

**AGENDA SESSION**  
**MARCH 6, 2012**  
**3:00 P.M.**

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

Others present included Donna Kelley, Madeline Green, Valerie Maleug, Dave Crockett, Johnny Feagans, Patrick Bobo, Steve Leach, Lee Norris, Dennis Malone, Jerry Stewart, Bill Payne, Jim Templeton, Tony Boyd, Mark Keil, Jana Lowery, Larry Zehnder, Chief Dodd, and Chief Adams. John Bridger joined the meeting later.

Mr. Johnson proceeded with Agenda items, noting that **Ordinance 5(a)** was discussed last week. Also **Ordinance 6(a)** was discussed last week in Public Works. **Ordinance 6(b) was deferred from February 21<sup>st</sup>**. This deals with the "Injury on Duty Program", and Mr. Johnson stated that he thought everything was worked out on this. For information purposes, Councilwoman Scott noted that this would be taken up in Legal and Legislative Committee for additional questions and comments.

**Resolution (a)** will be discussed in Legal and Legislative Committee. **Resolution (b)** authorizes an Agreement with Sain Construction Co. for the Hixson Community Center demolition in the amount of \$445,954.00 plus a contingency fund of \$44,595.00. This is the old Hixson Middle School and was discussed some last week.

**Resolution ©** authorizes an agreement with Global Green Lighting to provide outdoor lighting fixtures for an estimated \$5 million and for additional specialty lighting as needed by the City for an estimated cost of \$1 million. Councilman Gilbert asked if this matter would be discussed in this committee? Chairman Ladd noted that this matter was not in any committee. Councilman Gilbert noted that there was a lot of discussion on this last week and asked if there were any other solutions since last week? Mr. Johnson responded "nothing definite". Chairman Ladd asked if Administration would continue to look at this, with Mr. Johnson asking "in what respect"? Chairman Ladd felt that more dialog was needed—that it might be internal dialog—that we needed a long-term look at the contract; that we needed to do some internal discussion anyway. Mr. Johnson noted that various alternatives were discussed last week such as another financial mechanism in the form of a lease. Councilman Gilbert asked if he was speaking of a lease versus what they are thinking of? Mr. Johnson mentioned a proposed mechanism equal to and less than EPB. Councilman Gilbert expressed a desire to look at a comparison.

Chairman Ladd suggested that Councilman Rico could have more dialog during a Public Works Committee meeting if that was acceptable with the Council.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she would like more discussion today; that Global Green Lighting came prepared to answer questions and get this back in focus. She noted that we had a thirty minute discussion last week, and the Council has lots of questions; that she would like it articulated fully today.

Chairman Ladd asked if this was a discussion on just what we were voting on this evening, questioning if we could leave further discussion for a future contract of our lighting system.

Councilwoman Robinson indicated that she wanted to be sure the big plan is in place before we do this and then see this fall apart; that she felt like this was the moment “as the twig is bent—how shall the tree grow!” She noted that this was a “green” analogy.

Mr. Johnson noted that Mr. Lepard was present today.

Councilwoman Berz stated that was with Councilwoman Robinson—that it was her understanding that the downtown wanted this; that she was a little bit leery about some of this and wanted more discussion; that she would like a cost benefit of each option.

Mr. Johnson noted that Mr. Thornton was present with a schedule. Mr. Thornton related that he had a complete packet of information—that what Councilwoman Berz was speaking of was Section 4. Councilwoman Berz responded “Guys, I missed it”. She explained that she would like to get a sheet showing what we were talking about last week. Mr. Thornton indicated that he believed they could pull some quick numbers together—that this could be 10-15 years of savings—based on the entire project and Schedules 1 and 2 of the Project. Councilwoman Berz wanted to know if we spend \$5 million dollars, we will get such and such and if we go with a lease, we will get such and such—that she would like to see several choices to see what looks best in the long run. She questioned if there could be a combination of spending \$5 million now and then going with a lease—that we needed to think globally. Mr. Thornton explained that we would be going with Schedule 1 and 2 and then looking at a lease option for the rest of the project. Councilwoman Berz confirmed that if we vote on this today, it would not close down moving on.

Chairman Ladd noted that it seemed this should be deferred for further discussion. Mr. Johnson indicated that it could be deferred for one week, and the Staff could get alternatives to the Council before next week. Councilwoman Berz stated that was what she asked for last week. Mr. Johnson noted that there were five schedules to be rolled out, and this takes care of the first two; that the savings will be on the tail end.

Councilman Rico suggested that the Staff go back and give the Council recommendations and options next week. He was in favor of deferring this.

Councilman Benson noted that Chairman Ladd would not see his light on anymore concerning this—that his family was in the lighting business, and he could not vote for or against this and would stay quiet. Chairman Ladd stated that he was welcome to stay quiet!

Councilwoman Scott indicated that she thought we wanted to light the city but felt that we should defer this and discuss the issue. She mentioned setting the Capital Budget with this priority before the Capital Budget is looked at as a whole—that there might be other projects we would like to do—that we were not looking at the whole ball of wax—that we are eliminating projects on the back end if we “cherry pick” now; that we needed to think this out as a caveat in addressing the budget.

Councilman Gilbert noted that downtown was saying they wanted this, but we needed to look at all the Parks and Recreation centers where we were having trouble. He wanted to know if this would be possible with Phase 1?

Councilman Murphy wanted to know how these Phases were arrived at and how they were prioritized? He mentioned additional operability, noting Councilwoman Scott had alluded that this might not be our highest priority—that the schedule may be backwards. Mr. Johnson explained that the cost savings was in residential areas; that he would try to answer Councilman Murphy’s first question as to how priorities are set. He mentioned that the City’s lighting engineer, Rick Davis, was working on this—that downtown was the first priority and the geographic basis and main artery; that we would do the rest of the city in stages—that this was their rationale.

Councilman Murphy mentioned additional operability again, stating that he thought this went beyond the “guy” who does the lighting for the city. Mr. Johnson mentioned that we had already handled Coolidge Park, which has been a major success. He stated that we could hit spots like recreation centers, connecting with the mesh—that all the infrastructure was in place to handle spot delivery; that if the police thought we needed additional lighting in a certain spot that it could be handled.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that this is precisely why this Council is so interested in this; that this is a local company that is flexible and can move quickly; that if it is a Parks and Recreation issue, they can go ahead and deal with it. She mentioned that she was so enthusiastic because there was a big problem in Coolidge Park, and this lighting is working; that people now feel safe and good about going there; that she agreed with Councilman Gilbert—that this is not just about money but about being a deterrent in dealing with our current topic—the gang problem. She stated that she did not think this was just a win-win but a win-win-win. She urged to not make this piecemeal because this is an investment for years to come and will

cost no more than we are currently paying. (From the audience, David Crockett noted that it would cost less).

Councilman Murphy stated that Coolidge Park was nothing compared to what he had wrestled with for years in his district—that the problem is bigger than a lighting project, and we needed to bear this in mind.

Chairman Ladd stated that we did want a meeting for more discussion. She asked if the Council wanted a separate informational meeting or to have this discussed in a regular committee meeting such as Public Works? She noted that we had a Budget meeting scheduled from 10:00 to 12:00 P.M. next Tuesday, and if we had an informational meeting scheduled for this at 2:00 P.M., it would be quite an afternoon.

Councilman Rico stated that the Staff needed to be part of this.

Chairman Ladd asked what time the Council wanted to do this with dialog? Councilman Rico responded “make it short and sweet”. Chairman Ladd indicated that we were not asking for a presentation but an opportunity for the Council to ask questions, and we needed to give enough time to vet questions.

Councilwoman Scott stated that it was fine with her if this was heard in Public Works or if the Chairman sets a time; however when this issue is addressed, she would ask that additional costs be included for separate fees, such as the EPB part, accessing fee, and if we don't go with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase, what the maintenance piece would be. She asked that these additional costs be in there.

Councilwoman Berz asked that the impact on the Capital Budget be addressed and how much of a long term commitment there would be.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that before we adjourn this subject, she would like to note that the folks from the Lighting Co. are here today and asked if we wanted to hear from them this week? Chairman Ladd suggested that we hold this until next week at 2:00 P.M. and asked that the Council please read all information that Danny Thornton had prepared and sent to narrow the scope.

Mr. Johnson confirmed that this matter would be deferred until next week.

He then continued with the agenda. **Resolution (d)** concerns legal representation for Councilman Benson and will be discussed in Legal and Legislative meeting.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR MARCH 13, 2012**

**Ordinance First Reading (a)** concerns applications to the Board. John Bridger stated that discussion on this could take place next week. **Ordinance (b)** will be discussed in Public Works next week. **Ordinances (c) through (e)** are zoning cases.

**Resolutions (a) through (e)** are Public Works' items and will be discussed next week. **Resolution (f)** will be discussed in Legal and Legislative meeting. **Resolution (g)** is a PUD and will be discussed next week. Mr. Bridger noted that this PUD had expired and had to be resubmitted.

Mr. Johnson went over the two purchases on tonight's agenda.

**On motion of Councilman Rico, seconded by Councilman Murphy, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.**

This meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.