

MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MAY 1, 2018
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDEES: Mayor Randy Horton, City Attorney Trey Smith, City Clerk Pat Taylor, Councilmembers Phyllis Carruth, Larry Brown, Freddie Harris, Phil Sims, Bill Strait, Robert Wiley, Eric Westcott, and Robert Wiley.

AGENDA:

Item 1: Purchase of property for water tank for City Corporation.

Item 2: Offers on property on El Paso and North Knoxville.

Item 1: This property is between Staples and Flying "J." And is presently owned by The East Park Development Finance Corporation. The money needed for the City to purchase the property comes out of the finances of City Corps.

Motion made by Mr. Wiley to go ahead and seconded by Mr. Brown.

Discussion: Mr. Westcott asked about the cost and Mr. Strait's answer was \$79,485. There was a short discussion and the council determined that there was no reason to delay and the motion was passed. RESOLUTION 1676

Item 2: The purchase of the EWI property on South Knoxville and the simultaneous sale of the present Public Works on Detroit to Tech. Mr. Strait read the contract to the councilors and restated the same provisos that he had stated in the April 19 regular Council Meeting, some of which were:

- The two contracts are to be closed on the same day
- 1.633 acres is outside the floodplain
- The City has 20 days to do its inspection
- EWI is providing a termite contract.
- Both contracts to be executed on the same day
- Some present occupants to be allowed to keep their lease for 3 years.
- The other occupants of the building to be allowed to use most of the common rooms.

There was some discussion on the cost of this building versus other buildings that had been considered. Mr. Westcott referenced the fact that he was sure that Public Works would not be happy about moving during their busy season, and the other councilors pointed out that they were willing to have a moving company move everything but personal objects that employees might wish to move themselves, and heavy equipment. The point was made that the City would be more than doubling the size available to Public Works (up to 6,000 square feet of office space on the ground floor alone) and that the lessees would be paying in about \$380,000 to the City.

Mr. Wiley made a motion to accept the contract. Mr. Brown seconded. Mr. Strait made known that he is not receiving one cent from all the work necessary to execute this plan and received the thanks of the council. He also made note of the fact that the City would be spending \$785,000, and making \$592,500. The total cost to the City would run about \$80,000. He also asked the council to keep in mind that it's going to be a much safer working space and its first rate commercial property. He also stated that the council was showing leadership by getting themselves out of the way and allowing the city to grow.

Mrs. Harris noted that the several other options they had looked at would have cost at least \$1,000,000.00 and the fact that it has many potential access points plus being so close to the Hughes Center and other property already owned by the City.

Mr. Westcott voiced concerns about Public Works having to move during their busiest season, but the council thought they could make it easier for those employees.

Mayor Horton noted that he had heard remarks that we were just doing this to help ATU, but he has found that putting something like this in the same area was in the original Master Plan.

The Resolution was voted on and passed with one dissenting vote, Mr. Westcott's. RESOLUTION 1677