

**MINUTES OF
CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2011, 4:30 P.M.
CITY HALL, PIGEON FORGE, TENNESSEE**

Present were Mayor Wear, Vice Mayor McClure, Commissioner Reagan, Commissioner Robinson, City Manager Teaster, City Recorder Clabo, City Attorney Gass, and interested parties. Commissioner Brackins was absent.

Items discussed were as follows.

1. **Presentation and discussion of King's Hills Flood Study** – Guy Wantiez with Vision Engineering discussed that issues addressed in the study causing high water elevations along the channel were the quantity of water, culvert sizes, and the size of the channel. Mr. Wantiez discussed different scenarios that were input into the model and the results obtained from the study.

Community Development Director Taylor stated that a few options were available for residents to receive federal funding. One includes a buyout option where 75% of the fair value of the impacted home is paid by the federal government and the remaining 25% is paid from state and local government. Option two provides financial assistance to elevate a home. It was noted that a FEMA representative would be available on October 17, 2011 to discuss options in greater detail with city and home owners.

Following discussion, council agreed to bring a FEMA representative to an upcoming work session on October 17, 2011.

2. **Discussion of proposed change orders on new fire station** – Mike Smelcer with SRA discussed list of possible change orders for the new fire station. In all, 16 changes were discussed and recommended for a total increase of \$7,327.89. Mr. Smelcer stated that anything not on original drawings is usually a change order. Sometimes an agreement can be made between the city and contractor where additional costs are not incurred but not always.

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

3. **Discussion regarding creation of Explorer Program for fire department** – Fire Chief Watson, Firefighter Nathan Huskey, and Firefighter Taylor Cook discussed the opportunity in creating such a program. The program would include approximately 10 kids and they would be taught things such as CPR, fire prevention, and assist the department with tasks such as loading fire hose. Fire Chief Watson stated that TML had been contacted about potential liability. Costs to start the program were expected to be minimal.

Following discussion, council stated that they supported the program.

4. **Discussion of possible sale of the old tourism building** – City Manager Teaster stated that she would need authorization from council to obtain an

appraisal on the property, and then decided whether to take bids on the property or take sealed proposals. Commission Robinson stated he did not have an issue selling the building but did have an issue with the timing of the sale. He stated it was a just a bad time.

Following discussion, council agreed to look at again once 6 months of revenues have been received at the first of the new calendar year.

- 5. **Discussion of possible Pigeon Forge City Commission Retreat** – City Manager Teaster discussed some possible dates for a retreat.

Following discussion, council agreed to wait until after the Christmas holiday to schedule.

- 6. **Other** – City Recorder Clabo stated that a construction pay request on the new fire station had been received but had been accidentally filed with paid invoices. It is being requested to pay invoice on October 5, 2011 instead of waiting until the next council meeting. Funds have already been approved by council and the majority of these funds come from a federal grant.

Following discussion, council directed staff that there was no objection to paying invoice as requested.

- 7. **Other** – City Manager Teaster and City Recorder Clabo gave an update on the TCRS retirement study. Council was advised that staff were still receiving information from the Social Security Administration that would be used in the study. It was noted that the next step would be entering employee payroll data into a spreadsheet that would be used to determine the cost for an individual employee to purchase prior years of service.

Following discussion, there was no direction as this was for informational purposes only.

After general discussion, the meeting was duly adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
CITY RECORDER