

A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF
SODDY-DAISY, TENNESSEE WAS HELD
ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M.

INVOCATION BY: JACKIE PENNEY

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY:
MAYOR EVERETT

MEMBERS PRESENT:
MAYOR EVERETT
VICE-MAYOR COLEMAN
COMMISSIONER KEITH
COMMISSION 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 August 3, 2023 were approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SODDY-DAISY, TENNESSEE,
REZONING FROM R-2A RURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO C-2
LOCAL BUSINESS DISTRICT A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED AT
8208 DAYTON PIKE. PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING.**

Commissioner Penney noted that the recommendation of the Planning Commission was to approve. There was no opposition present. Vice-Mayor Coleman questioned if this was the property across from the garage. Commissioner Penney stated it is the garage operating as Lemay Auto Service.

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

City Manager Johnson stated that bids were taken for the property located at 10298 Walden Street (former dentist office building). He said one bid was received in the amount of \$500,000.00. He said this is less than the City has invested in the property. He recommended rejecting the bid.

- 1st - Commissioner Keith to reject the bid
- 2nd - Commissioner Shipley
- Ayes - Unanimous

City Attorney Elliott questioned how the City acquired the building? City Manager Johnson said that the building was originally purchased for the police department. Commissioner Shipley noted that the property was not purchased arbitrarily. He said at the time, the City was not sure if the property behind the Municipal Building could be built on. City Manager Johnson said the geotech study is now complete and the area behind City Hall can be built on. He said this will keep all City offices on the same campus and the building will be one level.

City Manager Johnson requested approval for the striping of a portion of Thrasher Pike, Gann Road and Old Dayton Pike (South). He said the total cost exceeds \$10,000.00 and requires Board approval. He further stated that Hamilton County will complete the work. Commissioner Penney questioned what is meant by “no cleaning” as noted on the estimate. City Manager Johnson said that will be a question for Public Works Director Grant, but he assumes it means that we will have the streets cleared of debris for them prior to the striping.

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

City Manager Johnson requested approval for him to sign the Department of Finance and Administration Grant Contract for Violent Crime Intervention. He said the grant was awarded on July 20th. He said this grant will allow cameras to be placed throughout the city and parks. He said the project is 100% funded by the grant.

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

City Manager Johnson stated that the SROs placement at Ivy Academy and Skillern Elementary was approved at the last meeting. He said the board approved to fund up to \$60,000 for any overage. He said this is to approve his signature on the SRO grant contract for the State.

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

City Manager Johnson requested approval of a purchase order in the amount of \$79,184.00 for the purchase of two patrol vehicles. He said the two vehicles will replace the vehicles used by the School Resource Officers (SRO). Mayor Everett said that he recently spoke with Senator Watson regarding the SRO grants. He said that Senator Watson is working on increasing the grant amounts to offset equipment costs of SROs. He said the original grant is for salaries only, but did not include equipment costs. City Manager Johnson said they plan to look at grants for capital outlay to help offset these costs going forward. Commissioner Shipley noted that the Special Session is to be held on Monday, August 21st and he is hopeful this will be addressed. Commissioner Penney asked how long patrol cars are kept. Police Captain Petty stated that they try to replace them before 150,000 miles which is approximately every 5 to 6 years.

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

City Manager Johnson requested approval of a purchase order for the replacement of the digital sign located in front of the Municipal Building. He said the current sign has been non-operational for over a year. He said the new sign will be much improved with TV like display and he can control the sign remotely using his telephone which will be beneficial in an emergency. He said the cost will be included as part of the new building project.

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

Citizen's Participation: None.

City Manager Johnson announced the Summer Celebration scheduled for Saturday, August 19th from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the lake.

City Manager Johnson said that he and Commissioner Penney attended a meeting at Lakesite City Hall spear headed by Cindi Sanden. He said they are looking at a lodging or hotel feasibility study. He said that Dennis Tumlin is researching grants to pay for the study. He said he feels this may be money well spent to interest hotel developers in our area. He said approximately 40 attended the four-hour meeting which included Bo Watson, Greg Martin, Director of Hamilton County Parks and Recreation, as well as chamber members.

Vice-Mayor Coleman reiterated the Summer Celebration announced earlier. He said that the Soddy-Daisy Kids Club has purchased the safety netting for the ballfields. Mayor Everett questioned the progress on the bleachers. Vice-Mayor Coleman said he does not have an update at this time.

Commissioner Shipley announced that Hamilton County held a special news conference earlier today relative to schools. He said that plans are to build a new Soddy-Daisy Middle School on the same campus as Daisy Elementary creating a K-8 school with the Middle and Elementary to remain separated. He said Soddy-Daisy High School will remain the same. He said Hamilton County is trying to eliminate “old” buildings as their maintenance is extensive. He said there are plans for new athletic facilities for the middle school as well. Commissioner Shipley said there should be a rendering of what the school will look like ready in approximately 6 to 8 weeks. A member of the audience questioned the increase in traffic at the proposed site. Commissioner Shipley said this was considered. He said plans are to keep the wide driveway at Daisy Elementary possibly shifting it to Hyatte Road. Evelyn Penney questioned if the existing Daisy Elementary would be torn down. Commissioner Shipley said no, but they will get a gymnasium and commons area. Vice-Mayor Coleman noted that it will improve the traffic situation on Dayton Pike at Turner Road. Commissioner Shipley said the project will take approximately 3 years to complete. Commissioner Penney questioned why the school would not be built back at the Turner Road site. Commissioner Shipley said when the City of Chattanooga gave the school system to Hamilton County there was a billion dollars in deferred maintenance. He said combining older schools into new buildings will cut down on the deferred maintenance and cost of operation.

Commissioner Penney said the tourism meeting he attended at Lakesite was very interesting. He said that as I-75 becomes more crowded, tourism and TDOT look at Highway 27. He said that the new Industrial Park at the Mayfield Farms will also increase interest in the

area. He said he feels this is a good opportunity for Soddy-Daisy to grow.

Commissioner Penney noted that he was unable to drive to tonight's meeting because a train had blocked the only ingress and egress to his house located on Cox Lane. He said this has been an ongoing issue for years. He said that he feels the City and the Railroad need to address this situation and find an emergency exit when the trains have the crossing blocked before there is an incident involving life and death.

Mayor Everett reiterated the need for an emergency exit for Cox Lane. He said that he has witnessed the fire department having to crawl across a trail to gain access. He said this Board needs to address the Railroad issue with Federal and State officials.

Mayor Everett thanked Commissioner Shipley for all he has done for Soddy-Daisy. He said State and Federal Representatives speak highly of Commissioner Shipley and the City of Soddy-Daisy. He said it has been an honor to serve with Commissioner Shipley. He said that Commissioner Shipley is dedicated to serving Soddy-Daisy and as a County Commissioner the Northend of the County as well.

Vice-Mayor Coleman noted that Parkridge has began moving dirt on Reco Drive for the new Full Service Emergency Room.

Adjourned 7:30 p.m.

Recorder Burt Johnson

