

A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF
SODDY-DAISY, TENNESSEE WAS HELD
ON THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024 AT 7:00 P.M.

INVOCATION BY: REV. JACKIE PENNEY

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY:
MAYOR EVERETT

MEMBERS PRESENT:
MAYOR EVERETT
VICE-MAYOR COLEMAN
COMMISSIONER KEITH
COMMISSIONER PENNEY
COMMISSIONER SHIPLEY
CITY MANAGER JOHNSON
CITY ATTORNEY ELLIOTT
ASSISTANT RECORDER DOLBERRY

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT:
SEE ATTACHED COPY OF SIGN IN SHEET

The minutes of the regular meeting held June 20, 2024 were approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE.

NEW BUSINESS:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SODDY-DAISY, TENNESSEE,
REZONING FROM A-1 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO R-1 SINGLE-
FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TRACTS OF LAND LOCATED AT
12701 & 12711 OLD DAYTON PIKE. PUBLIC HEARING AND
FIRST READING.**

Mayor Everett stated that the Planning Commission had rolled this item to the August meeting. He said this could not be heard tonight without the Planning Commission recommendation and would be heard at the September 5th meeting. Diane Walker asked what the issue was. City Manager Johnson stated that the property owner had a family emergency and could not attend the meeting. With no representation present, the Planning Commission rolled

the item to the next meeting.

City Manager Johnson requested approval for payment of an invoice from Vigilant Solutions for LPR Cameras. He said the City received a Homeland Security Grant for \$43,059.54. He said the invoice before them is to have these installed for a cost of \$27,493.20. He said these are license plate readers and will be placed at various intersections. He said Police Chief Petty is not here tonight, but he has the list of the intersections. Mayor Everett said these have been a good tool for police departments in apprehending those with warrants. He said these have been around for a long time and can assist law enforcement with finding children that are abducted as well as missing persons.

1st - Commissioner Keith to approve
2nd - Commissioner Shipley
Ayes - Unanimous

City Manager Johnson requested approval of the Purchase Order to Chrysler Dodge for three (3) Dodge Durangos at a cost of \$125,082.00. He noted that these were budgeted items. He stated that these vehicles are included in the State Contract pricing and therefore a bid is not required. Diane Walker questioned state contract pricing. City Manager Johnson explained the process with state contract pricing. City Attorney Elliott stated that the State Contract is presumed to be the best price because the state got the bid. Vice-Mayor Coleman questioned if this price included the lighting package. City Manager Johnson said it does not.

1st - Vice-Mayor Coleman to approve
2nd - Secretary Penney
Ayes - Unanimous

Mayor Everett requested approval to surplus vehicles and to place them on the Compass website for auction. City Manager Johnson said there are eleven (11) vehicles that the City has deadlined due to mileage and some of the vehicles do not run.

1st - Commissioner Shipley to approve
2nd - Vice-Mayor Coleman
Ayes - Unanimous

City Manager Johnson requested approval of the purchase order to solar traffic signals for

solar school zone lights at Sequoyah Road. He said the cost is \$10,768.00. He stated these lights are older and need to be replaced. He said these will be purchased using funds received from the speed zone camera tickets.

- 1st - Commissioner Keith to approve
- 2nd - Vice-Mayor Coleman
- Ayes - Unanimous

Fire Chief Dusty Morgan requested approval of a Purchase Order for the purchase of Pierce-Custom Enforcer Pumper. He said this was discussed in several workshops. City Manager Johnson said the pumper will be identical to the two (2) that were ordered 24 months ago in July of 2022. Fire Chief Morgan said they typically take 36 months to build and should be ready for delivery in January 2025. Vice-Mayor Coleman noted that there was a significant increase in cost from July 2022 to now and the additional pumper will now cost \$1,032,687.00 which is an increase of \$300,000.00. He said this price expires at midnight tomorrow and there is no way to know what the price will be on Saturday.

- 1st - Vice-Mayor Coleman to approve
- 2nd - Commissioner Shipley
- Ayes - Unanimous

Fire Chief Morgan requested approval to purchase three (3) portable radios from Motorola Solutions at a cost of \$28,409.01. He stated these were budgeted.

- 1st - Commissioner Keith to approve
- 2nd - Commissioner Penney
- Ayes - Unanimous

Citizen's Participation:

Claudene Gallenbeck, 2123 Short Leaf Lane, Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee, requested that the City of Soddy-Daisy paint the lines on Sequoyah Road as they are virtually invisible especially when it is dark. She said it is her understanding that Hamilton County plans to re-stripe the lines from West Ridge Trail Road to the Nuclear Plant. Commissioner Shipley confirmed that Hamilton County plans to re-stripe their portion of Sequoyah Road and suggested that the City

check into the cost of re-striping from West Ridge Trail to Dayton Pike and piggy backing onto the County's project. City Manager Johnson said the City re-striped our portion 5 years ago, but it faded.

Ms. Gallenbeck said she had discussed a Veterans' Day Parade with Lucas at the Soddy-Daisy Speed Shop. She asked if this could be done. City Manager Johnson said it would require further discussion and then a vote. He said it could be discussed at the next workshop which will be held in August. He suggested she contact him in August to see if the Commission would consider it.

Derek Kukura, 1045 Trojan Run Drive, Soddy-Daisy asked the date of the next workshop. City Manager Johnson said a date had not been set yet. He said it would be posted on the City's website when the date is set.

Brad Sims, 199 Hickman Street, Soddy-Daisy, again requested that something be done to prevent people from parking on the sides of the road at the North Park Ballfields. He said Chief Petty previously posted on Social Media not to park on the road and it worked for 2 weeks. He said they are again parking on both sides of the street. Commissioner Shipley said that people are coming from out of town for the ballgames and he does not feel we need to invite them to our City and then write tickets. Mayor Everett said the parking has been this way for years. He said the Commission is reviewing solutions to the parking situation. He said if it is not posted and vehicles are facing the direction of traffic flow it is not illegal. Mr. Sims said he could fix the problem with \$500.00 and asked if the Commission would give him permission to do so. Commissioner Shipley said no. Commissioner Keith noted that people in the area including himself can travel Durham Street and avoid the parking situation. Mr. Sims said he did not want to have to travel further to take Durham Street. Mayor Everett said this did not happen overnight and in the interim while a solution is sought, Mr. Sims should take Durham Street. Mr. Sims

said he should not have to. He said a whole neighborhood has to travel this. He asked if he has to get a petition to get some satisfaction. Mayor Everett said we are working on bigger projects in this area that include the parking as well.

Diane Walker, 9986 Lovell Road, Soddy-Daisy, questioned why the news media is not in attendance. Mayor Everett noted that Gail Perry with the Chattanooga was in attendance. Mrs. Walker asked why other news reporters and the cameras were not present. Mayor Everett noted they typically only attend when they feel there is exciting media to cover. Mrs. Walker asked if what citizens say is part of the minutes. Assistant Recorder Dolberry said yes. She asked how items are put on the agenda. City Manager Johnson said that workshops are advertised in the Times Free Press. He said the agenda is posted on the website. She asked if citizens concerns are put on the agenda. City Manager Johnson said no. Mayor Everett said citizens bring their concerns before the Commission for instance a veterans parade was requested earlier in the meeting, this request will be worked through in a workshop and then placed on the agenda if the City is going to have it and Mrs. Gallenbeck would be notified.

City Manager Johnson said that workshops are held to discuss things. Mrs. Walker asked if these are held during the day. City Manager Johnson said yes. He further stated that Workshops are open to the public, but there is no citizens participation. Mrs. Walker asked if the Police Department could reinstate their Social Media presence. She asked what is the policy to let citizens know if something is happening. City Manager Johnson said the City's page was hacked and because it must be linked to an individual account, the officer requested it be closed to protect his personal account. City Manager Johnson said that the page would have to be connected to an individual's personal account or a fictitious person created. Mayor Everett said the County and City of Chattanooga have more staff to monitor this.

Mrs. Walker requested that the Rails to Trails be brought back. She said the City had a sweet deal offered 10 years ago, but it fell by the wayside. City Manager Johnson said this was

discussed recently between the City, Hamilton County and TVA.

James Berry, 8921 Springfield Road, Soddy-Daisy, expressed his appreciation to the Commission and Representative Hazlewood for the meeting at Willow Creek. He said it was determined that the State of Tennessee owns the property. He said he feels they should make the repairs.

Commissioner Keith expressed his appreciation for the employees who worked the Independence Day Celebration. He said there are a few issues that need to be addressed before the next Celebration. He said one item is food vendors being present during the music and fireworks.

Vice-Mayor Coleman requested that the grass be mowed under the benches and picnic tables at the North Park. He said he would like to discuss the ballfields at the next workshop. He also stated that building permits issued for June totaled 1.3 million in value.

Commissioner Shipley said that he would like to see the crosses with the flags placed in front of City Hall. Public Works Director Grant said they are in bad shape and several of the names are missing and he does not know what names are missing. He said these were printed on labels and adhered to the crosses. Commissioner Shipley asked if the crosses and flags could be placed in front of City Hall without the names. He said he would be glad to assist in putting them out.

Commissioner Penney said he agrees with Commissioner Keith in regard to the Independence Day Celebration. He said he would like for the City to re-coop some of their expense. He asked the average cost of the Celebration. City Manager Johnson said a minimum of \$25,000.00. Commissioner Penney suggested looking for sponsorship to re-coop some of the funds.

Commissioner Penney requested that the City again pursue other avenues for ingress/egress into Cox Lane when trains are blocking the crossing. He said recently a child was

injured at a pool party in the neighborhood and a train was blocking the crossing. He said with 73 houses and approximately 4 per household there are 292 plus citizens at risk. He said he wants ALL options explored for first responders to have access in an emergency. Commissioner Penney questioned the liability to the City in an instance like this. City Attorney Elliott said there is none. City Manager Johnson said there are no vacant properties in the subdivision. He said an access lane had been discussed parallel to the railroad, but it would require relocating one of the bridge pillars to obtain a clear span. City Manager Johnson said this might be a possibility when the bridge is repaired and funding for the bridge is at the top of his list. Mayor Everett noted that issues with trains blocking crossings in the City has been a problem for some time. He asked if the City could possibly coordinate with Norfolk and install digital signs that notify motorists when a crossing is blocked and how long it will be impassable. City Attorney Elliott said the railroad is governed by the Federal Government and they have their own police and detectives.

Mayor Everett expressed his appreciation to those who helped make the Independence Day Celebration a success. He said major planning goes into an event like this. He thanked those who participated as well. He expressed his appreciation for all that Commissioner Shipley does for the City. Mayor Everett said he is elected and tries to address citizens' concerns as quickly as possible.

Commissioner Shipley expressed his appreciation for Public Works Director Steve Grant. He said that Mr. Grant is in charge of the fireworks for the Independence Day Celebration and that he told him the fireworks would last 20 minutes and 36 seconds and they did. He said Mr. Grant does a good job.

Adjourned 7:44 P.M.

Burt Johnson

