

## **MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF NASHVILLE, ARKANSAS December 20, 2021**

The City Council of the city of Nashville met on Monday, December 20 at 12:00 noon for the regular monthly meeting. Mayor Billy Ray Jones called the meeting to order. The prayer was led by Nick Davis, the pledge was led by Police Chief Amy Marion

Mayor Jones administered the oath of office to Herbert Turley for Ward 5, Position 2 Alderman.

Eight council members were present at roll call: Joe Hoen, Donna Harwell, Nick Davis, Will Turley, Kay Gathright, James Parker, Herbert Turley, and Kathy Combs. Also present were department heads and the press.

Motion was made by Hoen, seconded by Harwell to accept the minutes of the November 22, 2021 meeting.

Financial reports were presented by financial director Kimberly Green. Extraordinary expenses for November were:

Water: \$14,100.00 – Wastewater Engineering Service

Franchise: Transfer to street \$9,200.00 / Water & Sewer \$25,000.00 / Animal Control \$300.00

Sales tax for City increased by 15% (\$17,699.00) and county increased by 9% (\$7,308.00) over November 2020.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Jason Harrison made the recommendation to the council that Meghan Floyd be hired as Park Director. Motion by Davis, second by Parker to accept the recommendation. Motion passed.

Parks Director Meghan Floyd reported that the park is sponsoring a basketball camp with the revenue being used to help with the purchase of a new laser machine.

Police Chief Amy Marion reported that the police department took 65 kids to “Shop with a Cop”. \$13,000 was raised for the event and it was a success.

Fire Chief Justin Thornton reported that the county fire chiefs association is discussing the possibility of adding fire dues for county residents to the property taxes. He then presented information on a 2009 Spartan Rescue/Pumper truck that is available for purchase. And information from Diamond Bank with the best financing he’s checked. He would like to go see it in person when it is available and possibly purchase it and trade in the current rescue truck. Council was in agreement and if it checks out, he will present information for purchase at that time.

Code Enforcement director David Riggs reported that he is waiting for utilities to be disconnected from the houses that were previously voted for condemnation.

Public Works Director Larry Dunaway reported that the 4<sup>th</sup> street sidewalk project has had a good start. He also said that we have received the grant of \$120,000 for the Phase V sidewalk project.

Mayor Jones presented Resolution 2021-15 A Resolution to Adopt the City of Nashville Operating Budget for 2022. Resolution was read. Motion by Davis, seconded by Will Turley to pass Resolution 2021-15. Motion passed.

Mayor Jones presented the annual State of the City. He stated that this year's budget had to be worked on a little more than usual with the increase of the water rates and salaries. He complimented the council and department heads for their work meeting the obstacles produced by the current inflation. He mentioned that going forward, steps have been taken to fix the water department financial shortfall, all the departments have good equipment and employees and are in good shape for the coming year.

Motion to adjourn at 12:50

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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Mayor Billy Ray Jones

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City Clerk Carol Mitchell