

City of Townsend
Commission Meeting Minutes
For
June 18, 2013

Attendance: Attending the meeting was Mayor Michael Talley, Vice Mayor Becky Headrick, Commissioner Jackie Suttles, Commissioner Ron Palewski, Commissioner David Wietlisbach, City Recorder Shelia Moss, Police Chief Ron Suttles, Fire Chief Don Stallions, WBIR and The Daily Times Representatives, Ernie & Judy Lancaster, Charles King, Pete & Vickie Mueller, Lisa Stewart, Ken Condra, Pat Jenkins, Byron Tippitt, Ilene Rainwater, John Keydash, Russell Turner, Johnnie Johnson, Bob Harris, Debra Lumley, as well as many other citizens.

Pledge: Mayor Talley opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:02 pm.

Minutes: A motion to approve the May 21, 2013 minutes, pending two grammar corrections was made by Commissioner Palewski. Commissioner Wietlisbach seconded and the May 21, 2013 minutes passed with 4 yeas votes. (Vice Mayor Headrick arrived later in the meeting.)

Finance Report: Recorder Moss gave the finance reports for the month of May 2013. Commissioner Wietlisbach made a motion to accept the finance reports for May 2013. Commissioner Suttles seconded and the motion passed with 4 yeas votes.

Police Report: Chief Suttles reported that traffic and tubing has picked up. He mentioned that Officer Tony Rayburn and Recorder Shelia Moss will be trained on GovDeals next week. Mayor Talley asked when the new police vehicle would be in service. Chief Suttles informed Mayor Talley that he was waiting for the Radar Unit that had been ordered. Mr. Pat Jenkins asked what type of vehicle was purchased and if it was four wheel drive. Chief Suttles responded by saying it is a two wheel drive Chevrolet Tahoe. There was some discussion however, no action was taken.

Maintenance: Chief Suttles stated that he had received a request from Mr. Earl Brown, owner of the Caboose, to install a speed bump behind the Caboose property on Old Highway 73 at Mr. Brown's expense. Chief Suttles also mentioned that Mr. Brown is interested in a three way caution light also at Mr. Brown's expense. Chief Suttles mentioned that the Tennessee Department of Transportation will not touch the ditch, which has a creek running through it, at the Strawberry Patch. Mayor Talley asked about the City's commercial lawn mower. Chief Suttles reported that the mower is thirteen years old and is still rattling. He mentioned that he is still looking for help for the next three months. Mayor Talley mentioned that he needs to contact the Attorney relating to the road along the river. There was some discussion however, no action was taken.

Fire: Chief Stallions reported that it has been a rough month for the fire department. He reported that calls have almost doubled and mentioned the death of Mr. Steve Webb. Chief Stallions spoke about training and rescues. Mayor Talley asked who is responsible for the fire hydrants throughout the town. Chief Stallions reported that the fire department is responsible for flow testing and painting the hydrants. Mr. Jenkins asked how many hydrants were in Townsend. Chief Stallions stated that he did not want to guess. There was some discussion however, no action was taken.

Recreation: Commissioner Suttles reported that the fireworks were coming up. She mentioned that Sandy Headrick was working on entertainment to include the Jeff Jopling band. She reported that entertainment is scheduled to begin at 7pm and the fireworks will be at 9:30pm

Library Report: Recorder Moss read the faxed Library report to the Commission. There was some discussion about the contents of the report however, no action was taken.

Old Business

First Reading: Ordinance 268-13-1C, An Ordinance Enacting Section 4-204 of the Townsend Municipal Code, Titled "Maximum Speed Limits on Specific Streets" to Set Forth New Speed Limits Along State Routes 73 and 337 as Indicated by the State of Tennessee Department of Transportation: Mayor Talley explained Ordinance 268-13-1C to the public and then read the heading of the Ordinance aloud. Commissioner Palewski made a motion to approve Ordinance 268-13-1C. Mayor Talley seconded and the motion passed with 4 yea votes. Vice Mayor Headrick voted nay.

Public Hearing and Second Reading: Ordinance 269-13-1C, 2012/2013 Budget Amendment Ordinance: Mayor Talley read the heading of Ordinance 269-13-1C aloud and then opened the public hearing at 7:28pm. Mr. Jenkins asked for an explanation of this ordinance. Mayor Talley explained the ordinance to the public. There being no further public comment or inquiry, Mayor Talley closed the public hearing at 7:30pm. Commissioner Wietlisbach made a motion to approve Ordinance 269-13-1C on second reading. Vice Mayor Headrick seconded and the motion passed with 5 yea votes.

Public Hearing and Second Reading: Ordinance 270-13-1C; An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Budget and Capital Program and Tax Rate of the City of Townsend, Tennessee for Fiscal Year 2014: Mayor Talley read the heading of Ordinance 270-13-1C aloud and then opened the public hearing at 7:31pm. Mary E. Tippitt Board of Directors member Byron Tippitt was the first person to speak. He mentioned that he spent the last week listening to transcripts of the City Commission meetings. Mr. Tippitt spoke for more than thirty minutes relaying Mary E Tippitt Library and Tippitt Library Foundation Information and requested that the Commission to grant the 2013-2014 donation request. Ms. Rainwater stated that she thinks the library is very important. Mrs. Mueller, President of Friends of the Library, stated that the Library is vital to the town and that when the donation amount was cut last year the hours of operation had to also be cut. Commissioner Wietlisbach asked Mrs. Mueller if the money raised by the Friends of the Library goes to the Library. Mrs. Mueller responded by saying yes. Mr. Keydash, Mr. Turner, Mr. Cox, and Mr. Johnson all spoke about the importance of the Library and the desire for the City Commission to honor the 2013-2014 donation request. After all public comments were heard, Mayor Talley closed the public hearing at 8:15pm. Commissioner Wietlisbach stated that he wished what was happening now (public attendance in support of library) happened over the past six months. He also mentioned that it would be nice if someone from the Library was present at the City Commission meetings. Commissioner Wietlisbach mentioned that people tell you they love something when it's free but, leave when you ask them to pay. Commissioner Wietlisbach also mentioned matching funds. Mayor Talley mentioned that he had prepared a statement which he read aloud to the Commission and the public. (Mayor Talley's written statement will be attached to the minutes as a permanent record.) Vice Mayor Headrick made a motion to approve Ordinance 270-13-1C. Commissioner Suttles seconded and the motion passed with 5 yea votes.

New Business

Sandy Headrick – Tourism: This item was deferred. Mrs. Headrick was not present.

Bob Harris, Black Bear Solar Institute (BBSI): Mr. Harris explained who the Black Bear Solar Institute is and gave each Commissioner a booklet that he had prepared. He spoke about a State loan program that could be paid back out of the savings from energy efficient upgrades. He gave an overview of the information provided in the booklet including the current energy cost's of the City. There was some discussion however, no action was taken.

Knoxville Track Club - Wears Valley 15K Road Race: Recorder Moss introduced the information provided by email from the Knoxville Track Club. She informed the Commission that this is an annual event. Recorder Moss informed the Commission that the event organizer coordinates with the Police and Fire Chief's for their event. Recorder Moss stated that she is waiting for the Insurance Certificate and Hold Harmless agreement which will complete the required paperwork. Mayor Talley made a motion to approve the Knoxville Track Club's Wears Valley 15K Road Race pending the City receiving the certificate of

insurance, the event schedule and route, and the hold harmless agreement. Commissioner Wietlisbach seconded and the motion passed with 5 yea votes.

Terri Carmichael – Rodeo: Mayor Talley stated that Ms. Carmichael called him last week. He mentioned that she wants to organize a rodeo. He mentioned that there have been rodeo's in the past and that they were fun and drew people to the town. Mayor Talley mentioned that she hopes to put the event on this year and that it will be part of a SouthEast rodeo circuit. He also mentioned that possible concerns might be noise, security, parking, and alcohol. There was some discussion however, no action was taken.

** Ms. Lumley asked about recycling since the City of Maryville had restricted the use of their recycling location off Highway 321. Mayor Talley mentioned that he had spoken with Steve Dickson about recycling and with Charlene Deshaw about a grant for recycling. He also mentioned that a possible argument or point of contention is the loss of revenue for Hearts and Hands who currently offer some recycling locations in the area. There was some discussion about recycling however, no action was taken.

There being no further business Commissioner Wietlisbach made a motion to adjourn at 9:26pm. Commissioner Suttles seconded and the motion passed with 5 yea votes.

Shelia Moss

Approve: _____
Title: _____ date