

A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
THE CITY OF SODDY-DAISY, TENNESSEE WAS HELD  
ON THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

MAYOR CAGLE

VICE-MAYOR NUNLEY

COMMISSIONER ADAMS

COMMISSIONER SHIPLEY

COMMISSIONER SKATES

CITY MANAGER STULCE

CITY RECORDER JOHNSON

MEMBER ABSENT:

CITY ATTORNEY ELLIOTT

The minutes of the meeting held June 6, 2013 were approved as presented.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SODDY-DAISY, TENNESSEE,  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH  
JUNE 30, 2014. PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING.**

Shane Harmon, 8928 Brookhill Drive, stated no one knows how hard it is to be a commissioner until you have actually served a term as one. He said it was nice to see all the new police cars the City has been able to purchase in the past two years. He stated it has also been good to see some of the City streets getting paved in the past year.

1<sup>st</sup> - Commissioner Skates

2<sup>nd</sup> - Vice-Mayor Nunley

Ayes - Unanimous

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SODDY-DAISY, TENNESSEE,  
TO PROVIDE FOR THE GENERAL REVENUE THEREOF FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
2013-2014 ON AN INTERIM BASIS PENDING RECEIPT OF THE “CERTIFIED  
RATE” FROM THE ASSESSOR OF PROPERTY OF HAMILTON COUNTY,  
TENNESSEE, PURSUANT TO T.C.A. SECTION 67-5-1701, TO BE KNOWN AS THE  
GENERAL REVENUE ORDINANCE FOR SAID YEAR.  
PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING.**

Commissioner Shipley asked City Manager Stulce to address what was in this year's budget. City Manager Stulce read the "Known Conditions" section of the previous year's annual audit from Johnson, Murphey & Wright. He stated that the current tax base does not allow for resurfacing of roads or improvements to the City parks. City Manager Stulce said regardless of how the reassessments from the Assessor's Office turn out, the City's property tax base needs to be adjusted to be able to do the things the public wants. He said the City has been awarded grants through the Federal Highway Administration of approximately \$6,000,000. He stated the City's match to these grants are nearly \$1,200,000. City Manager Stulce said the cost to operate the City increases every year due to the rise in fuel prices and asphalt among many other items. He said the City has one of the best police departments around with a customer oriented approach. He said residents of Soddy-Daisy benefit from the fire departments low ISO rating which in turn lowers homeowners insurance rates. Commissioner Shipley said the City is looking into limited staffing for the fire department which has been recommended by the fire chief. He informed the audience of the actual insurance rates for ISO ratings of 3, 6, 9 & 10. He said the Soddy-Daisy Fire Department has an ISO rating of 3..Commissioner Shipley said if it were to slip to a 6 or 9, it would cost homeowners a significant amount of money. Fire Chief Mike Guffey stated the volunteer rate has dropped over the last 10 years. He said the retention rate is low. He stated if you start out with 10 volunteers you usually end up with 2 after five years. Fire Chief Guffey said "we" can depend on mutual aid but they are facing the same issues

“we” are with volunteers not being able to show up on fires. He said the City is looking at hiring four (4) firefighters and a chief. Chief Guffey stated that Federal Law mandates “2 in 2 out”, which states if 2 firefighters are in a home there has to be 2 outside the residence to be able to rescue the ones that are in the home. Commissioner Skates questioned Fire Chief Guffey when the last time the City had the ISO rating examined. She was informed it has been approximately 10 years. She stated if “they” were to show up tomorrow the City’s ISO rating could change. Fire Chief Guffey said it would be “slim” but there is a chance. Commissioner Shipley informed the audience that people who do not live in the City limits pay over \$200 to have their garbage picked up. Mayor Cagle stated the property tax rate has been so low for years and the City is now “playing catch up.” Commissioner Adams said the City has over 110 miles of streets to maintain. He also stated that once the resurfacing projects that total over \$3,000,000 get under way, the City pays 100% of the cost until reimbursed by the State of Tennessee. Robert Cothran, 10175 Dallas Hollow Road, questioned how much of an increase is the Board looking at. He was informed that it would be a 35 cent increase. Mr. Cothran asked how much would the additional salaries for the fire department cost the City. Mayor Cagle said approximately \$400,000. City Manager Stulce stated that Police Chief Phillip Hamrick volunteered to shift 2 of his people to the fire department. Mr. Cothran stated he was not against a property tax increase but wanted to know what was all involved with the increase. Margaret Chastain, 206 Northern Trails Drive, stated if City Manager Stulce and Public Works Director Steve Grant were tied up during a fire that the City would only have Fire Chief Guffey to show up to fight a fire. She said “we” need to educate the rest of the citizens about this situation the City is facing. Commissioner Skates said if something were to happen to the local Walmart, such as being hit by a tornado, the City would be in serious trouble. She said the Board is trying to make Soddy-

daisy a better place to live. Mayor Cagle said “we can’t go anywhere unless we raise taxes.” She read part of an article listing the amount of reserve funds other cities in the county have been able to set aside. Most of the other cities had 5 times as much as the City of Soddy-Daisy. Mayor Cagle stated that “we will never get infrastructure caught up if we don’t raise taxes.”

1<sup>st</sup> - Commissioner Shipley  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Commissioner Skates  
Ayes - Unanimous

#### Citizens Participation:

Angie Markum, Executive Director of Ivy Academy, stated that the school had a rocky start but has made a lot of advancements and recently their test scores increased between 20 and 30 percent. She said in April Ivy Academy was 1 out of 64 schools to receive the National Green Ribbon School award. Ms. Markum said they were able to meet with Senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker amongst others about their facilities. She said they would like to replace the trailers with a permanent building. Ms. Markum said they have began the process of applying for federal funds and one of the items they recommend is getting a letter from a local government supporting their efforts to receive federal funds for a new building. She asked if the Board would prepare a letter supporting Ivy Academy. The Board assured Ms. Markum that they would.

Alan and Mike Brown requested permission to put a Camper/RV storage business in the industrial park. Alan Brown said each carport would be 50 feet by 12 feet. He said he plans to put up a privacy fence and shrubs. Commissioner Shipley made a motion to allow the business in the Industrial Park with the provision that the owners put in the buffer before opening for business, seconded by Commissioner Skates and the ayes were unanimous.

John Ralston-Good, AYS America, said he is worried about the increase in traffic that the new storage facility would bring to the Industrial Park.

Commissioner Shipley explained to the Board of a drainage issue that Ronald Russell of

10818 Nelson Road is having. Commissioner Shipley said the road banks toward Mr. Russell's property and is experiencing erosion issues. The Board requested Public Works Director Grant to get a solid estimate on the cost to fix the problem and report back to the Board.

Vice-Mayor Nunley announced that Mile Straight Baptist was having a Red, White & Blue Celebration on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Cagle asked the Board which nights people will be allowed to camp at the lake for the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. It was the consensus of the Board to allow camping July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup> and for the campers to be out by the evening of July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Cagle announced that there will be a special called commission meeting on July 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to have the second reading on the budget.

Mayor Cagle announced the regular scheduled commission meeting for July 4<sup>th</sup> is canceled due to it being on a holiday.

ADJOURNED 8:16 P.M.

RECORDER JOHNSON