

Nitro City Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 15, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Rusty Casto called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers. Attending along with Mayor Casto were Recorder Rita Cox, Councilmen at Large Dave Casebolt, Bob Fields and Jim McKay, Ward 1 Councilman A. A. "Joe" Savilla, Ward 2 Councilman Bill Racer, Ward 3 Councilman Craig Matthews, Ward 4 Councilman Bill Javins, City Treasurer John Young and City Attorney Richie Robb.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Invocation was given by Councilman Jim McKay and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Glenn and Carolyn Blankenship and Robert Casas.

FUTURE DATES OF COUNCIL: Mayor Casto announced the future dates of Council include a budget meeting following tonight's Council meeting, April 5 and 19.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES: RECORDER COX MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 1, 2011 MEETING OF COUNCIL AND THE MARCH 8, 2011 BUDGET MEETING OF COUNCIL BE APPROVED WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN SAVILLA. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

Mayor Casto introduced Mr. Morgan as the person who got the orphanage project started with the city. Glenn Blankenship and Robert Casas were in Afghanistan and appreciated all the supplies sent by Mayor Casto and Council.

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REENACT SECTION 711.33, ARTICLE 711 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NITRO, WV ALL RELATING TO BUSINESS AND OCCUPATION TAX CREDITS, AUTHORIZING A FIVE-YEAR ONE HUNDRED PERCENT TAX CREDIT FOR ANNEXATION OF A QUALIFIED BUSINESS FACILITY: City Attorney Richie Robb asked Recorder Rita Cox if the public hearing had been advertised. She said it was published March 7 and March 14 in the Charleston Gazette and Daily Mail and posted in City Hall and the Community Center. COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS MOVED THE PUBLIC HEARING BE OPENED WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN SAVILLA. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION. Attorney Robb said the five year 100% tax credit for businesses that are annexed if a way to entice businesses to come into the city limits. After five years the business will begin paying business and occupation tax. He said he thought it was a generous offer of the city to businesses outside the corporate limits to become a part of the city. John Montgomery said that it provided 100% tax credit for five years to any business that is annexed. Councilman Racer asked how long the ordinance will be in effect. Richie Robb said that was up to Council and it would be in effect as long as the ordinance is left in place. Bob Schamber asked if any businesses out of the corporate limits have expressed a desire to come into the city. Recorder Cox said she did not think any have. Richie Robb said when annexation is discussed the common complaint is that they do not want to pay more taxes and this ordinance could help alleviate that. He said the city of South Charleston offered a plan to forego taxes in a similar fashion. Mayor Casto asked if this was legal. Richie Robb said that it is. Dennis Davis asked if information about the public hearing had been posted and Recorder Cox said that it had. COUNCILMAN SAVILLA MOVED THE PUBLIC HEARING BE CLOSED WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

SECOND READING AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REENACT SECTION 711.33, ARTICLE 711 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NITRO, WV ALL RELATING TO BUSINESS AND OCCUPATION TAX CREDITS AND AUTHORIZING A FIVE-YEAR ONE HUNDRED PERCENT TAX CREDIT FOR ANNEXATION OF A QUALIFIED BUSINESS FACILITY: COUNCILMAN JIM MCKAY MOVED THE ORDINANCE BE PASSED ON SECOND READING AUTHORIZING A FIVE-YEAR ONE HUNDRED PERCENT TAX CREDIT TO ANNEXED QUALIFIED BUSINESSES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BILL JAVINS. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

BIDS SIDEWALK SWEEPER NEW AND/OR REFURBISHED: Recorder Rita Cox said the public notice had been resubmitted to the local newspaper and two bids were received. RECORDER COX MOVED THE BIDS ON THE SIDEWALK SWEEPER BE REFERRED TO THE STREET COMMITTEE AND REPORT TO COUNCIL WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN SAVILLA. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION TO CARRY.

NEW BUSINESS

WIFI: Councilman Dave Casebolt said he had received a bid from Frontier for wifi internet service for three hotspots in the city with up to 20 users per spot for internet service for \$300.00 per month. He suggested the three spots be Nitro Park area, downtown and Ridenour Lake area. Councilman Matthews said that some people at the pool/park are able to use internet coming from the Nitro Library. COUNCILMAN CASEBOLT MOVED THAT INTERNET SERVICE BE PUT OUT FOR BID WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN SAVILLA. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

DUNBAR BOOSTERS BINGO: Councilman Jim McKay said an offer had been made by the Nitro Chamber of Commerce to rent space in the Nitro Moose Lodge to Dunbar Boosters Bingo. He said attendance was about 300 people each Saturday at the facility in Dunbar but a problem had come up about rental fees. Bob Schamber said that he did not think it would compete with the bingo at the Senior Center on Thursday.

COUNCILMAN MCKAY MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS NDA MEETING BE MADE A PART OF THE MINUTES WITH A SECOND BY RECORDER COX. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

COUNCILMAN MCKAY MOVED KEVIN CANTRELL BE APPOINTED FOR A THREE YEAR TERM TO THE NITRO DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN JAVINS. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Richie Robb said he did not have a report but was prepared to answer question from Council.

TREASURER REPORT: John Young said that the WV Auditor's Office had informed him that the city cannot have more than \$150,000.00 in the contingency fund.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Mayor Rusty Casto said the recent Nitro-St. Albans Bridge informational meeting gave January, 2013 to Thanksgiving, 2013 as the shutdown time on the bridge. Councilman Casebolt asked who would get the b & o on the bridge work. Mayor Casto said that it would probably go to the middle of the bridge. Councilman Matthews said for police work Nitro's jurisdiction goes to the St. Albans shore.

Councilman Craig Matthews said there would be a Park and Recreation meeting on March 21 at 10:00 am in Council Chambers. He said the Police and Fire Committee should meet soon. COUNCILMAN

MATTHEWS MOVED A POLAR PETE SNOCCONE MACHINE S SHIPPING COST OF \$150.00 BE PAID FOR BY THE CITY OF NITRO WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN MCKAY. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

Councilman A. A. "Joe" Savilla acknowledged the death of Nitro citizen Jackie Cottrill Frazier.

Councilman Dave Casebolt said a Zumba instructor was needed for the Seniors. He thanked Chief Jordan for some work he had done recently.

Councilman Bob Fields said the new fire truck has been delivered to the Nitro Fire Department.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bob Schamber said the new exercise equipment has been installed in the Community Center. He said Shelly Hodges had returned from Fort Liberte', Haiti where they treated approximately 300 people a day.

John Montgomery said the Ordinance Committee will meet at 7:00 pm Thursday, March 17 in the NDA Boardroom.

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCILMAN MCKAY MOVED THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

RUSTY CASTO, MAYOR

RITA COX, RECORDER