AGENDA SESSION
DECEMBER 4, 2012
3:00 P.M.

Chairman Ladd called the Agenda Session to order with Councilmen Rico, Scott, Gilbert, Robinson, McGary, Benson and Berz 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 Larry Zehnder, Johnny Feagans, Dan Johnson, Lee Norris, Chief Kenney, Jerry Stewart, Steve Leach, Dickie Hutsell, Jana Lowery, Jim Templeton, Fire Marshall Whitmire, Mo Minkara, Mike Patrick, Chief Flint, Tony Sammons, Sandra Gober, Danny Thornton, Gary Hilbert, Stan Sewell, Boyd Patterson, John Bridger, and Chief Dodd. Missy Crutchfield joined the meeting later.

Mr. Johnson went over agenda items, noting first the Public Hearings for Annexed areas. Attorney McMahan added that a written report had been handed out to Councilmembers and tonight there would be a short presentation by Staff and an opportunity for questions.

Ordinance (a) Final Reading on overtime pay for holidays has been explained by Ms. Madison. Ordinances on first reading will be dealt with in committee.

Mr. Johnson went over Resolutions, pointing out those that had already been discussed and those that would be discussed in a later committee meeting. In regards to Resolution (d), contracts with neighborhood organizations, Councilwoman Scott requested that going forward, Neighborhood Services provide Council with a list so that the contracts could be read in advance. Councilman McGary had concerns about Resolutions (f) and (g) dealing with PILOTS for UTC projects. He noted that River City and the Council had yet to pass a document concerning PILOTS and questioned which came first—should we pass on a document first or these two Projects? Attorney McMahan responded that River City’s PILOT Program expired recently for downtown housing; that without a program in place, the Council would have to look at these two projects based on discretion; that we have no guiding document; that we would have to take these two on their own merits.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DECEMBER 11, 2012

Ordinance (a) First Reading is relative to purchasing and competitive sealed proposals. This is to comply with State Law concerning adopting RFP’s. Councilwoman Scott wanted to know how many cities have the same sort of Ordinance? Attorney McMahan responded that he would have to get this information for her. She wanted to know what we had patterned our changes after and was told the State Statute—that we had been using the proper process without it being in our Code.
In regards to Ordinance (b), amending the Charter by deleting archaic provisions, Attorney McMahan noted that the Mayor had looked at this and wanted to get rid of archaic provisions; that this was an assignment, and we had more archaic provisions than current. Councilwoman Scott asked about a red-line version. Attorney McMahan stated he thought about that, but there were too many changes. Councilman McGary asked if it would be on the website; Attorney McMahan responded in the affirmative, with the rough draft being on the website today. Ordinances (c) thru (g) are zoning matters and (h) will be discussed in Public Works.

Boyd Patterson went over Resolution (a), creating a fund to accept donations and contributions for the Gang Task Force, prefaced on the contribution by Miller-Martin Law Firm. Councilwoman Scott thought this was a great idea and inquired as to whom were on the Advisory Committee. She was told Boyd Patterson, Fred Houser, and Nina Ventri. She questioned if these employees and this Committee would survive the next city election?

Resolution (b) regards a Personal Services Agreement with Larry Ridge relative to maintenance and repair services for the Coolidge Park Carousel. Mr. Ridge is retiring and is training a new person to take over.

In regards to Resolution (c) regarding land for construction of a new fire station in Ooltewah, Councilwoman Scott asked for a GIS map of the firehall, marked with other community volunteer firehalls, as well.

Sandra Gober explained that the purpose of Resolution (d) and the agreement with Brightbridge is to assist businesses and create jobs and services to low and moderate income areas. Councilwoman Scott asked to see a list of projects facilitated with past money.

Resolution (e) adopts the 2012 Purchasing Manual and all 175 pages are on line. Councilwoman Scott asked for a red-line version on this. Attorney McMahan noted that this was drafted when Paul Page was with us, and there are only two areas of change.

Resolution (f) will be discussed in Public Works and Resolution (g) in Parks and Recreation committee. Resolution (h) authorizes a Grant from the Community Foundation to develop literacy programs. Missy Crutchfield addressed concerns of Councilwoman Scott.

Resolution (i) is a Special Exceptions Permit for Peter E. Johnson for a duplex on Gardner Street. Details will be provided next week. Councilwoman Berz stated that the people want this withdrawn. She suggested deferral. John Bridger stated that the Council could decide whether to withdraw or defer. Councilwoman Berz stated that this was a very contentious matter and a lot of people would be coming next week, and her constituents had asked that she let them know something about this. Mr. Hutsell added that the Council had adopted a moratorium, but this was already in the pipeline.
Resolution (j) deals with early voting locations for the March municipal election. Councilman McGary wanted to know if this was the City’s or Election Commission’s responsibility. Attorney McMahan stated that the Election Commission has some ideas. Councilman Gilbert wanted to know who was requesting this? Councilman Murphy wanted to know the cost differential between three sites and just one site? Mr. Johnson noted that four years ago with had two other sites at Northgate and Brainerd.

Resolution (k) authorizes 2 K-9 dogs.

Mr. Johnson went over the purchases that will be on tonight’s agenda. In regards to the purchase for a blanket contract for MSA parts, Councilwoman Scott wanted to know what these were? Mr. Stewart stated that MSA was the name of the company—that it involved gas meters used to measure. Mr. Johnson noted three emergency purchases that would be handled at tonight’s meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 P.M.

(A full copy of this agenda is available on-line and in the Council Office).