

SOUTH FULTON CITY COMMISSION  
SOUTH FULTON, TENNESSEE  
June 22, 2006

PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Ordinance #2006-7 (Ordinance to Establish Court Costs and Maximum Fines and Delete Ordinance #2006-5 In Its Entirety)
- B. Ordinance #2006-8 (Ordinance to Call an Election)

AGENDA

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Recommendation From Advisory Committee – Voting Process
- B. Bond Committee Recommendation – Action On Bond
- C. Second & Final Reading Of Ordinance #2006-7 (Fines & Court Costs)
- D. Second & Final Reading Of Ordinance #2006-8 (Call An Election)

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Open Bids For Accounting Services
- B. Open Bids For Audit Services
- C. Adoption Of Personnel Policy
- D. First Reading Ordinance #2006-10 (Fy2006-07 Budget)
- E. Resolution #2006-4(Resolution Extending Current Budget)

MINUTES

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Vice Mayor Charles Moody opened the public hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 22, 2006 in the Commission Room of the South Fulton Municipal Complex. There were approximately fifteen persons present.

PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING

Vice Mayor Moody stated the purpose of the public hearing was to hear comments on the proposed ordinances: Ordinance #2006-7 (ordinance to establish court costs and maximum fines and delete Ordinance #2006-5 in its entirety) and Ordinance #2006-8 (ordinance to call an election).

There were no comments.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Vice Mayor Moody closed the public hearing at 5:02 p.m.

OPEN REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING  
CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice Mayor Charles Moody on Thursday, June 22, 2006 at 5:05 p.m. (following the public hearing) in the Commission Room of the South Fulton Municipal Complex.

ROLL CALL BY RECORDER

Roll call was taken by City Recorder Debbie Beadles. Present were Charles Moody, Ron Haskins, R K Kane, Thomas Pettigrew, Kathy Dillon, Karl Ivey. There were approximately fifteen citizens and two media personnel present.

MAYOR'S WELCOME

Vice Mayor Moody welcomed those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Haskins moved to approve minutes of meetings from November 17, 2005, December 22, 2005, March 3, 2006 and May 8, 2006 and public hearings of November 17, 2005 and May 8, 2006 as presented. Commissioner Pettigrew seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carries.

REVIEW OF MAY DISBURSEMENTS

Commissioner Haskins moved to approve May disbursements. Commissioner Kane seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carries.

REVIEW OF YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET

Commissioner Pettigrew moved to approve budget as presented. Commissioner Haskins seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carries.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Commissioner Kane moved to accept department reports as presented. Commissioner Pettigrew seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carries.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS

Marvin Mercer signed up to speak, but chose not to speak at this time.

RECOMMENDATION FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEE – VOTING PROCESS

Vice Mayor Moody stated he requested committee return to public meeting for verification of the committee's recommendation.

Mike Beadles, spokesperson for the committee, stated the committee discussed several options, but preferred an option that would reduce the number of wards from five

to four and allow citizens to elect a Mayor-at-large, a Mayor who would represent all citizens, not just those in a specific ward.

Mr. Beadles stated the Mayor would be one vote, one voice and would have no more power than the Mayor has at present. He stated the committee's idea was that the city would still have wards, but this option would give citizens the opportunity to elect a Mayor and there might be more candidates who might want to be Mayor. He also stated whoever reconfigured the wards when they were established in 1994 would reconfigure if citizens voted to elect a Mayor-at-large. He stated the city's charter only allows for five members (due to population) on the commission.

Mr. Ivey clarified the wards would have to be reduced from five to four because each commissioner represents a ward and an elected Mayor-at-large would represent all citizens.

Marvin Mercer, 4711 Pamela Circle, stated his concern is that the city would reduce the number of wards. He stated he understood there could be an elected Mayor-at-large and still have five wards. He stated he was chairman of group that requested the city establish districts for voting or legal action would be taken. He stated if action is taken to change what was agreed upon, then group will proceed with what they said they would do in the past.

John Algee, 5047 Par Rd, stated he was a member of above-mentioned group, first minority (black) commissioner to be elected when elections were all held at-large (difficult to be elected that way). He stated MTAS would have to come in and draw lines. He stated if the commission wants to do away with lines where minorities are not represented, they (group) will go to court. He stated he did not know what would be accomplished by going to at-large elected Mayor, that City Manager still runs the city.

Mr. Ivey stated statutes in Tennessee Code state that if election is called by the commission and citizens vote to do this, it stated the wards will be reduced by one and Mayor will be elected at-large.

Ms. Dillon stated her understanding of electing a Mayor-at-large would give residents the opportunity to choose who is going to be the Mayor to represent the city rather than the board appointing one of their own.

Mr. Algee stated Major Martin was the only minority on this advisory committee. He stated if wards had not been established, Mr. Moody and Mr. Pettigrew would not be on the commission. He stated there is a process that has to be followed and he wants to see the city go forward, not backward. He thanked the board for opportunity to speak.

Andy Crocker stated he would like to vote in every election and that in some of these districts, they have to beg people to run. He stated the citizens did not vote for this, the commission made the decision to establish wards. He stated citizens should decide.

Phil Stone, 205 W Smith Street, stated he would like to see an elected Mayor-at-large. He stated the wards would be a little larger and there would be more representation for every citizen.

Mr. Mercer stated his concern is not about the Mayor, it is about the districts.

Commissioner Kane stated he it is not the intention of anyone to reduce the voice of the minority population. He stated the board is made up of five representatives due to the population and at a later time when the city annexes areas or our population increases, there could be seven representatives. He stated it will come down to a vote and the people will decide.

Mr. Mercer stated Mr. Kane made a statement that it is not about the minority vote and it is about the minority vote because it is an at-large election. He stated the Mayor would be elected at-large; therefore, there would not be a black mayor because it is an at-large election.

#### BOND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – ACTION ON BOND

Ms. Dillon requested this item be tabled until she can work the numbers down. Commissioner Moody asked why the budget has not been submitted to the commission as stated by May 15 of each year. Ms. Dillon stated she has been working on the bond and it makes a big difference of about \$275,000. Vice Mayor Moody questioned if the state had excused this. Ms. Dillon stated a resolution extending the budget is on the agenda.

#### SECOND & FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE #2006-7 (FINES & COURT COSTS)

Commissioner Haskins moved to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance #2006-7(ordinance to establish court costs and maximum fines and delete Ordinance #2006-5 in its entirety). Commissioner Pettigrew seconded the motion. In discussion, no breaks were given for payment of citations paid in advance except in Troy (\$4.00 discount if paid in advance). All voted aye. Motion carries.

#### SECOND & FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE #2006-8 (CALL AN ELECTION)

Commissioner Kane moved to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance #2006-8 (ordinance to call an election). Commissioner Pettigrew seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

OPEN BIDS FOR ACCOUNTING SERVICES

Ms. Dillon stated three bids were received for accounting services:

Alexander, Thompson & Arnold	\$2995 per month
John R Reese & Co	\$2160 per month
Dean Financial Services	\$1665 per month

Ms. Dillon stated John R Reese & Co has been doing the city's audit for about seven years and should board decide to accept their bid for accounting services, they could not do city's audit after the FY2005-06.

OPEN BIDS FOR AUDIT SERVICES

Ms. Dillon stated one bid was received for audit services from Alexander, Thompson & Arnold.

Commissioner Haskins moved to accept bid by John R Reese & Co for accounting services and accept bid by Alexander, Thompson & Arnold for audit services. Commissioner Kane seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carries.

ADOPTION OF PERSONNEL POLICY

Commissioner Haskins moved to table this item and requested that city manager present board with copy prior to meeting as there is a lot of information to review in this document.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE #2006-10 (FY2006-07 BUDGET)

Ms. Dillon has been in close contact with Mr. Dycus and Mr. Bowling from the state and both are aware that the bond committee is trying to work out the numbers between \$1.7 and \$3.25 million. She stated the state is in agreement that city take time and borrow as little money as possible. She stated she is in contact with bond committee, state, bond agent and TDOT to request a hardship on the bridge situation. She stated all of this plays into the final numbers in the budget and this is important enough to try to lower the utility rates rather than borrow more money than is necessary. She apologized for not having the budget to the board by May 15<sup>th</sup> and thought that everyone was aware of what was being accomplished. She requested that budget ordinance be tabled and that resolution be adopted to extend the current budget 1/12

RESOLUTION #2006-4(RESOLUTION EXTENDING CURRENT BUDGET)

Commissioner Haskins moved to table Ordinance #2006-10 (FY2006-07 budget) and adopt Resolution #2006-4 (resolution adopting a tentative budget for the fiscal year 2006-2007 for the City of South Fulton, TN and extending 1/12 of the current budget). Commissioner Kane seconded the motion. In discussion, Commissioner Haskins stated

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he bears some of the responsibility because everyone did not know what was going on with the bond committee (he is a member). All voted aye. Motion carries.

**REPORT FROM MAYOR**

Vice Mayor Moody congratulated Tommy Smith on good job being done in Fire Dept.

Major Martin, 115 Mott Street, asked what the cost would be to the city to put Mayor-at-large question on the ballot. He also questioned Mayor pay if elected at-large.

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Mr. Ivey stated there would be no cost to the city if the question is put on the November ballot, cost to city would be if there was a special election. He stated the Mayor's pay would remain the same.

**REPORT FROM CITY MANAGER**

Ms. Dillon had no report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Haskins moved to adjourn at 5:50 p.m. Commissioner Kane seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carries.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
RECORDER MAYOR