Chairman Ladd called the Agenda Session to order with Councilmen Benson, Scott, Rico, Robinson and Berz present. Councilmen Murphy and Gilbert joined the meeting later. City Attorney Michael McMahan; Management Analyst Randy Burns; and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.


Mr. Johnson proceeded with agenda items, noting that Ordinance 5(a) amends the City code concerning alcohol as it relates to catering. Ordinance 6(a) is a Public Works’ item.

Resolutions (a), (b), and (c) pertain to Parks and Recreation and were discussed last week.

Resolution (d) authorizes the appointment of special police officers for the Fire Department. Resolution (e) is a Public Works’ item to be discussed later. Resolution (f) authorizes the Finance Officer to incorporate Roth features in the City’s 457 plans. Resolution (g) authorizes a contract with Campbell and Associates for engineering work on the employee health center in an amount not to exceed $25,500 from funds previously approved for project. It was explained that we are doing this separately to save money.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR AUGUST 30TH

Resolution (a) authorizes Judge Paty to enter into a contract with Sildete M. Lopez for Spanish translation services at a rate of $35.00 per defendant for which translation is provided. Mr. Johnson stated that he thought this was already being done but that this exceeds the limit of $10,000.
Resolutions (b) thru (f) are Public Works’ matters and will be discussed later.

Councilwoman Scott went back to Resolution (a) with a question concerning translation services. She assumed that this was part of the court costs, stating that she understood why it was being done but wanted to know who pays the court costs and if the system was working—where we paying, and was it coming back to us on the back end? Mr. Johnson responded that it was as effective as collecting court costs ever are. Councilwoman Scott wanted to know how collecting court costs was going. Ms. Madison responded that she had not done an analysis on this—that parking tickets were higher, and we were collecting 80% to 90%; that she was not sure about collecting other fines but would get with Councilwoman Scott. Councilwoman Scott indicated that she would like to hear about this.

Mr. Johnson proceeded with Resolution (g) that authorizes the Director of General Services to enter into a one-time showing agreements with commercial real estate brokers who have clients that own or operate HUD properties regarding the sale of Dogwood Manor, wherein the commission will be negotiated up to an amount not to exceed $80,000. Councilwoman Scott asked if we had any idea as to how many brokers are participating, wanting to know if there was a lot of interest. Mr. Page responded that there is a lady out of Knoxville with clients, and we will give her a one-time shot. Councilwoman Scott asked if it was basically just one broker and was told yes. Councilman Murphy questioned if we wanted to authorize showing on a shorter notice, asking if we were only authorizing one time—that this could be coming for six months, which would be cumbersome. Mr. Thornton explained that it is a one-time showing for qualified brokers—that they have to be HUD qualified.

Resolution (h) authorizes the acquisition of vacant property located at 449 Valleybrook Rd. for a new fire hall for a purchase price of $65,900. Councilwoman Scott asked if this was an additional fire hall or were we replacing one? Mr. Thornton responded that it is an additional fire hall.

There was one purchase, a Landfill Compactor for Public Works from Nortrax, Inc. in the amount of $501,000. Attorney McMahan noted that there was a bid
protest on this and both protesters were here now, stating that we would hear comments at the end of the Public Works’ session. Councilwoman Scott indicated that she would like to have more information on this. Mr. Leach asked if she wanted information on the use of the compactor or the piece of equipment, itself? Councilwoman Scott stated that it looks like a trade-in and asked if there was an allowance for credit? Mr. Stewart stated that we had a 1990 compactor, and this replaces it; that we had asked for a trade-in allowance. Councilwoman Scott asked if this trade-in allowance offset the cost and was told “yes”.

On motion of Councilman Rico, seconded by Councilman Gilbert, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.