

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 12, 2010**

The Harriman City Council met in regular session, January 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Municipal Complex. The Honorable Chris Mason, Mayor was present and presiding. Mayor called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer by Councilmember Wright. Roll call of Council was as follows:

PRESENT: Kenyon Mee
Ken Mynatt
J D Sampson
Chase Tedder
Lonnie Wright

ABSENT: Buddy Holley

Mayor Mason asked for a motion to approve the minutes from January 5, 2010. Councilmember Mee made the motion and Councilmember Mynatt seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

Mayor Mason asked for a motion to pay the bills. Councilmember Sampson made the motion and was seconded by Councilmember Tedder. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

DELEGATIONS

Mayor Mason asked the public if anyone would like to approach Council. No one approached.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Mason asked Councilmember Mee if he had any old business. Councilmember Mee wanted to elaborate on the possible amounts the City could help pay on the health insurance. He stated he would need help from Angie and Councilmember Wright since they are the ones who did the figures. Councilmember Mee stated he was looking more along the lines of the city paying 25% of the dependant premiums, but wanted Angie to explain the figures in more detail. He stated if the council voted on the city paying 25% of dependant coverage, only the employees who have already signed up for coverage will benefit. After much discussion Councilmember Mee made a motion for the city to pay 25% of dependant health insurance premium and was seconded by Councilmember Wright. Councilmember Mynatt asked about the help on the out of pocket cost for the employees. He wanted to know if we needed to vote on this now or can this wait until later. Mayor Mason stated we could wait on this. Councilmember Mynatt stated that if we were able to help with the out of pocket expense then the employees needed to be made aware that it would pick up on the tail end of the \$1,000 out of pocket expense. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

Mayor Mason asked Councilmember Sampson if he had any old business. Councilmember Sampson asked about the email he received on not having a budget workshop. He asked if the council just didn't want to have a budget workshop. Mayor Mason stated that the email came from him and he felt like Bob Tidwell and Dr. Kerley could sit down with the department heads and handle any issues with spending. Councilmember Sampson stated he thought the department heads were asked to cut back on their spending and he stated they are still spending. He stated Bob Tidwell and the department heads were not elected officials and it came down to having major budget issues, someone might ask why the elected officials didn't do anything to prevent it from happening. Mayor Mason stated he did not want Councilmember Sampson to make it sound like the elected officials were not doing anything. Mayor Mason asked Dr. Kerley if he worked with the department heads on a daily basis with their spending. Dr. Kerley replied that they do consult with him when they needed to make a major purchase. Mayor Mason stated he didn't believe the spending was out of control with what was budgeted for. Dr. Kerley explained that our revenues came in on peaks and valleys and people spend on a straight line even though they are spending within their budget, we are in our valley on revenue and we are spending more than we have in revenues. He stated this has been a serious problem this year. He stated we are seeing a short fall in revenue in every city. Councilmember Sampson stated he thought with a \$176,000 loss in revenues halfway through the budget year, he has serious concerns. Mayor Mason stated they were

going to have the meeting and anyone who wants to attend was invited. He didn't feel like they needed to set one night aside and require the council to attend when Bob and Dr. Kerley could handle the situation. Councilmember Sampson stated he thought it would be a good idea to just bring it up at the workshop. Councilmember Wright asked if they could make this a discussion item at a workshop and identify the specific things they are concerned about. Councilmember Mynatt asked Dr. Kerley if there were any departments with the city in trouble. Dr. Kerley answered no; they were not in real trouble. After much discussion Mayor Mason stated he felt like Bob and Dr. Kerley could meet with the department heads and then come back to council with a recap of their meeting.

Mayor Mason asked Councilmember Tedder if he had any old business. Councilmember Tedder stated he did not at this time.

Mayor Mason asked Councilmember Mynatt if he had any old business. Councilmember Mynatt stated he did not at this time.

Mayor Mason asked Councilmember Wright if he had any old business. Councilmember Wright stated he was going to write a check to the city in the amount of \$4,039.00 from the H.E.A.T checking account and then close that account out. Mayor Mason stated that money will be used to help pay KCDC.

AGENDA

Discuss and possibly resolve Brown vs. City of Harriman and Wayne Best

Mayor Mason stated this lawsuit has been on going for three years. There has been a request to settle this lawsuit. It will require the City to agree to pay \$10,000 to the plaintiff. The attorney's have been working together on a solution and \$10,000 is what they have come up with to settle this dispute. Mayor Mason stated this is a small price to pay to settle the dispute and the pending EEOC finding. Mayor Mason asked for a motion to pay the plaintiff \$10,000 to settle this dispute. Councilmember Mee made the motion and it was seconded by Councilmember Wright. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

Reading of Resolution R0110-01

Mayor Mason read the resolution aloud for the audience. This resolution is to give Harriman Utility Board permission to apply for the Tennessee Community Development Block Grant funds. Mayor Mason asked for a motion to approve this resolution. Councilmember Wright made the motion and it was seconded by Councilmember Mynatt. Councilmember Wright asked if this is the same grant we have been receiving since the sewer moratorium. James Burnham with HUB was present and answered yes, this is the same grant. After much discussion the motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

2nd Reading of Ordinance 1209-1

Mayor Mason stated we had a public hearing just before the regular council meeting tonight and there has been a change from the first reading. The change is the group letter which was B and has been changed to L. Mayor Mason read the section with the ammendment. This ordinance is to rezone a piece of property located on Morgan Street from C-2 general commercial district to C-1 central business district. This property is owned by Mr. Pearch and Mr. Kyker. Mayor Mason asked for a motion to approve the second reading of this ordinance. Councilmember Sampson made the motion and was seconded by Councilmember Mee. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

Mayor Mason urged everyone to please shop their local businesses.

There being no further business, motion was made by Councilmember Tedder and was seconded by Councilmember Mynatt. Motion to adjourn was passed with a unanimous "Aye".



Christopher B. Mason/Mayor

