

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting: August 10, 2023

Place: Shelbyville Recreation Center, 220 Tulip Tree Road

Call to Order: 6:01 PM, Mayor Randy Carroll

Invocation: Pastor Larry Crismon, Bright Temple Church of God

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by City Council

Roll Call: Roll was called by City Recorder Lisa Smith and the following were present: Councilmember Marilyn Ewing, Councilmember William Christie, Councilmember Gary Haile, Councilmembers Henry Feldhaus and Stephanie Isaacs. Also, in attendance were Mayor Randy Carroll, City Manager Scott Collins, City Treasurer Kay Parker, and City Attorney Ginger Shofner. Councilmember Bobby Turnbow was absent. A quorum was declared and the meeting open for Business.

Adopt the Agenda: Mayor Carroll requested a motion to adopt the Agenda as presented, Councilmember Haile made a motion to Adopt the Agenda, Councilmember Feldhaus seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous oral vote.

Public Comments: NONE

- I. **Consent Agenda** – All items in this portion of the Agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Council and may be approved by one motion; However, a Councilmember may request that an item be removed for separate consideration.
 - A. Approval of City Council Minutes of the following:
 - a. Study Session of June 29, 2023
 - b. Regular Meeting of July 13, 2023
 - B. Accept all Monthly Reports (July)
 - C. Approval of Accounts Payable (July)
 - D. Accept TN Statewide Contract Purchasing Report for July.
 - E. Authorization to purchase a Bobcat E60 R2-series Mini Excavator for Public Works from Bobcat of Nashville, LaVergne, TN, through a Source well National Cooperative Contract #040319-CEC. The total purchase price is \$110,523.38. The FY24 budgeted amount was \$115,000.
 - F. Authorization to exercise the 1st of 2 Options to Renew from Mac Brown Photographers & Gallery for the youth sports league photography service. The is for one-year from August 11, 2023, to August 10, 2024. The return of total sales less sales tax to the City has been reduced from 20% to 15% in order to keep package prices the same.
 - G. Approval of the Recreation Center's Emergency Purchase of a replacement BECSys 7 chemical controller for the indoor pool. The controller was purchased from Cass-TN, Inc. of Vonore, TN for a total cost of \$15,977.78, including installation.

Councilmember Christie made a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Isaacs seconded. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Carroll closed the stated meeting and opened the Public Hearing at 6:08 PM:

Public Hearings:

An Amendment to the Fieldstone Planned Unit Development (PUD) Pattern Book to add 5 residential units, remove the club house and remove the commercial portion close to the eastern entrance of the PUD along HYY 231 North. **There were no speakers.**

Public Hearings were closed at 6:09 PM and the stated meeting reopened.

Councilmember Ewing made a motion to allow the City Attorney to read captions only on Ordinances and Resolutions, Councilmember Haile seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously by oral vote.

Old Business:

Ordinances - Second & Final Reading:

An Amendment to the Fieldstone Planned Unit Development (PUD) Pattern Book to add 5 residential units, remove the club house and remove the commercial portion close to the eastern entrance of the PUD along HYY 231 North. **Councilmember Christie made a motion to approve, Councilmember Feldhaus seconded, and the motion passed unanimously upon roll call vote.**

New Business:

Ordinances – First Reading: None

Resolutions:

A Resolution Authorizing and Directing the City Treasurer to Bar, Discharge, and Deem Uncollectible All Outstanding City Property Taxes After the Lapse of Ten Years from April 1 of the Year Following the Year in Which Such Taxes Become Delinquent as Outlined in TCA 67-5-1806. **Councilmember Ewing made a motion to approve, Councilmember Feldhaus seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously upon roll call vote.**

A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Shelbyville Authorizing a Grant Application with the State of Tennessee for Assistance with Law Enforcement Agencies of Tennessee for the Recruitment and Retention of Police Officers. **Councilmember Christie made a motion to approve, Councilmember Isaacs seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously upon roll call vote.**

A Resolution of the City Council of Shelbyville, Tennessee Adopting a Policy for Appointments to the Board for the Shelbyville Power Water and Sewerage System. **Councilmember Feldhaus made a motion to approve, Councilmember Isaacs seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously upon roll call vote.**

A Resolution of the City of Shelbyville, Tennessee Authorizing a Grant Application for the Tennessee Department of Economic And Community Development Tennessee Placemakers Entrepreneurship Grant. **Councilmember Christie made a motion to approve, Councilmember Ewing seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously upon roll call vote.**

Business Items:

Consideration of a motion to authorize the placement of a historical marker commemorating the award of the Medal of Honor to Captain Charles C. Davis on the East Side of the Public Square. The exact site of placement must be coordinated with the City of Shelbyville Public Work's Director. **Councilmember Feldhaus made a motion to authorize, Councilmember Haile seconded, and the motion then passed unanimously upon roll call vote.**

Consideration of a motion to authorize Garver Engineering to perform an Environmental & Noise Assessment at the Shelbyville Municipal Airport in preparation for the relocation of the MTSU Flight Training Program. The total cost will be \$130,800 and will be reimbursed to the City by MTSU, as committed to by Dr. Sidney A. McPhee. **Councilmember Christie made a motion to authorize, Councilmember Isaacs seconded, and the motion passed upon a unanimous roll call vote.**

Consideration of a motion to approve the recommendation of the Shelbyville Airport Authority and increase the rent on all T-Hangars by \$57.50 for a new rent amount of \$372.50 effective November 1, 2023, and then to increase the T-Hanger rent by an additional \$57.50 with an additional 3% escalation on November 1, 2024, and beginning November 1, 2025, to implement an escalation clause to increase the T-Hangar rent by 3% annually. **Councilmember Isaacs made a motion to approve, Councilmember Haile seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.**

Consideration of a motion to authorize Staff to prepare a Non-Profit Resolution and to Advertise a \$10,000 one-time gift to Habitat for Humanity, Shelbyville. **Councilmember Ewing made a motion to approve, Councilmember Isaacs seconded, and the roll call vote was Councilmember Feldhaus – Yes, Councilmember Ewing – Yes, Councilmember Haile – Yes, Councilmember Christie – No, Councilmember Isaacs – Yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4-1.**

Consideration of a motion to Appropriate \$100,000 to the Shelbyville Bedford Partnership for FY24. **Councilmember Feldhaus made a motion to approve, and that the money come from the Hotel/Motel Fund, Councilmember Isaacs seconded.** Discussion ensued with Councilmember Ewing requesting to make a motion stating she would like to see a more detailed layout of the expenses of the Partnership to grasp what is going on. **Councilmember Ewing then made a motion to defer this item until the requested information is received, Councilmember Haile seconded.** Attorney Shofner requested that Councilmember Ewing be very specific as to what information she was requesting and Ewing stated basically the payroll, acknowledging we had received a general overlook, but she wanted more specifics on the payroll and other donations the Partnership is receiving and their expenses. Upon Shofner asking for clarification of the exact ask Councilmember Ewing stated she would like the payroll by position and the other items noted for both the Shelbyville Bedford Partnership and the Foundation. **The roll call vote to defer was as follows: Councilmember Isaacs – No, Councilmember Christie – Yes, Councilmember Haile – Yes, Councilmember Ewing – Yes and Councilmember Feldhaus – No.** Recorder Smith stated the motion passed three yes votes and two no votes. Councilmember Feldhaus made a statement that he had a five- page written statement with his comments and making his stand to support the Partnership and he requests the statement be attached and made a part of the official minutes.

Consideration of a motion to place a freeze on all requests from Tourism Funds for Grants until October 1, 2023, and to request Staff develop a policy and/or guidelines for all future requests. **Councilmember Feldhaus made a motion to approve, Councilmember Isaacs seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by oral vote.**

Consideration of a motion to reconsider the appointment of David Coffee to the Shelbyville Power, Water and Sewerage Board and if necessary to authorize the City Recorder to advertise for one citizen board member for the Shelbyville Power, Water and Sewerage Board with all applications to be received by September 1st at 4:00 PM. **Councilmember Feldhaus made a motion to reaffirm the appointment of David Coffee to the Shelbyville Power Board per the City's adopted rate payer policy adopted earlier in this meeting, Councilmember Christie seconded, and the motion passed upon unanimous roll call vote.**

Purchasing / Bids

Consideration of a motion to authorize the letting of Bids for the purchase of three (3) new flood pumps and the necessary parts and labor for installation. City Engineer Will Owen stated this part will not include installation. **Councilmember Isaacs made a motion to authorize, Councilmember Christie seconded the motion, and the roll call provided an unanimously approved.**

Consideration of a motion to reject the 2nd Option to Renew from Wright's Paving for the paving of City streets and to Authorize the Purchasing Director to Rebid. **Councilmember Feldhaus made a motion to reject the option to renew and rebid, Councilmember Isaacs seconded, and the motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.**

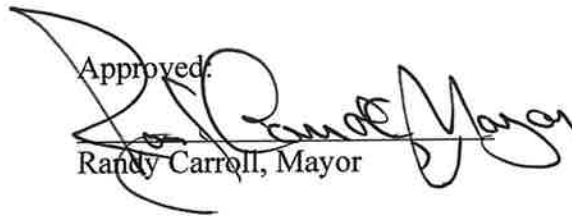
Appointments:

Mayor Carroll reappointed Mark McGee and Matthew Rueff to the Library Board. **Councilmember Feldhaus made a motion to approve these appointments, Councilmember Ewing seconded, and the motion passed upon unanimous oral vote.**

Mayor Carroll then deferred the Council Representative for the Library Board appointment to next month. reappointed Kelly Wilson to his first full term on the Airport Authority Board.

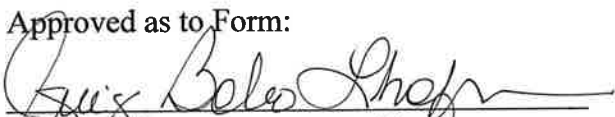
Announcement: NONE

With no further business Councilmember Haile made a motion to adjourn, Councilmember Ewing seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:51 PM.

Approved:

Randy Carroll, Mayor

Attest:


Lisa Smith, City Recorder

Approved as to Form:


Ginger Bobo Shofner, City Attorney

August 10, 2023

Statement from City of Shelbyville, TN Councilman Henry Feldhaus:

I am confronted almost daily from concerned citizens asking the question, "What is the reason for the City of Shelbyville NOT participating in the funding of the Shelbyville-Bedford Partnership?"

I do not have an answer for these inquiries because I never received an explanation from anyone on this Council or administration. I have asked numerous individuals many times. My point is not that I received a good explanation; my emphasis is that I never received ANY explanation. I asked multiple times for meetings to discuss rumors or any information the "nay" votes can offer. My requests have fallen on deaf ears. The Partnership Board has asked for an explanation because they want to correct any issue openly and honestly.

Therefore, I do not like to plead "ignorant" to our residents, but I really am perplexed with the silence from the anti-votes. I am left defending myself as I support the Partnership and have devoted the last few years cooperating with Bedford County and local supporters to create a world class top performing team to help our citizens with higher paying jobs, better shopping opportunities, better restaurants, and improved quality of life. The City Council voted unanimously for all of the recent successes of the Partnership and our tax base will soon enjoy the fruits of the improved revenues from these accomplishments.

To drive home the point of how vital economic development is to our community, no one has said it better than Bedford County Mayor Chad Graham from a Times Gazette interview in their August 30, 2022, edition:

On economic development Mayor Graham is quoted as saying, "You're going to have to have some amenities people are interested in, and it's not going to be what my

grandparents were interested in... We're not where we were 30 years ago." He continues his explanation with, "When you start talking about the next generation—your entrepreneurs, your business professionals, and your millennials—they have some minimum standards. Most of this generation look for great places to live before they select a job."

Mayor Graham is exactly right. People have choices these days. If we show a united front with our local governments, Chamber of Commerce, industries, and developers involved with the Partnership, the community and Shelbyville will be highly successful. However, if we are not united, the developers, jobs, and taxes will simply go to our neighbors who can tell their story with one voice. Thus, I plead with each of you to reconsider supporting the Partnership with our economic and tourism dollars.

Our biggest needs going forward are in commercial development. We need more hotels, new sit-down style restaurants, and quality grocery store opportunities. We know these are our biggest areas of economic leakage and thus loss of tax revenues. The City of Shelbyville has the best opportunity for this retail growth. In 2021 the City of Shelbyville unanimously funded the Buxton retail subscription because we understood the data intelligence this gives our team for strategic growth and identify realistic companies interested in locating in Shelbyville. These targeted companies include restaurants, grocery stores, hotels, and entertainment venues to improve our tax base. I ask for you to support the \$35k annual subscription again to help our commercial development efforts.

All of this is to improve the quality of life for our citizens and relieve them of the tax burden on residential property owners. The more commercial development we foster, the less we need to raise residential property taxes.

If the majority does not want to support the economic efforts, then for the sake of integrity and trustworthiness, we do not need representatives sitting on the Partnership

Board trying to pretend they support the organization while continually undermining the organization.

If any of you have a problem with me personally and my unwavering support for economic improvements, then don't take it out on the Partnership efforts. If you want to hate me, I do not want that hatred to hurt economic development efforts, and I'll still sleep well at night because I have always told the truth and pushed ideas to improve our citizens quality of life. I never consider myself nor have I profited from any of my elected decisions. I am prepared to answer all questions. If someone has heard a rumor or gossip about any recent Partnership successes, we owe it to our constituents to discover the truth for the record.

Social media with its fake news and rumors along with individual gossip are not the way to run a city. It is easier to fool someone than convince them they have been fooled. Don't trust everything you see. Even salt looks like sugar.

The "silence is deafening" from the Council members who vote against funding the Partnership. Do you have something to say that you are not saying? If you do, then it is your fault for not saying it. If you want questions answered, then ask about your concerns. However, your silence of not explaining your lack of support for the Partnership is your problem, not someone else's. The voters need to know why you refuse to dig for the truth. It is you who is the problem, and I believe you are up to no good with self-serving statements to your close friends.

In closing I have listed below a few of the Shelbyville-Bedford Partnership accomplishments. I highlight these not as Partnership only accomplishments, but to show how their guidance along with cooperative government funding create synergies for our community to flourish through the success of everyone working together.

1. Firstly, the Partnership represents a cohesive and dynamic economic development team with Shelbyville, Bedford County, and local business support.

2. In the first year (2021) they hired a top-notch economic developer and great cheerleader for our Community in Shane Hooper, who brought his Marine ethics and discipline to build a team of volunteers.
3. As the agent for the 231 Industrial Park, the economic team delivered within the first year on a mandate to attract industry to the dormant industrial park.
4. Established workforce development with industry leaders and school system.
5. Provided enhanced services through Tennessee employment office to get help and find new jobs for displaced workers from National Pen closure. This was a massive multi-month effort with everyone finding new, better paying jobs.
6. Facilitated Tennessee Downs to develop a \$40 million exotic car club track.
7. Established the new "River Life" license plate program to fund local first responders' effort to make the Duck River a safer attraction for visitors.
8. Made grant presentations for the 231 industrial Park and successfully received \$millions of dollars in funding infrastructure.
9. Created the annual Tenders and Tea for local industry and local officials to network for improved workforce training opportunities.
10. Facilitated the MTSU Aviation College movement to Shelbyville.
11. Created a Career Fair for the last 2 years for to expose local students to local industry job opportunities., with many seniors obtaining jobs on the spot.
12. Educate and coordinate the establishment of TIF opportunities for enhanced retail development.
13. Facilitated training opportunities with TCAT, Motlow, Meharry Medical College, and Trevecca Nazarene College with the Bedford County School System and \$260,000 for the health lab at Community High School.
14. Obtained donations from the new Duksan Electera for Thomas Magnet School and 30 acres of land from Silicon Ranch for our industrial park.
15. One of the latest synergies for a business-friendly environment is to have the Shelbyville Bedford County Chamber of Commerce merge with the Partnership to nurture their mutual goals.
16. Coordinated the diversity workshop with Tennessee Department of General Services for procurement service with state government and local state construction projects.
17. Coordinated multiple developments with Uncle Nearest and its explosive growth opportunities.
18. Hosted MTIDA on June 7, 2023 to outline highlights of a very successful year.

19. Coordinated the new Chick-fil-A development for a new store in Shelbyville

20. After the new Mayor and Council were sworn-in at the December meeting, the Partnership has facilitated and attended numerous educational/informational sessions with this Mayor and Council to educate everyone on our opportunities and keep communication channels open. In addition to the one-on-one meeting requests with all elected officials the public meetings since January, 2023 with the Mayor and City Council include:

- a. January 24, 2023 project from Uncle Nearest, TN Downs, TCAT, and Classic Hops update luncheon session.
- b. January 27, 2023 TIF session
- c. February 10, 2023 hosted Duksan reception with South Korean managers
- d. May 2, 2023 project update from Board member, Gary Fayard

The Partnership has openly communicated their goals with the City of Shelbyville and our citizens. The Times Gazette has featured articles almost weekly for the last several months detailing the programs and accomplishments. They have been responsive to all inquiries and shown a willingness to talk details with anyone. The public supports the Shelbyville-Bedford Partnership. Our local industries actively support it. Our State and local school systems welcome the new programs and support the efforts. Therefore, my big question remains, "Why doesn't the City of Shelbyville want to support the most successful economic and workforce development team in the history of Shelbyville?"

Sincerely,

Henry Feldhaus, III
Shelbyville Councilman, Ward