

**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
COUNTY OF HAMBLLEN  
CORPORATION OF MORRISTOWN  
DECEMBER 17, 2013**

The City Council for the City of Morristown, Hamblen County, Tennessee, met in regular session at the regular meeting place of the Council in the Morristown City Center at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 17, 2013, with the Honorable Mayor Danny Thomas presiding and the following Councilmembers present; Bob Garrett, Chris Bivens, Kay Senter, Dennis Alvis, Paul LeBel and Gary Chesney.

Dr. Ruth Carpenter, Master Chaplain of the Morristown Police Department led in the invocation and Councilmember Alvis led in the "Pledge of Allegiance".

Councilmember Senter made a motion to approve the December 3, 2013 minutes as circulated. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Mayor Thomas read and presented a proclamation to Ms. Lynn Elkins for her years of service to the City of Morristown.

Craig Price, Parks & Recreation Director, Presented Volunteer Service Awards from the Tennessee Parks Association, to Greg Snyder & Eric McKinney, Morristown Hamblen Heath Care System; Ricky Bruce & Eric Hydell for King Park Renovation; Victor Rico, Morristown Hamblen Adult Hispanic Soccer League; Todd Coffman, Evans Office Supply; and Billy Ray Martin who has been a coach for the Parks & Recreation Department for over 40 years. Four Star Awards went to Gary Chesney & Gary Johnson, Hamblen County Board of Education, for King Park Project; Bill Hooks, Chair of Parks & Recreation Board; The Parks & Recreation Department received the Renovative Award and the Presidents Cup.

A Public Hearing was held on Ordinance No. 3476.07. The following people spoke regarding Ordinance No. 3476.07: Reverend Nigel Marlin Reid, Sr.

Councilmember Garrett made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 3476.07 on second and final reading. Councilmember Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; Councilmembers Garrett, Bivens, Senter, LeBel, Chesney and Mayor Thomas voted "aye"; Councilmember Alvis voted "no".

**Ordinance No. 3476.07**

**An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance Number 3476, The City of Morristown, Tennessee Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 and Appropriate the Sum of \$8,400 for MATS.**

A Public Hearing was held on Ordinance No. 3493. The following people spoke regarding Ordinance No. 3493. Reverend Nigel Marlin Reid, Sr.

Councilmember Chesney made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 3493 on second and final reading. Councilmember LeBel seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted “aye”.

**Ordinance No. 3493**  
**An Ordinance to Amend Title 6, Chapter 2 of the Morristown Municipal Code {Reserve Police Officers}.**

Councilmember Garrett made a motion to approve the Sanitary Wastewater System Transfer Agreement Contract between the City of Morristown and the Morristown Utilities Commission and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement with the Morristown Utilities Commission. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted “aye”.

Councilmember Alvis made a motion to approve a proposal from Foundation Systems Engineering, P.C. for subsurface exploration of a Double Box Bridge at Vantage View Drive in the amount of \$5,650. Councilmember LeBel seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted “aye”.

Councilmember LeBel made a motion to approve a proposal from Foundation Systems Engineering, P.C. for subsurface exploration of a Horizontal Bore at Buffalo trail/Five Points in the amount of \$4,950. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted “aye”.

Councilmember Chesney made a motion to approve the agreement contract between the City of Morristown, Hamblen County, Morristown Utility Commission and the Hamblen County Emergency Communications District to establish a Morristown Hamblen Geographical Information System (GIS) and a Morristown Hamblen GIS Steering Committee (MHGIS), subject to City Attorney review. Councilmember LeBel seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted “aye”.

Councilmember LeBel made a motion to award a bid/contract to Bewley Excavation for demolition of a building at 1011 Truman Street in the amount of \$5,940. Councilmember Alvis seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted “aye”.

Councilmember Alvis made a motion to award a bid/contract to Worldwide Equipment Enterprises, Inc., for a 2014 Kenworth T370 with a 15’ steel Ox dump body in the amount of \$100,780 for Public Works Department. Councilmember Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted “aye”.

Councilmember LeBel nominated Tony Cox for the Hamblen County/Morristown Solid Waste Disposal System for a 3 year term to expire on January 1, 2017. Councilmember Alvis nominated Arnold Bunch for re-appointment. Councilmember Senter made a motion that the nominations cease. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; Councilmembers Garrett, Bivens, Senter, LeBel and Chesney voted for Tony Cox; Councilmember Alvis and Mayor Thomas voted for Arnold Bunch.

Councilmember Senter made a motion to open the agenda. Councilmember Chesney seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Councilmember Senter made a motion to approve Resolution No. 25-13. Councilmember LeBel seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-13**

**A Resolution of the City of Morristown, Tennessee, Adopting an Immediate Moratorium on the Acceptance of Applications for Sign Permits or the Issuance of Sign Permits for Monument or Freestanding Signs as defined in Title 14, Chapter 202, Section 14 - 2903 in all Zoning Districts of the City, to be Effective for a Period not to extend more than one hundred twenty (120) days beyond December 17, 2013.**

WHEREAS, The members of the Morristown City Council hereby find as follows:

1. Exterior signs have a substantial impact on the character and quality of the environment,
2. Signs provide an important medium through which individuals may convey a variety of messages,
3. Signs can create traffic hazards, aesthetic concerns and detriments to property values, thereby threatening the public health, safety and welfare,
4. The city's zoning regulations have always included the regulation of signs. The regulation of the physical characteristics of signs within the city has had a positive impact on traffic safety and the appearance of the community, and

WHEREAS, the City has adopted a Zoning Ordinance to regulate the number, location, size, type, illumination and other physical characteristics of signs within the city in order to:

1. Promote the public health, safety and welfare.
2. Maintain, enhance and improve the aesthetic environment of the city by preventing visual clutter that is a threat to traffic safety and is harmful to the appearance of the community.
3. Improve the visual appearance of the city while providing for effective means of communication, consistent with constitutional guarantees.
4. Provide for fair and consistent enforcement of the sign regulations set forth herein under the zoning authority of the city.
5. Simplify and streamline the provisions for signs in the City of Morristown,

consolidate all code provisions regulating signs into one singular Sign Ordinance

WHEREAS, the City needs to review its codes and ordinances in a comprehensive fashion and to adopt new regulations with regard to sign permits for monument and freestanding signs to clarify certain apparent conflicts within the City's sign ordinances, and

WHEREAS, the City should impose a moratorium barring the acceptance of applications relating to monument and freestanding signs until amendments to clarify the ordinance are completed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Morristown, Tennessee as follows:

**Section 1. Purpose:** The purpose of this moratorium is to allow the City adequate time to comprehensively study the City's existing Municipal ordinances and codes in relation to Title 14, Chapter 2, "Zoning Ordinance," Chapter 29, Sections 2901 through 2908 "Sign Regulations," and clarify regulations pertaining to Monument and Freestanding Signs within the City Limits of Morristown.

**Section 2. Moratorium Imposed:** The Mayor and City Council of the City of Morristown hereby impose a moratorium on the establishment, location, permitting or erecting of monument and freestanding signs within the City. During the term of this moratorium (unless earlier terminated by the Mayor and City Council by resolution), the City will not accept any permit applications or consider any permit for any monument or freestanding sign within the City Limits of Morristown.

**Section 3. Duration:** The moratorium imposed by this resolution shall be in effect for a period not to extend one hundred-twenty (120) days beyond December 17, 2013, beginning on the date of the adoption of this resolution.

**Section 4. Severability:** If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution.

Passed during regular session of City Council this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 2013.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Administrator

City Administrator Tony Cox advised Council on the engineering review received from Cannon & Cannon regarding their Speed Enforcement Camera Study for U.S. Hwy 25E and S.R. 160. The report supports the previous finding that speeding limits are high in these areas. It is our intention to move forward with relocation of the cameras from the 25 area at Walters State and Walmart to the areas discussed previously by the Chief of Police. Councilmember Bivens stated he wanted to go on record to say that he opposed the relocation of the cameras.

Mayor Thomas adjourned the December 17, 2013 meeting.

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CITY ADMINISTRATOR