

March 6, 2023
5:30 p.m.
Public Hearing
Ripley City Courtroom

Mayor Fitzhugh called the meeting to order and requested Recorder Buckner to issue roll call.

Board members present: Alston, Chipman, Davis, Hankins, Thompson, Treadway and Fitzhugh

Board member absent: None

Also present: Donna Buckner, Chief Worlds, Chief Turner, Superintendent Scott Nelson, Superintendent Johnie Ford and Director Randy Danley

Visitors: Linda Love, Ron Goforth, J.C. Bonds, James Wright, David Scott

- Ordinance of the City of Ripley, Tennessee, amending Title 3, Municipal Court

No negative comments

Public Hearing adjourned 5:45 p.m.

Donna Buckner, Recorder

Craig Fitzhugh, Mayor

March 6, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Regular Monthly Meeting
Ripley City Courtroom

Mayor Fitzhugh called the meeting to order and requested Recorder Buckner to issue roll call.

Board members present: Alston, Chipman, Davis, Hankins, Thompson and Treadway

Board members absent: none

Also present: Donna Buckner, Chief Worlds, Chief Turner, Superintendent Scott Nelson, Superintendent Johnie Ford, Director Randy Danley and Superintendent Mike Allmand

Visitors: Linda Love, Ron Goforth, J.C. Bonds, James Wright, David Scott, Kenneth Parham, Phillip Jackson, Eunice Jenkins, John Alexander, Mary Alexander, Minnie Stowe, Angie Allmand

Invocation: Phillip Jackson

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Motion by Alderman Chipman and second by Alderman Treadway to approve February 6, 2023 meeting minutes as printed and delivered in agenda package. All aye
2. Motion by Alderman Hankins and second by Alderman Alston to approve February 22, 2023 special called meeting minutes as printed and delivered in agenda package. All aye
3. Motion by Alderman Chipman and second by Alderman Treadway to approve February 2023 financial statement as printed and delivered in agenda package. All aye

Correspondence: Tina and Wayne Sullivan thank you

Mayor's comments:

- TN State University will host Wellness Event March 25, 2023 at LHS Alumni Assn.
- Blue OAR Committee update
- Streetlight project update

Department Reports

4. Motion by Alderman Hankins and second by Alderman Treadway to approve department reports as printed and delivered in agenda package. All aye
5. Motion by Alderman Thompson and second by Alderman Hankins to approve resolution to authorize to execute and submit an application with appropriate assurances to the State of Tennessee, Department of Economic and Community Development, office of Community and Rural Development, requesting FY 2023 Site Development Grant funds in the amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 and that the City of Ripley will be responsible for the required local cash matching funds and cost in excess of the allowable grant amount. Roll call. All aye
6. Motion by Alderman Chipman and second by Alderman Treadway to approve resolution to select Community Development Partners to provide assistance in the administration of the City's Select Tennessee Site Development Grant project. Roll call. All aye
7. Motion by Alderman Hankins and second by Alderman Alston to approve resolution to select A2H, Inc. to provide Engineering Services in the implementation of City's Select Tennessee Site Development Grant project. Roll call. Alderman Chipman – nay, Alderman Davis – nay, all others aye. Motion carried
8. Motion by Alderman Chipman and second by Alderman Alston to approve 2nd reading Ordinance of the City of Ripley amending Title 3, Municipal Court. Roll call. All aye

The Board continued its discussion relative to the request of Ripley Power & Light Co. to amend the City Charter to remove its department head from Section 6 of the City Charter and to establish a new provision relative to both the department head and the utility board. Alderman Thompson made a motion to amend the charter to request that the local delegation introduce a private act this year to amend Section 6 of the Ripley City Charter to finally remove this discussion about Power and Light Board of Public Utilities, whereupon Mayor Fitzhugh advised that the agenda item addressed only discussion of the topic, not action on the topic. A discussion of the request ensued. An appearance was made by department head Mike Allmand and utility board chairman Phillip Jackson, insistent that the utility board did not lawfully exist without such an amendment, which was disputed by Mayor Fitzhugh. Mayor Fitzhugh addressed certain recently-discovered actions of the utility board, in light of historical documents from the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, and the status of the utility's audit. Allmand and Jackson both asserted that the City Attorney had made a confidential complaint to the Comptroller's office. BOMA members discussed the need to hear from the City Attorney relative to the status of communications between the attorney and the utility board attorney, and relative to other questions posed by BOMA members.

9. Motion by Alderman Davis and second by Alderman Hankins to set a special called meeting for continued discussion of Ripley Power and Light issues to include both lawyers, one week from tonight (Monday, March 13, 2023) at 6:00 p.m. All aye
10. Motion by Alderman Davis and second by Alderman Chipman to accept FY2023 VCIF grant award in the amount of \$123,551 for the purchase of police department equipment. Roll call. All aye

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.