

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF
THE CITY OF NASHVILLE, ARKANSAS ON
March 26, 2013**

The City Council of the City of Nashville met on Tuesday, March 26, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Presiding Officer Mayor Billy Ray Jones called the meeting to order.

Financial Director Jimmy Dale led the Council in prayer.

Mayor Jones then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

On roll call 8 members answered as their names were called: Alderman Milum, Alderman Anderson, Alderwoman Mitchell, Alderman Parker, Alderwoman Gathright, Alderwoman Wright, Alderman Smith, and Alderman Brown. Alderwoman Kirkpatrick, Alderman Davis, Alderwoman Harwell were absent. Alderwoman Clark arrived after roll call and minutes approval.

Other persons present were Public Works Director Larry Dunaway, Finance Director Jimmy Dale, Code Enforcement Officer David Johnson, and City Clerk Liz McDaniel. Attorney George Steel sat in for City Attorney Nate Steel, Louie Graves Nashville Leader, and Charles Goodin Nashville News.

After a review of the February 26, 2013 minutes, Alderman Anderson made a motion to accept the minutes and Alderwoman Mitchell seconded the motion. On roll call vote, the motion passed with all yeas and no nays. (8-0).

Next up Financial Director Dale gave his report to the Council:

He stated that the month of February was much better than January. The revenues exceeded expenses by \$47,000 with no extraordinary expenses. He stated that because of everything going good he did not have anything to report.

Alderwoman Mitchell asks if we are still putting money back into the Equipment Replacement Fund and Dale said he had put some money back but that we have curtailed spending enough that it is not a problem. Mitchell stated that she would like to see it be built back up. Dale then stated that Larry Dunaway is probably getting a truck in the spring and that he is budgeted for it. Alderman Anderson then stated that with the purchase of a truck and a police car in January; since we are set up to save (money), "aren't we supposed to vote on major purchases over \$20,000 before you go and buy something"? Several of the other Council members said at the same time that "you are supposed to". Anderson then stated that he did not remember voting on the police vehicle. Alderwoman Mitchell said "they get away with it by putting it in the budget". Alderman Smith added, "The budget is no approval of spending though" and Mitchell agreed by

saying, "right". Anderson said that we approve a certain amount of money to be spent, but . Mayor Jones then stated that we are supposed to vote on a purchase over twenty thousand dollars. Mitchell asks, isn't a police car more than twenty thousand? Dale and Mayor Jones said that it was around \$26,000 with the equipment added. Mayor stated that he thought the council had already approved the purchase of 3 vehicles a year. Alderman Brown stated that the Council is supposed to approve the price of the vehicle. Mayor Jones asks, "Do you know how I found out about it? Gary Dan (York Gary Autoplex) called and said, your car's here and I'm thinking, what car?" Jimmy Dale then said that they had ordered it, but did not have to order it because it was already there. Mayor Jones stated he had no notice of the purchase. Alderwoman Mitchell then stated that just because it is in the budget does not mean approval to purchase it. Jimmy Dale stated that since he came here the deal has always been for the police to get 2 police cars a year. Mayor Jones said that if it ever happened again he would tell the dealer to hold the vehicle so that he can bring the purchase before the Council. Dale and Mayor said, "we knew we were going to buy a car we just did not think it would come that soon, in January". Dale said that he (Chief Pierce) called to order one and they said, "We've got one here". Alderman Anderson said, "That's what put us in a bind" (in January). Dale stated, "One thing you can find out, if you watch this stuff, is we've got people in place that are extremely cognizant of what they're spending and what they're doing. We all work together. They come in here and we sit down, talk, and look at stuff and if we have any problems like a high electric bill, I'll call them and ask what's going on and they will have an explanation. We all work together and watch it closely and I, for one, am extremely proud of what we do financially because we watch everything very carefully." Alderman Brown then picked up his copy of the agenda and said, "See this agenda? There is nothing on it? (New business) The City is wasting their money on a Council, twelve members, if we do not vote on something occasionally. J Dale said, "one thing about it is with everything going smooth you don't have to get involved in anything". Alderman Brown added that what hurts us is when we find out something on the street that we don't know in here (Council meetings). Dale asks, "How does that happen? What are you finding out?" Alderman Smith said he read where the City sold some land in the paper. Mayor Jones said it was not a sale of land, it was where a property line was surveyed and a quick claim deed was issued to get her fence on the property line. PWD Dunaway said it was an 8-foot strip from back in the day that was not on the property line. Financial Director Dale interjected, "This is a financial report! If you have any questions holler at me. I won't be here tomorrow but other than that I'll be here". Alderwoman Mitchell makes a motion to accept the financials for February and Alderman Anderson seconds the motion. On roll call vote, the motion passed with all yeas and no nays. (9-0).

Next is Public Works Director Larry Dunaway. Larry states the Spring Cleanup will run from April 8th through April 14th which will include a weekend for cleanup. The Sidewalk project rebid again this Friday, February 29. We had problems with the correct paperwork and were forced to rebid again. We changed the scope of the project by adding some deductive alternates by taking things out to try to get the money right without having to rebid again. We want to get this done as quickly as we can."

The River pump is almost finished. The motor is set, insulated and the pipe pieces are installed. All we are waiting on is the electrician. The entire conduit has been run to the motor and all he has to do is pull wire.

Dunaway stated that Jeremy Stone, our engineer, told him and the Mayor of some grants that are available and after going over everything, we may be eligible for drainage and overlaying. There are criteria with overlaying so it will have to be looked over more closely. He said that he has four projects submitted with the main one being a safety issue with the "boxcar bridge" on Howard Street. It may or may not qualify because of the expense. There is only about \$18 million dollars available Statewide and we are trying to "get our name in the hat". The Highway Department will do all the preliminary engineering, lay it out and survey it, then tell us how much money they will give us. The bridge is still questionable due to the expense. If we can get some streets overlaid like Sipes, Mill, Hutchinson, and possibly Clark it would be very nice. When Larry took questions, Alderman Anderson asks about a street cut at Bishop and 4th. Larry said that we are trying to let it dry out so that the City can fix it.

Next is Code Enforcement Officer David Johnson:

Johnson informs the Council that he has taken the necessary steps to place a lien on the property belonging to Minuen May, which the State Land Commissioner now has. The parties as required will be given 30 days to pay or the City will proceed with a lien against the property.

There was no NEW BUSINESS.

Alderman Brown made a motion to adjourn and Alderman Mitchell seconded. Mayor Jones called the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Passed and approved this _____ day of _____, 2013.

Mayor Billy Ray Jones

ATTEST:

Liz McDaniel, City Clerk Treasurer