

**NASHVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2008**

ATTENDANCE – Council members present – President Roger Kelso (arrived at 6:57pm), Vice-President Robert Kirlin, Councilmember Dale Cassidy, Councilmember Charles B. King and Councilmember Arthur Omberg. Also in attendance – Town Marshal Jack Dorsett, Town Superintendent Roger Bush, Chief Administrator Phyllis Carr and Clerk-Treasurer Brenda Young.

REGULAR COUNCIL BUSINESS

1) **CALL TO ORDER** by Vice-President Kirlin at 6:34pm.

2) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3) **ROLL CALL** – by Clerk-Treasurer Young

4) **SHRINER'S REQUEST – HARRY BOND**

Harry Bond asked the Council if the Shriner's could have permission to pass out literature throughout Town on Saturday's, October 11th and 25th. Council advised that they do not want flyers put on automobile windshields. They suggested Mr. Bond approach private businesses and see if they would allow him to hand out flyers on their property.

5) **FESTIVAL PROPOSAL – CARMEN PENLEY**

Clerk-Treasurer Young explained that Carmen Penley would like to plan several festivals throughout the year and she would like Council to discuss her festival proposals. Town Attorney Salerno had advised Clerk-Treasurer Young that the festival application Ms. Penley completed for the weekend of October 10-12th was in compliance with the current ordinances. Ms. Penley was not present for the Council meeting, and therefore Councilmember Cassidy made a motion to table the discussion until the October 16, 2008 council meeting. Councilmember King seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

6) **SEWER REQUEST – JOE AND CAROL TORRES 320 HICKORY KNOB ROAD**

Joe and Carol Torres of 320 Hickory Knob Road presented a request to the Council to connect to the Town's sewer system. They explained that their septic system was destroyed by their building contractor and the Brown County Health Department will not allow them to install another septic system. Town Superintendent Bush advised that the Torres' have agreed to sign a waiver of annexation. Discussion. The sewer line will be maintained by the homeowner for one year and after the first year, the town will be responsible. Further discussion.

Councilmember King made a motion to approve the sewer hook-on pending consultation with President Kelso and Town Superintendent Bush as well as a signed waiver of annexation and costs to be born by the homeowners and their parties. Councilmember Cassidy seconded the motion. Town Superintendent Bush commented they would need a permit from IDEM before they connect to the sewer system. All were unanimously in favor of the motion.

7) **2009 BUDGETS**

Town Superintendent Bush presented the water and sewer budgets and noted at the last Council meeting he was instructed to cut everything down to the bare minimum that requires compliance. He has done this, but he would like the Council to look at a list of things they should add back in, but he

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING, OCTOBER 2, 2008

has not compiled this list yet. Vice-President Kirlin noted that the sewer budget Town Superintendent Bush presented is 3.5% lower than last year's budget.

Clerk-Treasurer Young noted that she inserted the salary information from the water and sewer budgets so it recalculated the FICA and the 457 plan match. Clerk-Treasurer Young reviewed pages 15 and 16 of the water budget with the Council. Vice-President Kirlin commented that Town Superintendent Bush has reported the proposed revenue for 2009 will be \$955,000. Town Superintendent Bush explained that he cut out a spare truck, cutting back on the replacement program for meters and a number of things he cut to get down to this number. He also commented that if nothing bad happened they could coast by on this number. Vice-President Kirlin clarified that if they add anything to the budget they would have to raise the revenue which means raising the rate. Councilmember Cassiday noted they could borrow more money rather than raising the rate, but this is not an ideal answer. Vice-President Kirlin asked if the Council was considering shopping out the water department. President Kelso noted they are still working on developing a good proposal, but he is not sure that will have any impact on moving forward with the budgets before them.

Vice-President Kirlin stated for the record that he was turning over the meeting to President Kelso.

Clerk-Treasurer Young noted that the water and sewer budgets did not need to be approved yet, but they would need to address the tax budgets. President Kelso asked Town Superintendent Bush how he made the cuts to the budgets to match what the estimated revenue would be. Town Superintendent Bush looked at areas where he could reduce and then looked at what the minimum compliance would be in each category. As an example, he looked at trimming electricity costs at the treatment plant by turning off the blower at the treatment plant overnight. Next he looked at materials and supplies, currently they cut out and replace but they can go back to patch and repair. President Kelso addressed the sludge removal line item. Town Superintendent Bush explained there were geo-tube problems during the flood and they were using the drying beds. Things are back up and running with the sludge removal process.

President Kelso would like to see what the revenues have been for the last three years in both the water and sewer utilities. He also asked Town Superintendent Bush to provide some area comparisons of the utility rates, using larger and similar size utility companies. President Kelso noted that even within the county there are utilities to compare with. Discussion of the impact of the tourist industry and how it affects the water and sewer budgets.

Vice-President Kirlin asked who determines the breakdown of personnel in the budgets. Clerk-Treasurer Young explained that she and Town Superintendent Bush have reviewed General, MVH, Water and Sewer budgets and he did a study two years ago and based their salaries upon the study. Vice-President Kirlin asked about the Food and Beverage budget and noted that Council discusses Food and Beverage items every month. Clerk-Treasurer Young advised that as long as she has been in office, Council has used very little of this tax money because this tax is solely for Parking and Public Facilities. Vice-President Kirlin sees this as penalizing the water and sewer departments because they are taking more monies out of this for payroll. President Kelso commented that Nashville is kind of the poster child of how to properly use the Food and Beverage tax funds. Discussion of the proper uses of the Food and Beverage tax funds. President Kelso cautioned not to use this fund inappropriately or it may be taken away. Vice-President Kirlin stated he is just trying to find avenues for this Town Council to not raise water and sewer rates year after year. President Kelso commented that Water and Sewer should pay for itself and his philosophy is that they should not use tax funds for the utility. Councilmember Omberg suggested making bigger users pay more. President Kelso noted that he is

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING, OCTOBER 2, 2008

against raising anything and the problem with the utilities is that they are not portioning it out right. Maybe the large hotels are not paying what their real impact is. Councilmember King noted that water costs are higher in town for the higher level users than it is in the county. Discussion of hotel's water usage and rates. Town Superintendent Bush clarified that the Council would like to see a user to capacity comparison. President Kelso commented that it would be interesting to see what the top one hundred users pay.

Clerk-Treasurer Young explained the expenses that are paid out of the Food and Beverage Tax Fund as allowed by law. She further stated that if claims were to be paid for any reasons not allowed by the state statute, she would not write the check.

Councilmember Omberg noted that this may be an important discussion as to how much time work is done under Food and Beverage, but this should be explored later not now at the eleventh hour of the budget discussions. Clerk-Treasurer Young commented she would be very scared if they did not get this fund renewed as it costs about \$100,000 to operate the restrooms and parking lots. She also reiterated that it is a state law that says how the Town of Nashville can use the Food and Beverage tax monies. President Kelso explained that all those laws are tailored for each community and provided a history of how this law came about. Discussion.


Clerk-Treasurer Young advised that at the last Council meeting, Council gave her permission to advertise the bottom line and it is ready to go to the paper. However, they also told her that they wanted to look at some line items and move some things around and they need to do this before the public hearing. Vice-President Kirlin said they have already moved a couple things, and he tried to move more but nobody got it, so he was done moving things. Councilmember Cassidy commented he could not move anything.

Councilmember Cassidy made a motion to accept the tax budgets as presented for advertisement. Vice-President Kirlin seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by President Kelso at 7:58pm.

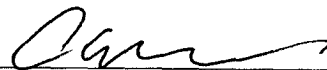
The audio tape recording made at the Town Council meeting on 10-02-08 is retained in the office of the Town Clerk-Treasurer.

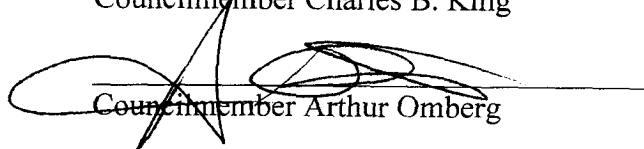

Clerk-Treasurer Brenda Young


President Roger Kelso


Vice-President Robert Kirlin


Councilmember R. Dale Cassidy


Councilmember Charles B. King


Councilmember Arthur Omberg