tax would be placed in a separate line item and all expenditures would be approved by City Council, not at the discretion of the City Manager.

Aye: 4 - Council Member Pamala Harris, Council Member Danny Wyatt, Mayor Pro-tem J. H. Graham and Mayor James Mayberry

Absent: 1 - Council Member Scot Shanks

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.