

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Dickey called the regular meeting to order, pursuant to proper notice having been given. City Recorder Betty Modrall called the roll. Present were Mayor Dean Dickey, Vice Mayor Wayne Kennedy and Council Members Carl McCullen, Debbie Matthews, Christa Martin, Mike Greene and Susan Stephenson; City Manager Paul C. Boyer, Jr.; City Attorney Tim Tisher; Betty Modrall, City Recorder, and Liz Bermudez, Recording Secretary.

Interim Fire Chief Steve Cross offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Stephenson.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Vice Mayor Kennedy moved to approve the Agenda. Council Member Stephenson seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS:

Item 6.1 – **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 18, 2010.** Vice Mayor Kennedy moved to approve the February 18, 2010 City Council Meeting Minutes. Council Member Greene seconded the motion. Council Member Stephenson advised there are two typos in the Minutes. Council Member Stephenson moved to amend the Minutes to add on page 12 the word “one” between “number” and “transportation”, so the sentence should read “and county’s number one transportation priority.” and on page 20 add the word “be” between the words “will” and “something” so the sentence should read “and a vote to bring it back up is a terrible precedent and it will be something that will impede the City.” Council Member Matthews seconded the motion to amend. All Council Members present voted aye on approval of the amended Minutes.

Item 6.2 – **RATIFICATION OF MAYOR’S REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. FRICK HICKMAN TO THE MAURY COUNTY EQUALIZATION BOARD FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM, EXPIRING MARCH 4, 2012.** Vice Mayor Kennedy moved to approve the reappointment of Mr. Frick Hickman to the Maury County Equalization Board for a two-year term, expiring March 4, 2012. Council Member

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

Greene seconded the motion. Council Member Matthews said during the last meeting when they were talking about reappointments Mayor had said it was his intention to have new people on the boards. Council Member Matthews asked the Mayor to clarify his reappointment. Mayor Dickey advised Mr. Hickman was filling the remainder of Randy Wilmore's term, who resigned from the board. Mayor Dickey said this would be Mr. Hickman's first full term. All Council Members present voted aye.

**Item 6.3 – RE-CONSIDERATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MR. TOMMY LOGUE TO THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD FOR A SIX-YEAR TERM, EXPIRING FEBRUARY 18, 2016.** Vice Mayor Kennedy moved for re-consideration of Mayor's appointment of Mr. Tommy Logue to the Civil Service Board for a six-year term, expiring on February 18, 2016. Council Member McCullen seconded the motion. City Attorney Tisher advised there is no need for a reappointment because the candidate is validly appointed and the only way the candidate can be removed would be pursuant to the Charter. Council Member Matthews said the City Attorney is saying they can put things on the agenda again but since he was appointed last week, they have to go through a different process. City Attorney Tisher advised he went through this in the letter. City Attorney Tisher said they could bring something back up under a motion to rescind or to amend something previously adopted and they can bring anything back up with three exceptions. City Attorney Tisher spoke about exception (c) of his letter, which is when someone has been elected to a position and accepts that office, then they have to follow the removal process. City Attorney Tisher said the removal process by the City's Charter for someone that has been elected to the Civil Service Board is the same as the removal process for a Council Member. Council Member Matthews asked if someone would fall under the three exceptions if they were voted down and then put back on the Agenda. City Attorney Tisher advised no because this is a motion to rescind, which is to set aside an action that was previously approved. City Attorney Tisher said the second page of his letter deals with renewal of motions previously voted down. City Attorney Tisher read the following "any motion that is still applicable can be renewed at any later session, except where a specific rule prevents its renewal; and such an impediment to renewal at a later session normally can exist only when the first motion goes over to that session as not finally disposed of, in which case the question can then be reached through the first

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

motion.” City Attorney Tisher said if the first motion continued to a second session then they could not renew the motion at the second session, but the first motion did not continue. City Attorney Tisher said under renewal a motion can be brought back to the floor. City Attorney Tisher advised this was not where something was voted down, this was where something was approved and with that they have to follow the process of rescinding or setting it aside, which is something they can do but there are exceptions that are outlined in the letter. Council Member Matthews said on Tuesday night she spoke about why she wanted this back on the Agenda. Council Member Matthews said there have been a few things that have been brought back before Council, there was the guns in parks vote, which they were told at the time that the reason it was coming back up before Council was because there was new and pertinent information; also had a situation with the sewer rates, but when it came back again it was adjusted to a new rate; then there was a third recall of the Mayor on the eminent domain issue due to new and pertinent information. Council Member Matthews said it was unusual that, when Mr. Logue was voted down in December as the appointment to the Civil Service Board in a three to three vote, it was brought back up to her because it was not new or affected. Council Member Matthews said in her process in the past to get something back on the Agenda it had to come from someone with the majority of the vote. Council Member Matthews said she had asked the City Attorney for clarification on this because of the unusual precedent in the past of different things that Council needs a clarification as to how Council will consistently handle the process from this point forward because it has never been consistent, which is frustrating. Council Member Matthews said they now have this in writing and they have a clear path for all future meetings. Council Member Matthews spoke about putting the item back on the Agenda to allow time for the Civil Service Board Director’s questions and issues to be answered and to determine if a revote was needed for this matter. City Attorney Tisher said there is no other action that needs to be taken with this item.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Council McCullen moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Vice Mayor Kennedy seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye and the following items were approved:

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

1. Authorization for the Mayor to sign the Non-Exclusive Use and Occupancy Permit between the City of Columbia and the Columbia Girls Fast Pitch Association for the 2010 season – Parks and Recreation Department.
2. Authorization for sole source procurement for software support – Police Department.
3. Authorization to dispose of surplus City property – Finance Department.
4. Purchase approval for laptop computers – MIS Department.

ADMINISTRATION:

**Item 8.1 – CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR TERRY BOATRIGHT TO CONTINUE TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT OASIS PACKAGE STORE LOCATED AT 404 SOUTH JAMES CAMPBELL BOULEVARD.** Vice Mayor Kennedy moved to approve the Certificate of Compliance for Mr. Boatright. Council Member Matthews seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

**Item 8.2 – CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR JAMES PRATT, MELISSA PRATT, AND JEREMY PAFFORD TO CONTINUE TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT THE GROG SHOPPE LOCATED AT 1129 TROTWOOD AVENUE.** Council Member Matthews moved to approve the Certificate of Compliance for Mr. Pratt, Ms. Pratt and Mr. Pafford. Vice Mayor Kennedy seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

**Item 8.3 - CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR ALICE BOBO TO CONTINUE TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT MAURY PACKAGE STORE WHICH IS RELOCATING FROM 1907 CARMACK BOULEVARD, SUITE E&F TO 2002A CARMACK BOULEVARD.** Vice Mayor Kennedy moved to approve the Certificate of Compliance for Ms. Bobo. Council Member Matthews seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

RESOLUTIONS:

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-11 - TAX CORRECTIONS – CITY  
RECORDER’S OFFICE.

Council Member Martin moved to approve Resolution No. 10-11. Vice Mayor Kennedy seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-13 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE  
PURCHASE OF CERTAIN  
MAINTENANCE ITEMS USING STATE  
OF TENNESSEE STATEWIDE  
CONTRACTS – FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT.

Council Member Stephenson moved to approve Resolution No. 10-13. Council Member Martin seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 3833 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 8,  
CHAPTER 2, OF THE COLUMBIA  
MUNICIPAL CODE BY DELETING  
SECTION 8-212(l)(h) AND REPLACING  
SAID SECTION WITH A NEW SECTION  
REGARDING PERMITS FOR THE SALE  
OF BEER FOR ON-PREMISES  
CONSUMPTION AND FOR OFF-  
PREMISES CONSUMPTION – CITY  
THIRD CONSIDERATION MANAGER’S OFFICE.

Council Member Martin moved to approve Ordinance No. 3833 on third consideration. Vice Mayor Kennedy seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 3834 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 8,  
CHAPTER 2, OF THE COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

MUNICIPAL CODE BY DELETING SECTION 8-216 AND REPLACING SAID SECTION WITH A NEW SECTION REGARDING RESTRICTIONS ON BEER PERMITS BASED ON PROXIMITY TO SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, PUBLIC PARKS OR OTHER PLACES OF PUBLIC GATHERING AND RESTRICTIONS ON PERMITS THAT WOULD CAUSE CONGESTION OF TRAFFIC OR INTERFERE WITH PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND MORALS – CITY

THIRD CONSIDERATION MANAGER’S OFFICE.

Council Member Martin moved to approve Ordinance No. 3834 on third consideration. Council Member Matthews seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 3836 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FY 2009-10 BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 3806 AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED, PROVIDING FOR REVISIONS TO THE GENERAL, SANITATION AND CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS –

SECOND CONSIDERATION FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Council Member McCullen moved to approve Ordinance No. 3836 on second consideration. Council Member Matthews seconded the motion. Council Member Stephenson said she wanted to clarify something for the public about the \$90,000 on the front page of the paper. Council Member Stephenson said the \$90,000 figure was for the Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation. Council Member Stephenson said one of the amendments they are looking at tonight is regarding the Assistant City Manager; the entry level salary would be about \$52,000 with fringe benefits being about \$18,000. City Manager Boyer advised the paper was given an inaccurate number and the mistake was on the City. City Manager Boyer said what Council Member Stephenson said is accurate. City Manager Boyer asked Council to make two amendments to the Ordinance tonight. City Manager

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

Boyer said the first amendment would be to reallocate \$24,000 from the Parks and Recreation Department to the City Manager's Office, to fund the Assistant City Manager position (the net effect on the total budget is zero). City Manager Boyer said the second amendment would be to transfer \$237,000 of budgeted funds from the Debt Service Fund to the Capital Projects Fund because the cost of issuance for the bonds that the City sold a couple of weeks ago was lower than originally projected; the City has \$237,000 in the Debt Service Fund available to support capital projects. City Manager Boyer asked that those funds be transferred to the Capital Projects Fund so the City may use the money to fund any improvements that may be necessary for the moving of City Hall to the bank building the City purchased or the moving of the Police Department to this facility. Vice Mayor Kennedy asked for clarification as to if this would affect the budget. City Manager Boyer said neither amendment that they are discussing has any impact on the total budget; it is just moving money around within the budget. Council Member Stephenson said the reallocation of the \$24,000 for the Assistant City Manager is for the last quarter of the fiscal year and that includes salary and benefits. Council Member Matthews asked if Council will have to reallocate funds out of the Parks and Recreation Department again at the first of the year or if it going to be automatic. City Manager Boyer advised if this is approved over the next two considerations it will be in time for it to be placed in the correct account for the next budget. Council Member Matthews asked about the reallocation of the Capital Projects Fund and it being available for a move. City Manager Boyer said the City would move the money to have it available so the City will be able to use it if it is needed, but it cannot be spent without further authorization from Council. Council Member McCullen asked how this would affect the staff at Ridley Park. City Manager Boyer advised it would not affect the staff for Ridley Park. Council Member Matthews moved to amend the Ordinance. Council Member Martin seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye on the amendment. Council Member Matthews moved to approve the Ordinance as amended. Council Member Martin seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye on the amended Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 3837 - AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT  
PARKING ON BOTH SIDES OF SUNSET  
LANE FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

SANTA FE PIKE WEST TO THE CITY  
LIMITS AT 205 SUNSET LANE – WARD  
SECOND CONSIDERATION 3 – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Council Member Martin moved to approve Ordinance No. 3837 on second consideration. Council Member Matthews seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 3838 - AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT  
PARKING ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF  
WEST 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET FROM ITS  
INTERSECTION WITH BECKETT  
STREET EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF  
565 FEET – WARD 2 – PUBLIC WORKS  
SECOND CONSIDERATION DEPARTMENT.

Council Member Matthews moved to approve Ordinance No. 3838 on second consideration. Council Member Martin seconded the motion. Council Member Matthews said this particular issue came up in conjunction with some through traffic issues. Council Member Matthews said it is 565 feet from Beckett Street to the property line where the Athenaeum is. Council Member Matthews spoke about congestion, safety, and blockage. Council Member Matthews said the “no parking” issue was something that the City deemed necessary and she hopes the trucking issue is solved. Council Member Matthews advised this does not affect School Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Street any further down than the actual property line of Athenaeum Street, so it is from Beckett Street to the property line between the Post Office and the Athenaeum. City Manager Boyer advised that is what he told Council Member Matthews today but he went by the area and saw that there is already a “no parking zone” from Athenaeum back to their property line. City Manager Boyer said there will be “no parking” from Beckett Street to Athenaeum Street on the south side of street. All Council Members present voted aye with the exception of Vice Mayor Kennedy who abstained.

ORDINANCE NO. 3839 - AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT  
THROUGH TRUCK TRAFFIC RATED  
OVER 16,000 GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

(GVW) ON THE FOLLOWING STREETS  
IN WARD 2 – PUBLIC WORKS

SECOND CONSIDERATION DEPARTMENT.

- 1) WEST 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET FROM 565 FEET EAST OF BECKETT STREET TO SOUTH HIGH STREET;
- 2) ATHENAEUM STREET FROM WEST 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO WEST 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET;
- 3) SCHOOL STREET FROM WEST 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO WEST 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET.

Council Member Matthews moved to approve Ordinance No. 3839 on second consideration. Council Member McCullen seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Kennedy said there is a problem. Vice Mayor Kennedy said since 1970 the Post Office has been there and their trucks have been coming down the hill, taking a left, backing in, loading the mail and going out to the left. Vice Mayor Kennedy said the trucks have not been going down Athenaeum Street, they have not been going down the next street. Vice Mayor Kennedy said they had been going down Carmack Boulevard and taking a left or right at the light at Carmack Boulevard. Vice Mayor Kennedy said this creates a hardship on the Post Office. Ms. Kathy Hinkle, Post Master of the Columbia Post Office, spoke about the Post Office having been in its location since 1970 and the constrictions that the City is trying to place with the trailer trucks not being able to enter and exit but from one area. Ms. Hinkle said she understands what Council Member Matthews is saying about safety hazards with the sidewalks, because they have had trucks that damage the sidewalks when they pull up and try to back up to the trailer. Ms. Hinkle advised she is not present tonight to provide solutions; she just wants to hear the concerns and find out what they need to do to address the situation. Ms. Hinkle said the 16,000 lbs gross vehicle weight restriction is going to limit the Post Office, less than 16,000 lbs is what they call a “box truck”. Ms. Hinkle advised the “box trucks” are what her “star route drivers” drive. Ms. Hinkle said her “star route drivers” leave the Post Office from various times of the morning from 5:00 a.m. – 5:15 a.m. and then they come back in the afternoons from 5:15 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Ms. Hinkle advised the other trailer trucks that they are referring to weigh anywhere from 55,000 lbs unloaded to 85,000 lbs loaded. Ms. Hinkle said the Post Office used to be a twenty-four hour operation and now it is an eighteen hour operation, where the trucks arrive at 1:30 a.m., 2:45

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

a.m., 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Ms. Hinkle advised the next trucks do not arrive until after 10:00 a.m. and that is when the “drop shipments” from all their mailers make appointments, which they have between four to five a day. Ms. Hinkle said the trucks come from either Exit 46 or down Interstate 65 and then come down Highway 31. Ms. Hinkle said on the website for the Post Office the directions they give is for the trucks to come in on West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, turn down Beckett Street and turn around to the back of the Post Office. Ms. Hinkle advised the trucks that come from the south side come in off Highway 50 and they turn onto West 8<sup>th</sup> Street to come to the back of the Post Office. Ms. Hinkle said it is not just the Post Office trucks that are there, she said there are Fred’s Department Store and Harris Foodland trucks. Ms. Hinkle said the “star route trucks” leave every morning at 5:15 a.m. and there are four of them. Ms. Hinkle said two of the trucks go west and two go east and go down Carmack Boulevard to go to Giles County. Ms. Hinkle said there is possibility of their “dispatch trucks,” which carry the mail to Nashville every afternoon, having to turn and go left down West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, to go to High Street, to the red light to turn to go to Nashville Highway because the trailers are already there. Ms. Hinkle explained that the trailers are dropped there every morning at 6:00 a.m. from the Nashville truck. Ms. Hinkle said the trailers are left there until 4:00 when the first dispatch truck leaves, then 5:00 and the next is at 6:30 and the last at 6:45. Ms. Hinkle advised the area is so constrained that it would be impossible for a truck driver to pull up, back up, pull up etc., and then make the right turn to go to Beckett Street and then come out on West 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Vice Mayor Kennedy asked if the trailer is all that is left at the Post Office. Ms. Hinkle advised it is just the trailers. Ms. Hinkle said the trucks park in another location. Vice Mayor Kennedy mentioned the trailers not being in the street. Vice Mayor Kennedy said when the trucks back into the trailers, load, and get ready to leave they go to the left and go out onto Carmack Boulevard and take a right. Vice Mayor Kennedy said if the trucks had to turn right, which would be a problem, and go back up Beckett Street then there could be a problem at the top of the hill. Ms. Hinkle advised the Vice Mayor that is correct. Ms. Hinkle said she spoke with several of the truck drivers that drive the eighteen-wheelers that would turn right and have to go up the street to Beckett Street. Ms. Hinkle advised there is a safety issue there especially with the traffic and there not being a red-light on Beckett Street. Council Member Greene said the tractor-trailers exceed the 16,000 lbs gross vehicle weight. Ms. Hinkle advised that is correct. Council

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

Member Greene asked if Council prohibits anything larger than 16,000 lbs would the City be prohibiting the mail trucks from outside from coming to Columbia and bringing large trucks of mail. Ms. Hinkle advised the City would be stopping trucks from coming with the mail. Council Member Matthews advised that 16,000 lbs and above on West 7<sup>th</sup> Street is permitted. Council Member Matthews said the mail could come in on West 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Ms. Hinkle advised that the trucks would not be able to get to the back dock if they do not come around from West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, down to Beckett Street, down to West 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Ms. Hinkle advised the Post Office's back dock is located on West 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Council Member Greene said the trucks have to go on West 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Ms. Hinkle reiterated that the trucks have to go on West 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Council Member Matthews said if the Post Office has been in its location since 1970 then there have been complaints since 1970. Council Member Matthews advised when she was first elected into office she heard complaints about the Post Office and their trucks going through a historic area and it not being addressed. Council Member Matthews advised that the Public Works Department and the City Manager, for years, have gone to the Post Office and there are letters where they have been trying to deal with this issue for years, with no help whatsoever. Council Member Matthews said former Ward 2 Council Member Milton Hay started the process, with no help from anyone to give the people in this neighborhood relief. Council Member Matthews said there are cracked foundations and intersections wiped-out on School Street and West 8<sup>th</sup> Street from the semi trucks. Council Member Matthews said when someone deals with a neighborhood it is for through traffic only. Council Member Matthews advised the trucks can use West 8<sup>th</sup> Street but only up to the Athenaeum Street border, but after that the trucks need to turn onto their own property. Council Member Matthews said how the Post Office figures it out is not up to Council unless it causes a problem, but the Post Office has refused to help. Council Member Matthews said they are asking the Post Office for a change. Council Member Matthews said the residents of the historic district on West 8<sup>th</sup> need help. Council Member Matthews said she brought this up to the City Manager two years ago and they started a process on how they are going to handle this and they knew they were going to have a problem because they knew a Police Officer would have to be out there issuing tickets so it would not be another law on the books. Council Member Matthews spoke about Public Works doing a traffic study because they did not just want to take the residents word of what was happening.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

Council Member Matthews said in the traffic study in a twenty-four hour period, forty semis went down the neighborhood street every day. Council Member Matthews asked some of the residents from the Athenaeum District to come up and speak. Mrs. Camille Allen of 900 School Street said her home is on West 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Mrs. Allen said the Postal Trucks do turn down West 8<sup>th</sup> Street and her home does have a cracked foundation. Mrs. Allen said starting around 2:45 a.m. the house rattles from the trucks passing by. Mrs. Allen advised their houses are really close to the street. Mrs. Allen said they moved to their home in 2004 and had no idea how many trucks come through the area. Mrs. Allen said the neighborhood used to be filled with older people, but now there are many younger people with children. Mrs. Allen said everyone who works at the Post Office is very nice; it is the trucks they have a problem with. Mrs. Allen said the Athenaeum and the Polk home are some of the most important assets for historic tourism. Mrs. Allen advised they cannot have guests in the backyard because when trucks pass by in the evening you cannot hear each other talk. Mr. John Helling said he has grandchildren which live on School Street. Mr. Helling advised he enjoys taking his grandchildren to the library for story time. Mr. Helling said the walk has been treacherous. Mr. Helling said when his grandchildren come to his house they have to cross Athenaeum and then they will pass School Street and High Street and it is a very dangerous and he feels it is a safety issue. Mr. John Allen advised Council that he has not had a good night's sleep for six years. Mr. Allen said the trucks rattle the windows and wake him up every single night. Mr. Allen asked who is going to pay for their foundation when they have to get it fixed. Mr. Allen mentioned the City being responsible for the wall that goes along West 8<sup>th</sup> Street that is crumbling. Council Member Matthews asked every Council Member to go to School Street and West 8<sup>th</sup> Street and get out and stand on the corner and as the semis come down the residential street. Council Member Matthews said the residential neighborhood was never meant to handle commercial traffic. Council Member Matthews said West 8<sup>th</sup> Street has had sewer and street repairs and the street is now gone. Council Member Matthews said the semis most of the time do not stop on an incline, they have knocked out things on all four corners of the intersection. Council Member Matthews said she is here to protect the taxpayers of the City. Council Member Matthews reiterated that the City has not had help from the Post Office on getting this issue solved. Council Member Matthew said the trucks need to get back on a commercial route. Council Member McCullen asked what

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

would happen to the mail if this change is made. City Manager Boyer said he could not answer for the Postal Service. Council Member Matthews said the mail does come in on West 7<sup>th</sup> Street and the City is asking for the trucks to go back out West 7<sup>th</sup> Street or to come out on Highway 31. Council Member Matthews said a different routing system is needed. Council Member Matthews said the mail will not be affected and we are asking for the Post Office's help. Vice Mayor Kennedy said he thought it was five or six trucks that came through the Post Office each day. Ms. Hinkle said there are four trucks that come to the Post Office beginning at 1:30 a.m. Ms. Hinkle went over the time schedule again. Ms. Hinkle said the eighteen-wheelers have to come to the back dock on West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, backing in and unloading the trucks. Ms. Hinkle said the eighteen-wheelers cannot turn around and go back West 8<sup>th</sup> Street because they would take down the fence for King's Daughters' School. Ms. Hinkle reiterated how many trucks the Post Office gets each day. Ms. Hinkle advised she has been Post Master for the Columbia Post Office since 2003 and she has never received any documentation addressed to her as Post Master concerning the issues of the parking or the trucks. Ms. Hinkle said everything that is addressed goes to Nashville. City Manager Boyer said he has never talked to or met the Post Master until now. City Manager Boyer said Public Works Director Ken Donaldson has told him that he has talked to someone at the Post Office. City Manager Boyer said they are focusing too much on the post office with the traffic data. City Manager Boyer said the traffic counter does not know whose trucks are whose. City Manager Boyer advised they are counting fifty-five trucks a day but staff is not saying the Post Office gets all the trucks. City Manager Boyer said there is no way for the City to know how many of those trucks are Post Office trucks. City Manager Boyer advised from an enforcement standpoint the City cannot write an Ordinance that exempts the Post Office contractors because the law has to be blind to who the owner of the truck is. City Manager Boyer said this is a bigger problem than the Post Office contractors. City Manager Boyer said looking at the data about ten percent are Post Office trucks. City Manager Boyer explained that not all the fifty-five trucks are east bound, thirty trucks were east bound and twenty-five west bound. City Manager Boyer said the trucks cannot be west bound to get to the Post Office docks. City Manager Boyer said of the thirty trucks going east bound, five or six would be the Post Office contractors and the others would be someone else. Council Member Matthews apologized if what she was saying was focusing on the Post

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

Office but they are the only organization saying they cannot fix the problem. Council Member Matthews said the Post Office has a huge parking lot on the east side. Council Member Matthews spoke of the Post Office cutting back on their own property and coming back onto West 7<sup>th</sup> Street instead of going into a residential neighborhood. Ms. Hinkle said the parking area on the east side is where their employee vehicles park and it is fenced in due to gang activity. Ms. Hinkle said there were people coming off of West 8<sup>th</sup> Street to get to West 7<sup>th</sup> Street and going through their parking lot, so they fenced in that area. Ms. Hinkle said the fenced in area holds to its capacity the Post Office's employee parking. Ms. Hinkle spoke about the Inspection Service and Nashville. Ms. Hinkle said the Post Office falls under different Federal Guidelines. Vice Mayor Kennedy said Harris Foodland's trucks come in on West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, come by the back of the store and back into the ramp on the side of the store and exit West 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Vice Mayor Kennedy said Fred's Department Store has one truck on Thursdays. Vice Mayor Kennedy asked if this might make an impact on the mail. Ms. Hinkle said if something is not done, there will be an impact with the mail. Ms. Hinkle said the Post Office is in trouble and it is doing good to have six-day delivery right now. Ms. Hinkle said the Post Office cannot move. Council Member Martin thanked Ms. Hinkle for giving her information and she thanked the residents that gave their information. Council Member Martin said she is hearing many issues tonight and she would like to move to defer. Council Member McCullen seconded the motion. Council Member Martin asked for additional information on these issues. City Manager Boyer said he could not tell Council who drives what trucks unless someone was put on overtime watching all the trucks that pass on the street. City Manager Boyer said who is operating the trucks should not be part of the decision. City Manager Boyer said the Council has the data and the Post Office has their guidelines. City Manager Boyer spoke about spending a lot of money trying to collect more data. City Manager Boyer said he is always willing to help make a decision, but he does not know who is driving what trucks. City Manager Boyer said he lived on West 8<sup>th</sup> Street and there are trucks that do not belong to the Post Office. City Manager Boyer said there are trucks using the streets as a cut through. City Manager Boyer said the trucks are causing quality of life issues. Council Member Martin said they are trying to make some guidelines to implement and in her opinion if it takes someone sitting out there and getting overtime to get the information, she believes there is too much ambiguous information tonight for her to

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

vote on this tonight. Council Member Greene said he met Ms. Hinkle for the first time tonight. Council Member Greene asked how many times the City Manager has met with her to discuss this problem. Council Member Greene said they have gotten a lot of misinformation here tonight. Council Member Greene said they have to work the problem out and he is amazed that it has gotten to the point without a meeting taken place with the Post Master. Ms. Hinkle said no one has been to her office and she can give documentation of every truck that has been in the Post Office for the past five years. Council Member Greene said this really needs to be worked out and would like someone to meet with the Post Office very soon to come up with a solution. Council Member Greene advised there is no reason to endanger the children in a residential area. Council Member Matthews said if this is deferred she would like someone thinking about the trucks exiting back down to Beckett Street and turning left and if there is a route left off of Beckett Street and then down to West 10<sup>th</sup> Street or West 11<sup>th</sup> Street that would go to a light onto Carmack Boulevard. Council Member Matthews spoke about the area near the paper, which has industrial traffic. Council Member Matthews said Mr. Hay dealt with this issue before she was elected and there are letters to the Post Office. Council Member Matthews said the Public Works Director has spoken to everyone multiple times and has gotten nowhere on the issue. Vice Mayor Kennedy said he would like to call for the question. Council Member Matthews said a call for the question would require two-thirds vote (five votes). There was not a second for the call for the question. Discussion continued. City Manager Boyer said his staff has told him that their phone calls have not been returned, they are not admitted to the Post Office when they knock on the door, the people they have talked to have been rude. City Manager Boyer said he is just another postal customer and if they are going to treat the Public Works Director that way, then they will treat him that way also. City Manager Boyer said you cannot meet with people that will not talk to you. Council Member Matthews asked the City Manager if that is what the Public Works Director has been telling him. City Manager Boyer said that is what Mr. Donaldson has been telling him and he does not know Mr. Donaldson to tell a lie. Council Member Matthews said the Public Works Director has had years of frustration of trying to get help from the Postal Service. Council Member Matthews said this is not misinformation; this is a department head for the City who is paid to defend City issues that has been having issues dealing with the Post Office. Council Member Matthews said this is something that

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

has been diligently dealt with. Council Member Matthews asked for respect from Council with due diligence having been done. City Attorney Tisher clarified that the motion to defer would be a deferral to the next meeting. All Council Members present voted aye with the exception of Council Member Matthews who voted no. Motion to defer passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 3840 - AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A GENERAL PLAN FOR MAURY COUNTY THAT INCLUDES THE CITY LIMITS, PLANNING REGION AND URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARIES OF COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE – GRANTS SECOND CONSIDERATION AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT.

Council Member Stephenson moved to approve Ordinance No. 3840 on second consideration. Council Member McCullen seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 3841 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 3832 BY AMENDING THE CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA FOR THE 2009-2010 FISCAL YEAR – CITY MANAGER’S SECOND CONSIDERATION OFFICE.

Council Member Martin moved to approve Ordinance No. 3841 on second consideration. Vice Mayor Kennedy seconded the motion. All Council Members present voted aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Patricia Bowman thanked Council Member Matthews for her comments about the Civil Service Board. Ms. Bowman asked if the boards have board training. Mayor Dickey advised he was told they do have an orientation period at some time. Ms. Bowman spoke about the article in the paper and the question about religion. Ms. Bowman said if the boards had the proper

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

training then they would know there are some questions that should not be asked. Ms. Bowman said there should be a series of questions that the board can ask any applicant no matter what the position is. Ms. Bowman advised people in the City are very upset about this. Ms. Bowman reiterated the importance of board training and it being done at least once a year. Ms. Bowman said if the City Attorney cannot do the training then maybe Legal Aide can help. Ms. Bowman said the City must train individuals that will represent the boards. Mayor Dickey said the Personnel Director is trained and up-to-date on the laws.

### OTHER BUSINESS:

Council Member Stephenson said she is responding to what Council just heard. Council Member Stephenson said she spoke to the Chair of the Civil Service Board, and pointed out to her in the Charter the board has the power and authority to put together any rules/regulations that see as necessary. Council Member Stephenson spoke about regulations that would cover training for the Civil Service Board. Council Member Stephenson said they need documentation and a policy put together about the boards and commissions. Council Member Stephenson said the boards/commissions have different term lengths, which can be confusing. Council Member Stephenson spoke about the Planning Commission nominations coming from the Mayor, but other boards can have nominations from anyone on Council. Council Member Stephenson asked for more clarification on the boards and for something in writing to avoid confusion. Council Member Stephenson spoke about the last Agenda Item Council voted on (10.8). Council Member Stephenson said she knows a request was made to MTAS to review the one department and her concern is to have other departments looked at by MTAS as well. Council Member Stephenson congratulated the Spring Hill Boys Basketball Team for winning their Division Championship and they are now playing for the Regional Championship. Council Member Stephenson said win or lose they get a chance in the State Tournament. Council Member Stephenson wished the team “good luck”.

Vice Mayor Kennedy congratulated Central also.

Council Member McCullen moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Mayor Kennedy seconded the motion.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

---

DEAN DICKEY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

---

BETTY MODRALL, CITY RECORDER