

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 14, 2010**

The Harriman City Council met in regular session December 14, 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: Buddy Holley  
Kenyon Mee  
J D Sampson  
Chase Tedder  
Lonnie Wright

ABSENT: Ken Mynatt

Mayor Mason asked for a motion to approve the minutes from December 7, 2010. Councilmember Tedder made the motion and Councilmember Holley seconded. The motion passed with a four "Yes" vote and one "No" vote by Councilmember Mee.

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

**DELEGATIONS**

Mayor Mason asked the public if anyone would like to approach Council.

Chief Heidle requested permission to spend \$6,500 from the drug fund for safety equipment for the police department. Chief Heidle stated the police department has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the state and those funds would be deposited back into the drug fund when received. Councilmember Tedder made a motion to approve the police department spending \$6,500 on the safety equipment needed and this was seconded by Councilmember Holley. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mayor Mason asked Councilmember Wright if he had any old business. Councilmember Wright would like to remind everyone about the street department Christmas lunch tomorrow at noon.

Councilmember Wright stated several years ago the Cities of Rockwood and Harriman requested the coordinating committee for Roane County reconvene for the purpose of reviewing the growth plan for the stated purpose of considering amending the growth plan by modifying the urban growth boundaries of each of those Municipalities. From his research that committee met in 2005 and 2006 and has not met since then.

Councilmember Wright hopes it was not intentional that this committee hasn't met or couldn't meet. He stated it was certainly important to the City of Harriman because there were land owners, whom were located outside the Harriman growth plan that made a formal request to be annexed by the City of Harriman. This council agreed to pursue the actions necessary to honor those requests. These requests are now 3 and 4 years old and nothing has happened except the council making the request for the coordinating

committee modify our plan to accommodate those requests. Councilmember Wright yielded the floor to County Commissioner Randy Ellis. Commissioner Ellis reported he had spoke with County Mayor Woody about this situation. He had informed Mayor Mason can write a letter to the County Mayor requesting this coordinating committee meet and he will call a session for them. Councilmember Wright made a motion the Harriman City Council instruct and authorized the Harriman City Mayor to draft an official letter to the Roane County Mayor requesting to convene the coordinating committee for Roane County and to consider those actions previously requested as soon as possible. This was seconded by Councilmember Tedder. Councilmember Sampson expressed his concern about the city not standing up and fighting for what the city wants and needs. After much discussion the motion passed with four “Yes” vote and one “No vote by Councilmember Sampson.

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Mayor Mason asked Councilmember Mee if he had any old business. Councilmember Mee reported several times that he has been preached to on the regulations on codes and ordinances. He just wanted to point out there is a Municipal Code we are to go by and in title one chapter one states we are to go by Roberts Rules of Order. Councilmember Mee read a section in chapter 1, General Administration, about motions. Once a motion is made there is to be a second before any discussion is to be done. He just wanted to remind the council about the code.

Councilmember Mee requests some information on the BZA. He cannot find anything except that the planning commission is to act as the BZA. Mayor Mason instructed the City Clerk to have the Building Inspector find the ordinance establishing the BZA and email it to Councilmember Mee.

Mayor Mason asked Councilmember Holley if he had any old business. Councilmember Holley asked if there has been any progress on the garbage ordinance. Angie stated she has been working on it and will email him the draft when it is finished.

Councilmember Holley wanted to see if there is any new information on the Jake Brake usage in the city limits. He would like to have signs put up stating Jake Brakes are prohibited. Mayor Mason asked Chief Heidle if he could recall why they never put the signs up. Chief Heidle reported he thought you had to have the equipment to test the trucks in order for the police to be able to cite the driver for the use of Jake Brakes.

Mayor Mason asked Dr. Kerley if he had any old business. Dr. Kerley gave the council a packet and it contains an invoice for the paving project that was just completed. He reported the invoice is for \$497,803.70. The purchase order he submitted to Rogers Group was \$485,924.44. Since the invoice is larger than the original purchase order amount, Dr. Kerley needs council approval to pay the invoice. Councilmember Wright made to motion to approve Dr. Kerley paying the invoice for \$497,803.70. This was seconded by Councilmember Sampson. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call “Yes”.

Dr. Kerley stated a quote from Pannier Sign Company for the park signs was included in their packet. He wanted to be certain on the wording for these signs before the purchase order is completed. He also reported this quote was only for two signs and he was thinking the council wanted to have three signs made. The lady from the company stated if we wanted three she would need to give another quote because it would be a per sign cost cut. Councilmember Mee reiterated three was correct. Councilmember Sampson stated there needed to be some corrections made before the signs were ordered.

Dr. Kerley reported he had to submit a commitment request to Morton Salt several weeks ago in order to reserve salt for the winter months. In order to meet the current and forecasted weather conditions, he needs council approval to order up to 150 ton of salt. Councilmember Wright made the motion to approve the purchase of up to 150 ton of salt. This was seconded by Councilmember Holley. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

Dr. Kerley stated a copy of the invitation to bid on the pit-burn was included in the packet. In the third sentence, it states the bidder must obtain an EPA burn permit themselves.

Dr. Kerley reported he has looked everywhere in the budget for funds to cover the cost of the equipment for the Fire Department. He is going to bring a budget amendment back to council where they can add the funds for the fire department and a couple other departments. He has identified a revenue source to cover these funds.

Mayor Mason stated an election year was coming upon us. Mayor Mason stated he needs authorization from the council to write a letter to the election commission to hold an election for the City of Harriman for all of the offices scheduled to expire June 30, 2011 to include in the letter to have an early voting. Councilmember Tedder made the motion to give Mayor Mason authorization to write the letter to the election on behalf of the City of Harriman. This was seconded by Councilmember Sampson. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

Mayor Mason stated he has given a draft of the lease for the TV station to everyone and would like to sign this Friday. Roane State Community College wants to move in and start some broadcasting of Christmas movies mid next week. Mayor Mason asked for authorization to sign the lease agreement Friday pending Harold Balcom's approval. Councilmember Sampson made the motion and this was seconded by Councilmember Tedder. Councilmember Holley asked if the City agreed to pay for the utilities. Mayor Mason replied no, they did not agree on paying the utilities. Councilmember Holley stated this was in the lease they had in front of them. Mayor Mason assured the council that would be taken out of the lease before they signed. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

Mayor Mason reported he has a couple of investors interested in some of the buildings the hospital is utilizing. He spoke with Jim Gann and they are looking at alternative storage for their records.

## **AGENDA**

### **Committee Reports**

Councilmember Holley asked Mayor Mason if he resolved the issue with several hundred tons of dirt that needed to be moved. Mayor Mason reported this was from the Riverfront Development committee on the paper mill property. The hospital is finishing their final part of the CON. They will apply for their CON some time in January or February. Mayor Mason called Councilmember Holley to see where the committee stood on the

EPA reports for paper mill property. The hospital is moving several hundred tons of dirt and they need a place to dump it. Mayor Mason reported they already have someone who will be taking the dirt.

Second Reading of Ordinance 1110-02: An Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance of Harriman, Tennessee by the Addition of Hospitals, Medical Facilities and Medical Offices as Uses Permitted in Section 11-605, C-2 General Commercial District

Mayor Mason read the caption aloud for everyone. He stated the public hearing was prior to this meeting at 6:50pm and no one had any issues. Mayor Mason asked for a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 1110-02.

Councilmember Holley made the motion and this was seconded by Councilmember Sampson. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

Discuss and possibly take action on the Pine Ridge Road Traffic Light

Mayor Mason opened the floor for discussion. Councilmember Sampson stated he uses that road quite often and he can see a benefit to the motorists who use that off ramp on a daily basis. Councilmember Holley stated he would like to see the off ramp widened and resurfaced in concrete. The ramp is so rough it is like driving over a wash board. Mayor Mason asked for a motion to move forward with having the state pay for the installation of a traffic light on Pine Ridge Rd and the City of Harriman will pay for the maintenance. Councilmember Tedder made the motion and this was seconded by Councilmember Holley. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

Discuss and possible take action on support for the Expo Center

Mayor Mason had Roane State to forward some information on the Expo Center and everyone should have a copy. Mayor Mason reported the Harriman hotel owners and the managers of Cracker Barrel and Ruby Tuesday's attended the last council workshop to show their support in raising the Hotel/Motel occupancy tax 2% to help with the operation cost of the expo center. Mayor Mason reported the discussion so far has led to not designating a tax. Mayor Mason stated if the council would like to move forward with the 2% Hotel/Motel tax increase, he would like to recommend the charter change be a donation to be voted on yearly for the 2% amount. Mayor Mason opened the floor for discussion. Councilmember Sampson stated he would like to invite the county commissioners, Kingston and Rockwood Mayor's to the next council meeting and discuss the situation with them all. He expressed his concern about designating those funds for an entire year due to the city not being able to utilize those funds elsewhere if the need arises. He would like to have everyone help fund this instead of just the City of Harriman. Mayor Mason reported he has met with the County Mayor, the Mayor of Kingston and a County Commissioner two or three times. The City of Kingston has no interest in helping to support the expo center. Mayor Mason reported County Commissioner Randy Ellis was present in the audience if someone wanted to yield the floor to him. Councilmember Sampson yielded the floor to Commissioner Ellis. Commissioner Ellis stated he serves on the budget committee and that committee has discussed extensively on this issue. The county was also asked about levying the tax and designate the money for Roane State. He would recommend, just as Dr. Kerley recommended, the tax be

levied and it be designated to tourism so the council can review the status of the expo center each year and make a donation. The county is planning on making a donation to the Expo Center. After much discussion Mayor Mason stated he would need a motion to change the charter. Councilmember Mee made a motion to change the charter to increase the Hotel/Motel occupancy tax from 5% to 7% and get a draft sent to the state legislature and this was seconded by Councilmember Holley. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call "Yes".

Councilmember Wright wanted to make sure it was alright with the council to change the workshop to Thursday December 16, 2010 at 5:30pm. The council was in agreement.

Mayor Mason reminded everyone to please shop their local businesses.

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



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Christopher B. Mason/Mayor



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Angela Skidmore/City Clerk