

The Gatlinburg Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday October 16, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Room. All members were present with the exception of Ryan DeSear. Mayor Mike Werner called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Building and Planning Director David Ball gave the Invocation.

Mayor Werner then called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of September 18, 2018. Commissioner Don Smith made a motion to approve the Minutes which was seconded by Commissioner Hannah Helton Harper and then unanimously adopted.

Mayor Werner then recognized Ms. Alisa Murphy who had signed up prior to the meeting. Ms. Murphy proceeded to address City Commission regarding invasive kudzu in Gatlinburg. Ms. Murphy stated that the kudzu vine was introduced from Asia in the 1930s and was thought to be a good source of erosion control, however, that is a myth and it actually works in reverse and makes erosion worse. Ms. Murphy further stated that kudzu can be controlled substantially by removing the tap root and continued by giving examples of the problems caused by kudzu including that it destroys native plant species, uproots trees, destroys wildlife habitats, lowers property values, and damages roadways. Ms. Murphy stated that her neighborhood has had many meetings about kudzu control and have educated one another and treated their own properties, and that does not help with adjacent properties. Ms. Murphy asked City leadership to lead in awareness and education for the community on the prevention and removal of kudzu, sponsor a community program, treat swale areas, clean mower blades to prevent the spread of seeds, treat City owned properties, and if possible, create a City Ordinance similar to the one that Pittman Center has. Ms. Murphy concluded by stating that it will take two to three years of somewhat consistent work in order to eradicate kudzu and a unified program with everyone working together is needed.

Mayor Werner then presented a service award to Joel Maples of the Golf Department who has celebrated 20 years with the City and received a clock recognizing those years of service.

Regarding Reports of Boards and Committees was the Gatlinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau (GCVB) Third Quarter Report presentation by President/CEO Mark Adams who stated that the Third Quarter focus was on Marketing with Staff putting together an enhanced Marketing plan for the Knoxville and Nashville areas focusing on inviting guests to visit Gatlinburg for the Fall and Winter season. Mr. Adams proceeded to review highlights which included increases in revenues related to the Convention Center and further stated that the future Convention Center estimated attendance was confirmed at 127,102 and added that event bookings are up from the Third Quarter of 2017. Mr. Adams continued by giving

highlights of the Third Quarter events including Smoky Mountain Tunes and Tales, which averaged 3,300 viewers on the nightly Live Stream, and the Fourth of July Events which had an estimated 40,000 in attendance. Mr. Adams continued by highlighting the Marketing and Public Relations information for the Third Quarter including that 15 million media impressions were made and online sessions were up on both Gatlinburg.com and Book Direct and that all of the Gatlinburg social media accounts gained followers. Mr. Adams further stated that Gatlinburg was featured in Country Living Magazine, was named by MSN as the Most Beautiful Small Town in Tennessee, was named Best Smoky Mountain Getaway by Trip Advisor, and was featured on the Travel Channel segment naming the Best Fall Foliage in the United States. Mr. Adams concluded by stating that the Spur Welcome Center made \$36,281 in revenue received from the Made in Gatlinburg store and retail sales from t-shirts and hats.

The City Manager reported and/or requested:

(1) that she would like to begin by giving a report on the Big Belly Trash Receptacles that have been received and installed on the Parkway between Cherokee Orchard Road and the Convention Center and that there are twenty-two leased receptacles that have been installed along with the four previously purchased receptacles and these Big Belly units are replacing fifty-four open top trash can receptacles. The City Sanitation Department has received many compliments about the installation and appearance of the units and the units are performing as expected allowing the Sanitation Department to eliminate the 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. downtown trash runs. The City Manager also advised that twenty-six cigarette receptacles have been received and were installed beside the Big Belly receptacles; and,

(2) that she would like to advise of some upcoming Halloween Events including the 4th Annual Halloween Spooktacular, hosted by the Recreation Department, will be held on Tuesday, October 30 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. along the walking trail at Mills Park and that there will also be a Trick or Treat Carnival on Wednesday, October 31 from Noon to 5:00 p.m. at Ripley's Aquarium Plaza and Anakeesta Plaza and Police and Fire Departments will be there along with other community organizations handing out treats, playing games, and providing helpful safety information; and

(3) that she would like to also advise of some other upcoming City events including that the Gatlinburg Fire Department is hosting their annual Open House on Thursday, October 25 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall adjacent to City Hall. And that the Gatlinburg Chili Cook Off, presented by Bush's Chili Beans, will be held on Wednesday, November 7 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the parking lot located at 705 Parkway.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A CONTRACT FOR SERVICES WITH HELEN ROSS MCNABB CENTER, INC.

Item A under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a Contract for Services with Helen Ross McNabb Center, Inc. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the Contract for Services which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The City Manager commented that this is a budgeted item and is a technicality as it relates to contributions to non-profit organizations. The City Manager further stated that this is for \$10,000 and is the first of a five year commitment for expansion of the Helen Ross McNabb Center, Inc., facilities in Sevier County which are extremely important to the community. The City Manager asked Mr. Houston Smelcer of the Helen Ross McNabb Center if there was anything he would like to add. Mr. Smelcer stated that six years ago he stood before the Commissioners and asked for funding for Helen Ross McNabb's outpatient mental health facility in Sevierville which was approved and later became the base of operations to serve over five thousand Wildfire survivors. Mr. Smelcer thanked Commission for that funding and for the consideration of funding for the new facility. Mr. Smelcer further stated that Judges Slone and Rader convinced Nashville to provide some outpatient addiction treatment funding for Sevierville and that this funding from the City will help reach the goal needed for the facility. After these comments, the Contract for Services with Helen Ross McNabb Center, Inc., was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF A PROPOSED ABANDONMENT AND RELOCATION OF A PORTION OF OGLEWOOD LANE.

Item B under New Business was Discussion and Consideration of a preliminary approval of a proposed abandonment and relocation of a portion of Oglewood Lane. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the preliminary approval which was seconded by Commissioner Harper. The City Manager commented that this is an item associated with the First Baptist Church of Gatlinburg and stated that the Church is building a new youth building as the old building was destroyed in the Wildfires. The City Manager then asked the Building and Planning Director to further explain. Mr. Ball stated that First Baptist Church is requesting to relocate an approximate 250 foot section of Oglewood Lane and shift it in an easterly direction to build a new road to replace that section. Mr. Ball further stated that this will allow the church to expand their current parking facilities and still maintain a right of way to Highway 321 and will also help to keep the parking areas together and not have a bisecting road running through. Mr. Ball stated that the area where the new road would be built is where the old youth facility was and

that the relocation has been reviewed and approved by Planning Commission. After these comments, the motion to approve the preliminary approval of a proposed abandonment and relocation of a portion of Oglewood Lane was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A DEED CONVEYING A PUBLIC TURNAROUND AREA AT THE TERMINATION POINT OF TIDWELL DRIVE FROM OGLE'S BASKINS CREEK APARTMENTS, LLC.

Item C under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a deed conveying a public turnaround area at the termination point of Tidwell Drive from Ogle's Baskins Creek Apartments, LLC. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the deed which was seconded by Commissioner Harper. The City Manager commented that items C and D are both related to this business item and that the concept for these were on the last Agenda for preliminary approval. The City Manager then asked the Building and Planning Director to further explain. Mr. Ball stated that the first item is the document from the adjoining property owner to deed the City a 646 square foot area to use in the turnaround area of Tidwell Drive and the second item is a quit claim deed that would be given to the adjoining property owner from the City and is for an area of right of way that was never improved. Mr. Ball further stated that the City has not maintained this area and is simply quit claiming any interest in that right of way to the adjoining property owner. Mr. Ball stated that this has been reviewed and approved by Planning Commission. After these comments, the motion to approve a deed conveying a public turnaround area at the termination point of Tidwell Drive from Ogle's Baskins Creek Apartments, LLC was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A QUIT CLAIM DEED FROM THE CITY TO OGLE'S BASKINS CREEK APARTMENTS, LLC, FOR A PLATTED UNACCEPTED PORTION OF TIDWELL RIGHT OF WAY.

Item D under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a quit claim deed from the City to Ogle's Baskins Creek Apartments, LLC, for a platted unaccepted portion of Tidwell Drive right of way. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the quit claim deed which was seconded by Commissioner Smith and then unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH WEST, WELCH, REED ENGINEERS, INC., RELATED TO PERMANENT GENERATOR INSTALLATIONS FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND THE

RANMORE DRIVE PUMP STATION.

Item E under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving an Engineering Agreement with West, Welch, Reed Engineers, Inc., related to permanent generator installations for the Water Treatment Plant and the Ranmore Drive Pump Station. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Agreement which was seconded by Commissioner Harper. The City Manager commented that this is an Engineering Agreement associated with a Project that was funded in this year's Budget being the placement of permanent generators at the Water Plant and the Ranmore Drive Pump Station. The City Manager asked the Utilities Manager to further explain. Mr. Phelps stated that this Agreement will provided engineering and design, construction documents and specifications that will help with bid preparation and inspection of the installation, once the bid is awarded, and the Contractor begins work. Mr. Phelps further stated that the Agreement is in the amount of \$25,000 and that \$5,000 is allocated for construction inspection. After these comments, the Engineering Agreement with West, Welch, Reed Engineers, Inc., related to permanent generator installations for the Water Treatment Plant at the Ranmore Drive Pump Station was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A SINGLE BID TO ZOLL MEDICAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO CARDIAC MONITORS FOR THE FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT.

Item F under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a single bid to Zoll Medical for the purchase of two cardiac monitors for the Fire/Rescue Department. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the single bid which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The City Manager commented that this item was in this year's Budget and that the single bid did come in under the budgeted amount. After these comments, the motion to approve the single bid to Zoll Medical for the purchase of two cardiac monitors for the Fire/Rescue Department was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF RIGHT OF WAY FROM THE GATLINBURG VILLAGE ASSOCIATES, INC., RELATED TO THE STEPHENS DRIVE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT.

Item G under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving the purchase of right of way from the Gatlinburg Village Associates, Inc., related to the Stephens Drive Bridge Replacement Project. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the purchase of right way which was seconded by Commissioner

Harper. The City Manager commented that items G and H are both related to the Stephens Drive Bridge Replacement Project and that the Project is funded with a grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation for 98% of the costs with a 2% City share. The City Manager further stated that these are two small areas of private property that the City needs to procure for right of way for the replacement of the Bridge. The City Manager asked the Public Works Director to further explain. Mr. Henderson stated that the first tract, identified as tract #2, contains 343 square feet of property and is owned by the Gatlinburg Village Association and that they have agreed to the offer of \$5,202 for the property. Mr. Henderson further stated that the second tract, identified as tract #3, contains 753 square feet and is owned by Ronald and Ricky Huskey. Mr. Henderson continued that the City approached the property owners with an offer and they made a counter offer of \$8,678, so based on the Settlement Statement, the total cost to acquire this property is \$9,330. The City Manager stated that there is one more small tract to be purchased and that is associated with the Baskins Creek Condominiums. The City Manager further stated that the City is in the process of negotiating with the property owners and hopes to have it worked out by the next City Commission Meeting. After these comments, the motion to approve the purchase of right of way from the Gatlinburg Village Associates, Inc., related to the Stephens Drive Bridge Replacement Project was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF RIGHT OF WAY FROM RONALD AND RICKY HUSKEY RELATED TO THE STEPHENS DRIVE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT.

Item G under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving the purchase of right of way from Ronald and Ricky Huskey related to the Stephens Drive Bridge Replacement Project. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the purchase of right way which was seconded by Commissioner Harper and then unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A 5311 RURAL TRANSPORTATION OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT.

Item I under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a 5311 Rural Transportation Operating Assistance Grant Contract with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) for the Mass Transit Department. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Grant Contract which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. The City Manager commented that this is a long standing Operations Assistance Grant and asked the Mass Transit Manager how

many years the City has been receiving this Grant to which Mr. Parton replied approximately ten years. The City Manager asked the Finance Director to further explain. Mr. Holt stated that the total of the Grant is \$569,502 including Federal and State funding. Vice Mayor McCown asked Mr. Parton if this is the same amount received over the course of ten years and Mr. Parton replied that it had increased over the years. The City Manager stated that these are two Grants from TDOT that the Mass Transit Department heavily depends on for funding and asked Mr. Holt how much the amount has increased over ten years and he replied that it had increased 30-50%. The City Manager stated that the City is very appreciative to TDOT for their support of the Trolley System. After these comments, the motion to approve a 5311 Rural Transportation Operating Assistance Grant Contract with the Tennessee Department of Transportation for the Mass Transit Department was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 956, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (TML) RISK MANAGEMENT POOL PROPERTY CONSERVATION MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM.

Item J under New Business was Resolution Number 956, a Resolution authorizing the City to participate in the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) Risk Management Pool Property Conservation Matching Grant Program. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Resolution which was seconded by Commissioner Harper. The City Manager commented that this is a Resolution that is required for the City to apply for the Grant and the Grant is through the City's Insurance Company. The City Manager further stated that the City anticipates receiving \$5,000 and this amount would be used to offset costs for additional security cameras at the Convention Center, which was a budgeted item. After these comments Resolution 956 was unanimously adopted.

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS:

Commissioner Don Smith:

(1) Commissioner Smith stated that he would like to thank Joel Maples for twenty years of service at the Golf Course and commented that it not only says a lot for Joel as an employee, but also says a lot for the City as an employer.

Commissioner Hannah Helton Harper:

(1) Commissioner Harper commented that she would like to congratulate Joel Williams on his Service Award; and,

(2) Commissioner Harper also commented that she would like to congratulate the Gatlinburg Pittman Lady Highlanders Volleyball team on their participation in the State Tournament and would like to wish them luck and hopes to see them bring home another victory.

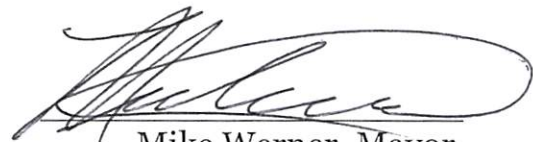
Vice Mayor Mark McCown:

(1) Vice Mayor McCown commented that Commissioner DeSear was not able to attend this evening due to being at a Ripley's Management Seminar out of State.

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Cindy C. Ogle

Cindy Cameron Ogle, City Recorder
/cl


Mike Werner, Mayor