

Minutes: City Council Special Meeting
November 6, 2012
2:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in special session on Tuesday, November 6, 2012 with Mayor Nancy T. Camp presiding.

City Council members present: Doug Gibson; Eugene Jefferson; Jimmy Scott; Danny Laster; and, David Powell.

City Council members absent: Cindy Sidebottom.

Others present: City Clerk/Treasurer Laura Brock; City Attorney Jeff Traughber; Adam May, WHOP radio; and, Catherine Darnell, *Todd County Standard*.

Mayor Camp called the special meeting to order at 2:00 PM and stated only agenda items could be discussed.

Agenda

1. Refine Tile
2. Todd County Industrial Foundation
3. Public Square Sound System

Mayor Camp reported discussions with other city officials around the state that every city needs an incentive package to recruit industries to be competitive. Refine Tile is getting ready to expand their operations and they have stated they have never received any incentive from the city or county. Mayor Camp reported that Refine Tile has possibly been offered incentives to move somewhere else. All were in agreement that the city needs a policy to recruit and maintain industry. Mr. Traughber reported that there are several incentives the city can offer. 1) Freezing property tax assessments for capital improvement projects for a five or ten year period. 2) Payroll tax rebates. 3) Grants and low interest loans. There was considerable discussion about past meetings with Refine Tile and hearing about their \$1.5 million equipment expansion and that their orders have increased 60% this year. Several different scenarios of incentives were discussed. It was agreed Mr. Traughber and Clerk Brock would get together and come up with some options for discussion at the next council meeting.

Mayor Camp, David Powell and Eugene Jefferson reported meeting with the Todd County Industrial Foundation earlier in the day. Mayor Camp stated that Mike Baker is resigning as Industrial Recruiter with the Foundation at the end of the year. The Foundation discussed joining the Hopkinsville-Christian County Economic Development Council (EDC) to assist the Foundation in recruiting instead of hiring someone new. The Foundation is proposing to pay \$50,000 to the EDC in return for five seats on the council. Mitch Robinson is the Director of the EDC and all stated they were impressed with him and that they felt the city would get more exposure and resources by the Foundation joining the EDC. Mayor Camp also reported the Foundation has requested the City's annual contribution of \$10,000. After some discussion, Mr. Powell motioned to make the contribution of \$10,000, seconded by Mr. Gibson and carried unanimously. Foundation President Todd Mansfield was put on speaker phone to answer some questions. Mansfield stated Elkton, Guthrie, Trenton, Fiscal Court, United Southern Bank, Elkton Bank, and Pennyriple Electric will all continue making contributions to the Foundation, and the Foundation will contribute \$50,000 to EDC. This will save the foundation \$25,000 a year by not hiring our own recruiter, plus we will have more staff resources available. There was a question about who would represent the Foundation on the five seats to the council. Mansfield stated it is his proposal that any entity contributing \$10,000 or more to the Foundation should get one of the five seats on the council, as well as the President. The Foundation will still have to vote on this proposal. Mr. Mansfield stated the Foundation needs our contribution and our support to join the EDC. Everyone thanked Mr. Mansfield for his time. After

discussion, Mr. Laster motioned to support the Foundation in their efforts to join the Hopkinsville-Christian County EDC. Seconded by Mr. Gibson and carried unanimously.

Mayor Camp reported she received quotes for the audio system on the old courthouse. Perdue Audio could only quote equipment, but could not install it. Cornerstone quoted about \$5,300 for equipment and estimated \$2,000 for labor. Greenville Site and Sound quoted \$5,100 total. The council previously approved up to \$4,500 for the purchase. Mayor Camp stated Greenville Site and Sound recommends not spending less than their proposal, because the speakers quoted are completely waterproof and would have to be downgraded. After discussion, Mr. Jefferson motioned to approve the purchase through Greenville Site and Sound at \$5,100. Motion seconded by Mr. Laster and carried unanimously.

There was no further discussion, therefore Mr. Laster motioned to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Scott. Motion carried unanimously and meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 PM.

Nancy T. Camp, Mayor

Laura M. Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer