

**MINUTES OF
CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2013, 4:30 P.M.
CITY HALL, PIGEON FORGE, TENNESSEE**

Present were Vice Mayor McClure, Commissioner Brackins, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Robinson, Assistant City Manager Brackins, City Recorder Clabo, and interested parties. Mayor Wear and City Manager Teaster joined the meeting during item two. City Attorney Gass was absent.

Items discussed were as follows.

1. **Other** – Jeff Murrell with Johnson, Murrell, & Associates, P.C. said he represented the owners of Big Daddy's Pizzeria, Willow Brook Lodge, and Bear Crossing Condo. His request is that the City proceeds with the condemnation of the petting zoo addition at the Smoky Mountain Petting Zoo. Community Development Director Taylor stated that a stop order had been placed on the business.

Following discussion, City Attorney Gass was advised to look into the matter.

2. **Review and discussion of grant from Blue Cross and Blue Shield for the City's employee wellness program** – Assistant City Manager Brackins spoke about the new grant stating that it would be in the amount of \$10,000 but would require approximately \$4,000 in local funds to pay for the program of employee screening. He noted that it should help with the renewal in insurance premiums.

Following discussion, council generally agreed to put on upcoming agenda.

3. **Review and discussion of a FEMA grant application for a property located in Kings Hills** – Community Development Director Taylor presented and stated that six applications had been submitted but only one has been approved. He stated that the grant was in the amount of \$297,500 and was broken down as follows: \$223,125 federal, \$37,187.50 state, and \$37,187.50 local. Jim Hedrick asked about his property not being approved and Mr. Taylor explained the City had been told the only way property could qualify was damage had to be in the living space. Garage damage would not qualify.

Following discussion, council generally agreed to put on upcoming agenda.

4. **Review and discussion of a contract for the concession operator in the events center** – Assistant City Manager Brackins stated that only one proposal had been received and it was from Bullfish Restaurant. Mike Wilds discussed that the City could have used a national vendor but opted to go with a local business. This contract will be a two year contract with the option to renew.

Following discussion, there was no direction given as this was for informational purposes and will be brought up for further discussion after council has had time to review.

5. **Review and discussion to clarify laws relating to voting in City Elections –** Commissioner Robinson stated that his questions were for City Attorney Gass as he wants a legal opinion. It was noted that City Attorney Gass was unable to attend the work session due to a death in his family. Commissioner Robinson asked that City Attorney Gass be instructed to look at possibility of changing the City's charter.

Following discussion, no direction was given other than the request to look at a possible charter change.

After general discussion, the meeting was duly adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
CITY RECORDER