

March 5, 2018
6:00 p.m.
Regular Monthly Meeting
Ripley City Courtroom

Mayor Pavletic presiding

Aldermen present: Alston, Beard, Chipman, Davis, Hankins and Treadway

Aldermen absent: none

Also present: Donna Buckner, Attorney Jackson, Chief Tracey Worlds, Chief Donnell Baltimore, Superintendent Johnie Ford, Scott Nelson, and Director Randy Danley

Visitors: Louie Ruff, Amanda Adkerson, John Beasley, Taylor Beasley, Susan Worlds, Rickey Taylor, Mary E. Barnes, Franz Nolen, Jacinta Fritz, Ron Goforth, Reverend Charles Joplin, Dexter Currin, Willie L. Pounds, Diane Beard, Tamara Bonds, Donald Bonds, Rita M. Burnett, Bryan Burnett, Samuel Starks, Reverend Leon Baltimore, Jay Heath, Jackie Williams, Austin Thompson, Mike and Angela Allmand and Dorisha Wright

Danny Scott opened meeting with prayer.

Mayor Pavletic led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Motion by Alderwoman Alston and second by Alderwoman Treadway to approve February 5, 2018 minutes as printed and delivered in agenda package. All aye
2. Motion by Alderman Hankins and second by Alderman Chipman to approve February 2018 financial statement as printed and delivered in agenda package. All aye

Correspondence:

- Thank you from Walker Building tenants
- Thank you from Dr. Joe and Cynthia Hunt

Alderwoman Alston's request for the Board to consider Donald Bonds' request to address the Board regarding his reinstatement of employment. Alderwoman Alston stated Mr. Bonds had requested she have him placed on the agenda.

Attorney Jackson stated it's the Board's decision to hear Mr. Bonds but she had already given the Board her opinion in an email in preparation for tonight's meeting. Mr. Bonds' reinstatement, in her opinion, would be violative of the city's policy. The city has a policy allowing discipline and there is a disciplinary review process that's available and was exhausted by Mr. Bonds. The Board made a decision last year regarding the disciplinary review process and whether you as a Board wanted any oversight after the decision was reviewed by the department heads. The Board's decision was that you did not want that oversight and so after the decision was made, his dismissal from city employment stood. Doesn't see, in the policy, a basis for the Board to go back and review now and ordering the chief to reinstate him. Can't prevent the Board from taking a vote but thinks a vote would violate the city's personnel policy.

Attorney Jackson stated she has been approached on more than one occasion regarding Mr. Bonds' reinstatement based upon the fact that he was acquitted at trial. Mr. Bonds was not dismissed from city employment based on the fact that he had criminal charges pending. He was dismissed upon the availability of a written signed statement in which he admitted to conduct violating city policy. The dismissal was not at all dependent on whether he was convicted at trial.

Attorney Jackson stated the Board could hear Mr. Bonds but would respectively advise that if the Board votes to reinstatement him, the Board would be doing something that city policy does not allow for. A copy of Mr. Bonds' statement was provided to the Board.

Attorney Jackson stated there is no motion for action pending. Board can allow Mr. Bonds to speak and not take action.

The Board approved Mr. Bonds' to speak.

Mr. Bonds thanked the Board for allowing him to address the Board. He stated he is seeking his reinstatement of employment with the City of Ripley Police Department.

3. Motion by Alderman Davis and second by Alderman Hankins to approve resolution of the City of Ripley adopting amended employment practices and polices provisions regarding occurrence based progressive discipline. All aye
4. Motion by Alderman Chipman and second by Alderman Davis to approve contract between City of Ripley and Alexander, Thompson Arnold PLLC to provide audit for period of July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 in the amount of \$19,275 with additional fee of \$3,750 in the event a single audit is required. All aye
5. Motion by Alderman Hankins and second by Alderman Davis to approve 1st reading proposed ordinance of the City of Ripley, Tennessee to amend Title 10 Animal Control. Alderman Chipman voted nay due to lease law, all others voted aye. Motion passed.
6. Motion by Alderman Beard and second by Alderwoman Alston to approve Amendment II to Agreement between the University of Tennessee and the City of Ripley, Tennessee. All aye
7. Motion by Alderman Hankins and second by Alderman Chipman to approve Ripley Power & Light surge alert agreement to provide installation and maintenance of surge suppression equipment at Ripley Family Fitness Center. All aye
8. Motion by Alderman Hankins and second by Alderman Beard to approve agreement between M & M Micro Systems, Inc. and the City of Ripley Police Department for renewal of software agreement. All aye

Public Works Superintendent Johnie Ford discussed drainage proposals for Rice Park.

9. Motion by Alderman Hankins and second by Alderman Chipman to pursue proposal #1 as described, secure easements if necessary, if it doesn't work move to proposal #2. All aye

Attorney Jackson gave W.G.L. Rice Trust update.

Department Reports:

Ripley Parks & Recreation: Director Randy Danley gave monthly report.

Ripley Public Works & Codes Departments: Superintendent Johnie Ford gave monthly report.

Ripley Police Department: Chief Donnell Baltimore gave monthly report.

Ripley Fire Department: Chief Tracey Worlds gave monthly report.

Ripley Gas, Water & Wastewater Department: Superintendent Scott Nelson gave monthly report.

Ripley Power & Light Department: Alderman Beard gave monthly report.

Ripley Housing Authority: Alderwoman Alston gave monthly report.

Mayor stated he was going to Nashville on Wednesday for presentation to finish Walker East Shovel Ready site.

Susan Worlds, Lauderdale County Chamber/ECD, gave information on Chamber Banquet.

Lee Johnston gave update on Ripley Downtown Development activities.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Donna Buckner, Recorder

Jon Pavletic, Mayor