

Graysville Mayor and Board of Commissioners
Special Called Meeting
Tuesday, May 30, 2017
6:00 p.m.

Call to order by Mayor Ted Doss

Prayer led by Vice Mayor Scott

Pledge led by Commissioner Baldwin

Roll Call:

Mayor Ted Doss	Present
Vice Mayor Ron Scott	Present
Commissioner Robert Baldwin	Present
Commissioner Jimmy Massengill	Present
Commissioner David Sulcer	Present

Discussion/Action on Police Chief

Mayor Doss "Chief Tanksley has contacted her boss which is Tracey and Tracey has something to read from the chief."

City Recorder Tracey Pankey "I received an email requesting a leave of absence from work, Chief Tanksley has several issues going on in her family and is requesting this leave and I suggest that we give her approve the leave for her."

Mayor Doss "Do I have a motion or discussion?"

Commissioner Baldwin "Is this leave going to be with or without pay?"

City Recorder Pankey "Without."

Mayor Doss "Without she understands that, she has talked to her attorney and everything they have advised her that this is probably the best thing to do."

Commissioner Baldwin "My understanding is we got some grants that are coming up and need to be dealt with also. Are we still going to be able to utilize those?"

Mayor Doss "Yes and I'll give you a farther answer with that in about five minutes."

A motion to accept the leave of absence by the chief without pay was made by Vice Mayor Scott; 2nd by Mayor Doss.

Mayor Doss "Any farther discussion from the board?"

Commissioner Massengill "Yes sir, I know in the case of the last chief that was suspended or let go he was suspended with pay is that correct?"

Mayor Doss "Out of the three times he was suspended without, brought back, suspended with never got pay, was laid off and then brought back to work he never received any compensation being suspended with pay."

Commissioner Massengill "Okay I wasn't sure I was thinking he may have and I was thinking if we did it for him not just as a good gesture but it would be seeing how she is innocent until proven guilty that would be nice to do."

Vice Mayor Scott "It opens up to many legalities because if you do that than anything she is involved in if you keep her on with pay then you have to throw it out, it would be threw out because she would still be active on payroll."

Mayor Doss "I have talked to our attorney, I have talked to the DA, and I have talked to POST and since the chief and I have talked about it I have ran this pass all three and even her attorney agrees that this is probably the best option that she has at this time."

Commissioner Massengill "Without pay cause you ran the scenario by."

Mayor Doss "Yes any farther discussion? Roll call please."

Commissioner Baldwin Yes

Commissioner Massengill Yes

Commissioner Sulcer Abstained

Vice Mayor Scott Yes

Mayor Doss Yes

Motion carried 4-1

Mayor Doss "By law we have to put someone in place that is post certified to be the interim and I have talked to POST about that, we went thru that situation a few years back about placing someone in there, now we don't have to do it tonight but I have a gentleman here 26 years in Chattanooga Police Department if you will come up to podium tell us your name and a little about you and answer his question about grants."

Allen Huggins "I am Allen Huggins I retired after twenty six years City of Chattanooga I worked several positions in the department, I retired as a master patrolman, I worked dispatch at first and worked on the street for twenty five years. I worked traffic investigations, worked some auto theft, and I have several degrees of teaching DUI instructor and etc. The grants I don't know what grants you all have ask for but we can get the grants to go thru, I have dealt with grants."

Mayor Doss "You relayed to me that you have taught some classes before in the past."

Mr. Huggins "That's correct I have taught DUI classes in the past, Advance Traffic I am an advance traffic investigator, Laser Radar I'm an instructor in that also so if we have any officer that has not been certified I can get them certified."

Commissioner Baldwin "Hopefully she gets exonerated and she gets to come back and you know if she does our thing is going to be you know I'm hoping we bring her back. Is that going to be an issue with you at that point?"

Mr. Huggins "At the time I understand what the position is temporarily while she is being the situation is being dealt with so at that time then I would exit the position."

Commissioner Baldwin "Okay we will defiantly keep you in mind and we will get together and go from there."

Commissioner Massengill "You said you was retired how long as it been since you retired?"

Mr. Huggins "Nov. 24th I had to turn my stuff in because they were closed on Thanksgiving Day."

Commissioner Massengill "Of last year?"

Mr. Huggins "Yes Nov. 25 was my last day at the city."

Commissioner Massengill "So you're able to step right in."

Mr. Huggins "That's correct I'm still post certified and in all my instructor classes etc, firing range and all."

Commissioner Massengill "Also be it known to like Commissioner Baldwin said we hope for the best hope that she comes out exonerated but if not once you took the position it would be yours at the end of that time as well I think we would follow thru with that."

Mr. Huggins "If it didn't work out for the best for her then I would ask the position."

Commissioner Massengill "You would want it long term?"

Mr. Huggins "That's correct."

Commissioner Massengill "And that doesn't interfere with your retirement?"

Mr. Huggins "No sir it does not."

Commissioner Massengill "How far away do you live?"

Mr. Huggins "I live up 58 Highway Mahan Gap it took me about 18 to 19 minutes to get here."

Vice Mayor Scott "I'm not familiar with the Chattanooga Police Department but in the position you were in did you have any experience in management?"

Mr. Huggins "I have taken management classes that is correct."

Vice Mayor Scott "Did you manage police officers in your roll down there?"

Mr. Huggins "The situation is when you work with traffic division your basically a manager because you take full control of the scenes so you advise other officers what they need to do and how far it needs to go."

Vice Mayor Scott "Are you familiar with Alier?"

Mr. Huggins "Yes I have."

Mayor Doss "Our court clerk does the TIBRS, some people say it's a conflict of interest when a police officer does the TIBRS because they could alter stuff on there so we prefer that our court clerk do the TIBRS."

Mr. Huggins "I am thru the City of Chattanooga you have to take the TIBRS test every other year so I'm still certified in TIBRS, I would rather somebody else do that. Do you all have Titan the accident reports?"

City Recorder Pankey "Yes."

Mr. Huggins "I'm certified on Titan."

Mayor Doss "Right back there is the three officers ..."

Commissioner Baldwin "You got Steve Evans you got Billy..."

City Recorder Pankey "Lankford and Jonathan Scott."

Commissioner Baldwin "And then you got..."

Mayor Doss "Jonathan Scott, Steven is the senior out of the three (he don't look that old but he is, laughing). I talked to one of the officers today and you have had how many chief over your career?"

Mr. Huggins "I have worked under nineteen chiefs."

Mayor Doss "They have worked under a couple maybe their fear is someone coming in here and saying we are going to do it this way or we are going to put you on this shift instead of that shift, that's one of the concerns that our officers have. With as many chiefs as you have had I think you have seen from A to Z on how they do when they come in. We do twelve hour shifts they work two on two off and then three on is that right?"

Officer Steve Evans "Yes."

Mayor Doss "Steven there works day shifts the other two are seven pm till seven am so that's one of their biggest concerns you know no big shakeup."

Mr. Huggins "Out of nineteen chiefs I have seen shakeups, my theory behind that is if it's not broke leave it alone. Now if an officer is not working or not producing or doing his job that's a different story, if they are doing their job and taking care of the citizens and the publics welfare then it needs to be left alone."

Commissioner Baldwin "It is running pretty smooth right now, I mean Julie has done a really good job at getting it back up, brought the moral back up in the department and its running really smooth right now. We got a hiccup in the game we got to figure out what we need to do to continue on."

Mr. Huggins "I understand. The officers should not have a problem of a change like I said if it's not broke leave it alone."

Commissioner Massengill "Right and I'm sure your aware that respect isn't taken its earned, you come in and show respect and get respect and listening to the officers is a good way a feel of what's going on and I know you know all of this."

Mr. Huggins "That's correct, sorry to interrupt but that's one of the problems with Chattanooga they don't apply themselves they only listen to the upper hand they don't they have never come out and ask the officers how to resolve the issue and that's where it starts a downhill spiral."

Commissioner Massengill "Where this is a small town community we try to let the chief we trust the chief that's why we hired the chief to make the decisions to run the department and if any issues come up then its brought before us to discuss the issues with you what needs to change or you may discuss it with Tracey but we like to let the chief deal with the department as he or as she sees fit, try not to be no micro manage department unless there is an issue."

Mr. Huggins "Correct."

City Recorder Pankey "While Allen may be a new face to some of you but he is not a new face to Graysville. He actually applied for the chief's position after Erik Redden was no longer the chief. So he knows a little bit about the past history here and what has went on and a little bit about the future things we expect here at Graysville because like I said he had applied for chiefs position after Erik Redden was not a chief anymore."

Vice Mayor Scott "I don't want to discourage you by any means but we have budget issues. The budget is tight we have to look for creative ways to approach things."

Mr. Huggins "I own my own business I have had to do budgets so I do know what that consist of."

Mayor Doss "I think I mentioned earlier we can do action tonight or we can have a special called meeting next week about the interim police chief. They are not going to chastise us for going an additional week so it's up to the board of what the action is, it's here on the agenda if we chose to do action tonight."

Commissioner Sulcer "Let me ask this: what's the difference between doing it now than doing it a week later as its not been put in the paper to bring people in?"

Mayor Doss "You're going to take longer than a week to put it in the paper, the attorney said under the situation we don't have to advertise but it's up to the board on what they want to do, if someone wants to entertain a motion to you will have to hire and then place him as interim."

Vice Mayor Scott "I'll make a motion we hire the interim chief now."

Commissioner Sucler "I'll second that."

A motion to hire the interim chief now was made by Mayor Scott; 2nd by Commissioner Sulcer.

Mayor Doss "Any farther discussion? Roll call please."

Commissioner Baldwin "As long as it is written up in the agreement like we just discussed."

Commissioner Sulcer "It will be in the minutes."

Commissioner Baldwin "And he understands in black and white, I want written up you know maybe we can use him you know if she is exonerated of all charges maybe we can still keep him on as an officer but I defiantly want it written up."

City Recorder Pankey "Like Commissioner Sulcer said it will be in the minutes that it is just a temporary and Mr. Huggins is aware of that so yes or no."

Commissioner Baldwin Yes

Commissioner Massengill Yes

Commissioner Sulcer Yes

Vice Mayor Scott Yes

Mayor Doss Yes

Motion carried 5-0

Vice Mayor Scott "Welcome aboard."

Mr. Huggins "Thank you so much."

Mayor Doss "If you will take the time to talk to your officers whether it's out in the hallway or back in police department before you leave and share phone numbers and look at schedule and do all off that. After the meeting if the board has any more questions or anything if you have the time."

Mr. Huggins "Yes I do."

Mayor Doss "Thank you sir."

Mr. Huggins "Thank you so much."

Mayor Doss "I think we have had a conversation in the past about the county using the old fire hall for their trucks. I see there is one down there parked. The 780 has requested to use the old fire hall to put trucks in there until the new fire hall is built."

Kenny Riley "Yes sir."

Mayor Doss "What's your understanding on time?"

Mr. Riley "We are hoping to have it by the time winter gets here hopefully. That's what I understood, Jackie couldn't be here tonight."

Mayor Doss "I called the county mayor Thacker and he was supposed to talk to Jackie and get back with me but he couldn't give me a date off the top of his head even when they were going to start it or even how many bays it would be do you know?"

Mr. Riley "They are hoping for three bays try to park two trucks in each bay."

Mayor Doss "Would the county work with us on the utilities electric and gas?"

Mr. Riley "Yes Jackie said we would help."

A motion to allow 780 Fire Department to use old fire hall and our city recorder to touch base with the insurance company just to let them know we are allowing the county to use the city facility was made by Commissioner Massengill; 2nd by Vice Mayor Scott.

Mayor Doss "Any farther discussion? I have one other thing, I would like for our city recorder to touch base with the insurance company just to let them know we are allowing the county to use the city facility are they insured or do they need to purchase their own because you got hundreds of thousands of dollars of equipment in there that's not ours that's my concern."

Commissioner Massengill "I will add that into motion."

Commissioner Baldwin Abstained

Commissioner Massengill Yes

Commissioner Sulcer Yes

Vice Mayor Scott Yes

Mayor Doss Yes

Motion carried 4-1

Mayor Doss "That concludes our meeting I appreciate you coming

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Sulcer; 2nd by Commissioner Massengill. Motion carried 5-0

Submitted by: Amanda Sulcer

Mayor, Ted Doss

City Recorder, Tracey Pankey

Date