

REGULAR MEETING

LOUDON CITY COUNCIL

April 18, 2011

The regular meeting of the Loudon City Council was held on April 18, 2011 in the Council Meeting Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. Those present were: Mayor Judy Keller, Council members Mike Cartwright, Judy Jones, Lynn Millsaps and Jimmy Parks. Also present were City Attorney Edwin Arnold, City Manager Lynn Mills and City Recorder Stephanie Putkonen. The press was represented by Vicky Newman of the *News Herald*. Stephanie Smullen video recorded the meeting for LCTV3. There were fourteen citizens present.

Councilmember Parks led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Attorney Arnold held the invocation.

Mayor Keller asked if council members had a chance to review the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 21, 2011. **A motion was made by Councilmember Cartwright, seconded by Councilmember Jones and unanimously passed to approve as written the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 21, 2011.**

Council considered awarding the bid for the parks mowing and maintenance contract for 2011 and 2012.

Bids received were as follows:

G.C.S. Turf Equipment	\$136,794.96 per year
Express Lawn Care	137,316.00 per year
Howell Nurseries	137,700.00 per year
Brewster's Service Group LLC	170,795.28 per year
Newman Horticulture	176,799.96 per year
Alpha Turf	255,251.28 per year.

Manager Mills explained that only one business met all specs. That business was Brewster's Service Group LLC, who had the current contract. After some discussion, **a motion was made by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Cartwright and unanimously passed to award the contract to provide the parks mowing and maintenance for 2011 and 2012 to Brewster's Service Group LLC.**

Mayor Keller welcomed the visitors and asked if anyone had anything to bring before council that did not appear on the agenda. There was no response.

Mayor Keller presented a resolution to approve amendments to the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan for employees. A motion was made by Councilmember Millsaps, seconded by Councilmember Cartwright that the following resolution be passed:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-20

APPROVING THE AMENDMENTS OF THE SECTION 125 CAFETERIA PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES

Upon a vote, the resolution was unanimously passed.

Council considered the authorization of a fourth round of grant applications for the commercial building grant program in the Courthouse Square Revitalization District. Manager Mills stated that the recommendation from the committee was to allocate \$200,000 toward this round of grants. A motion was made by Councilmember Parks, seconded by Councilmember Jones that the following resolution be passed:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-21

**AUTHORIZING THE FOURTH ROUND OF GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR
THE CITY OF LOUDON'S COURTHOUSE SQUARE REVITALIZATION
ACT COMMERCIAL BUILDING REHABILITATION PROGRAM**

Upon a vote, the resolution was unanimously passed.

Manager Mills said that Fire Chief Brubaker had received bids for several items of equipment to be purchased with grant money from the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA. The items and his recommendations were: a thermal imaging camera from Heritage Fire Equipment for \$9,525; a turnout gear washer/extractor from Laundry Systems of TN for \$8,559.05 and fire hose from Pro-Equipment for \$23,235. A motion was made by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Cartwright that the following resolution be passed:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-22

**APPROVING EXPENDITURES OF A GRANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
AGENCY TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Upon a vote, the resolution was unanimously passed.

Council considered the purchase and installation of equipment to make the recently purchased 2009 Chevrolet Tahoe ready for service in the police department. The cost of the equipment was to be paid from the Drug Fund. A motion was made by Councilmember Millsaps, seconded by Councilmember Parks that the following resolution be passed:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-23

**AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF
PATROL EQUIPMENT FOR A 2009 CHEVROLET TAHOE**

Upon a vote, the resolution was unanimously passed.

Council considered authorizing the amending of the Governor's Highway Safety Grant to use all of the funds for salaries and benefits related to traffic safety enforcement rather than using any of the funds for equipment purchases. A motion was made by Councilmember Cartwright, seconded by Councilmember Jones that the following resolution be passed:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-24

AMENDING GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT

Upon a vote, the resolution was unanimously passed.

Mayor Keller presented a resolution to approve a contract with the Tennessee Department of Transportation to construct a left turn lane on Highway 72 at Elizabeth Lee Parkway. A motion was made by Councilmember Millsaps, seconded by Councilmember Cartwright that the following resolution be passed:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-25

**APPROVING CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OF TENNESSEE
FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A LEFT TURN LANE AT THE
INTERSECTION OF SR-72 AND ELIZABETH LEE PARKWAY**

Upon a vote, the resolution was unanimously passed.

Council considered a change order for the lighting of the Tennessee River Bridge from Cannon & Cannon, Inc., the project engineer. The request was for the installation of a T-Base between the lighting standard and the bridge rail to allow better access for installation and maintenance. The additional cost was \$19,304.83. A motion was made by Councilmember Millsaps, seconded by Councilmember Jones that the following resolution be passed:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-26

**APPROVING CHANGE ORDER FOR THE BRIDGE LIGHTING
ON THE JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR. LOUDON COUNTY VETERANS'
MEMORIAL BRIDGE**

Upon a vote, the resolution was unanimously passed.

Manager Mills reported that of the HOME grant applicants, fourteen qualified; but the money will allow for only four or five of the homes to be repaired or replaced.

Mayor Keller proudly announced that all of the council members had attended the Elected Officials Academy Level 1 offered by Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS). She presented certificates of completion to all of the council members except Councilmember Millsaps who attended in a previous year. She thanked them all for attending.

Manager Mills reminded them that Level 2 will be held in conjunction with the Tennessee Municipal League Conference in June.

Councilmember Parks stated his concern regarding pedestrians crossing at the red light at the intersection of Highway 11 and Grove Street. He wanted to know if it was possible to hold the light red for the southbound through traffic while the other southbound traffic is turning left onto Grove Street.

Manager Mills stated that the walk/don't walk signals were reinstalled to address this issue. There would be a possible concern of traffic backing up onto the bridge.

Councilmember Millsaps suggested a further discussion at the next workshop.

Mayor Keller asked if it would be possible to patrol the downhill on northbound Highway 11 toward the red light at the intersection with Grove Street. She said cars seem to have excessive speed as they approach the intersection.

Attorney Arnold reported he had spoken with the Lion's Club about the removal of the civic organization signs on Highway 11 and Highway 72. He said they had no problem with removing them.

Mayor Keller asked Recorder Putkonen about the Rotary Club. She responded that the Rotary Club did not have a problem with the removal of the signs either.

Recreation Director Harrell reported that the Wingding 33 event scheduled for July 8 at the amphitheatre had reached its minimum participation of 200 (maximum of 500). He added that he was pleased with the participation.

There being no further business, Mayor Keller adjourned the meeting at 8:08 P.M.

Recorder

Mayor

