

**Wrecker Board
Meeting Minutes for
January 10, 2007**

The meeting was held at 4:00 p.m. at 190 Church Street N.W. Cleveland, TN. in the City Council meeting room (2nd floor) of the Municipal Building.

Those in attendance: Denis Collins, Board Member; James Dearth, Board Member; Sue Cross, Board Member; Ron Woodman, Board Member; Joe Cate, City Manager; Ron Wilkerson, Fleet Manager; Janice Casteel, Assistant City Manager; and Beverley Lindsey, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to order by James Dearth

Roll Call: Wendell Davis, Board Member; absent.

Approval of Minutes: November 6, 2006 meeting.

James Dearth: Motion, do I hear a second.

Ron Woodman: Second.

James Dearth: All who approve, aye.

James Dearth: All who disapprove? None. (Minutes approved)

Wrecker Applications Reviewed:

- 18th Street Wrecker Service
- Brewer's Wrecker Service
- Coe's Towing
- Lawson's Wrecker Service
- Lynn Wagner's Towing
- Moe's Wrecker Service
- Norris Towing
- Presswood Wrecker Service

Ron Wilkerson: They have all been filed, have paid and all wreckers have been inspected.

James Dearth: In reference to insurance, have you checked on that?

Ron Wilkerson: I have certifications showing that they are insured. Janice just brought it to my attention that some are listing itemized vehicles and some are just a blanket. We probably need to go deeper on that.

James Dearth: Can we be more in depth on that to make sure the vehicles are actually covered.

Ron Wilkerson: I can contact the insurance companies tomorrow and get verification on the VIN numbers.

James Dearth: Which companies is it; do you know right off the top of your head?

Ron Wilkerson: No, I have copies right here. I can' flip through them real fast. They are Brewers, Coe's, Moe's and 18th Street. I just need to verify the vehicles on insurance.

James Dearth: The one's that you did not mention means that you have an itemized list of the vehicles for insurance, correct?

Ron Wilkerson: Yes.

James Dearth: I make a motion that we approve those for the wrecker list.

Janice Casteel: Could we possible accept all of them contingent upon Ron verifying their insurance, that way you will not have to meet again to approve the others.

James Dearth: I make a motion that we approve them

Joe Cate: I'm sorry, I don't mean to be rude but can we ask that whoever is conducting these that they ask for a motion, I think that is actually Roberts Rules.

James Dearth: Sure. Do I hear a motion?

Sue Cross: I make the motion.

Denis Collins: Second.

James Dearth: All those in agreement? (Aye).

James Dearth: Those opposed? (none).

Janice Casteel: So everyone is approved. Ron is going to verify with the insurance company that the vehicles that are listed as wreckers are included in their insurance. Can I use the 10th as the expiration date for next year. They don't have a permit until today and the permit is good for one year.

Ron Wilkerson: That will work out real well because THP takes up until December 31st to get their inspections done and actually this time they were behind and were not able to get the inspections done until this week.

Joe Cate: I want to say I appreciate the job that Ron has done on this. I am glad that you were here to take this on. You have done a good job.

Ron Wilkerson: It was fun really I got to meet a lot of people.

Ron Woodman: All the wreckers services, were they approved by THP?

Ron Wilkerson: Yes, the one's that I inspected that was pending, what had happened was the officer with the THP, had to have emergency surgery, he was out for three months, they passed the inspections on the other gentlemen, he didn't touch it. This inspector came back on and he has been just piled up. I went ahead and did my inspection pending their certification, like I said they all just came, the last came in this week. They all have 2007 stickers. They all got scared because my inspection was more detailed than THP. It made a lot of them very nervous.

Joe Cate: I guess officially now, I don't know if it is any different now, the rotational call list as of January 10th will be this.

Janice Casteel: I had eight on current rotation.

Ron Wilkerson: They are the same people and I think 911 rotation list is already made up until March.

James Dearth: Can a copy of the list be obtained.

Ron Woodman: Did they submit prices to you.

Ron Wilkerson: They did, let me get them out of the file. They are all different. Just to show you, I got copies of everyone's driver's license, took photos of the storage areas, the outside storage areas, the wreckers for appearance and to prove I was there so the wrecker companies couldn't say he never showed up and I know he didn't inspect such and such. I did that to cover me.

James Dearth: Speaking of driver's license, were those checked with the Police Department to see if those licenses were valid?

Ron Wilkerson: That was going to be one of my questions because I am not authorized to do anything like that. We will still have to have some connection with law enforcement to some respect. I had one company submit (Coe's), their company does an NCIC check. Is that all that we are going to do?

James Dearth: NCIC is different.... The Department of Safety oversees that part of it. We don't have anyone that can do this. This is a concern that I have.

Ron Wilkerson: This is another issue the wrecker services are having. Others are saying some are not legal that is why I started requesting drivers license numbers. I told them once the board is established they can voice their opinion to the board.

Joe Cate: Is that part of the list to actually turn in that their cost was going to be or was that what they just provided to you?

Ron Wilkerson: That was requested because when they are called out to an accident they have to submit their charges to the customer and that is another complaint within the wrecker services is that it is going to cost them so much money to print and carry them with them. That will be a battle right there.

Joe Cate: A zerox machine would do that.

Ron Wilkerson: I told them that I would help them put them together, if they don't have computer abilities, I would put it together for them then they could go to office max or anywhere to get them copied. It is almost like they don't want to submit their charges.

Sue Cross: I am sure they don't so they can charge what they want to.

Joe Cate: So as they change, are they going to submit that to us?

Ron Wilkerson: They are supposed to.

Joe Cate: Okay.

Ron Woodman: Is there a lot of deviation on the prices?

Ron Wilkerson: Yes, there is.

James Dearth: Can the wrecker companies get together once a year and come together on an agreement for one set price.

Janice Casteel: No. We can't even encourage them.

Joe Cate: We are advised to stay far away from it. I know that it goes on but we can't be a party to it.

Denis Collins: Do we as a board or as the City accept any liability on this? I know we inspected them and all. There isn't any liability to us, is there?

Joe Cate: No, it's just so they can secure permission to...

Ron Wilkerson: They have to come into compliance with our standards so to speak. I attended a county meeting last month regarding wrecker services. They agreed to a price with them and they respected the city for showing up for a change. They said we have been invited every year but never showed.

Joe Cate: We don't show because we don't participate in it, because it is illegal.

Ron Wilkerson: They asked do you want the set pricing for you and I said I can't regulate their pricing and I told them I don't want anything to do with it.

Joe Cate: That is kind of where all of this evolved from. They kept saying you agreed to some pricing. Wes Snyder kept saying I don't know what you're talking about.

Ron Wilkerson: All the wrecker owners were there and I made it clear to them that the city is not involved in any fixed pricing. We cannot regulate their business in any form for fashion. All we can ask them to do is submit a price sheet.

Joe Cate: Well its disclosure that is the only thing we do. They have to disclose it. We can't tell them it's too high.

Reports of Board Members: None

Old Business:

James Dearth: Do I hear a motion to approve Lawson's four wreckers contingent upon Ron Wilkerson's inspection and approval.

Ron Woodman: I make that motion.

James Dearth: Second.

New Business:

Joe Cate: Review of the Ethics Ordinance 2006-49. (copy of ethics ordinance is attached to the minutes). Joe also gave the definition of personal interest and explained as a public body this board has to publicly disclose.

James Dearth Disclosure: I have a disclosure. I am a former employee of Norris Towing (20 years ago).

Motion to Adjourn:

Ron Woodman: Motion

Sue Cross: Second

James Dearth: All in favor, aye.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:30 p.m.