

Chief Rausch discusses community outreach

By Mike Steely
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The Knoxville Police Advisory and Review Committee met in its quarterly public session Thursday evening at the Knox County Education Association in Magnolia Avenue and Police Chief David Rausch responded to several questions from the committee and the public including questions about wrecker services, police and public relations, and shootings.

Rausch responded to a question from committee member Jered Croom and said that wrecker service inside the city is under the auspices of the Wrecker

Committee which sets regulations and fees for authorized companies. He added that other wrecker services may respond to a customer call and may charge whatever they wish.

He also said that private vehicles parked on the streets may only be there for 24 hours and can be removed by an authorized wrecker. He said that removal often comes after complaints by citizens or as noted by an officer.

He was asked about "Terry Stops" by police. The Terry stops are brief detention by an office of someone



Chief David Rausch responds to questions during Thursday's quarterly meeting of the Police Advisory and Review Committee. Next to him is attorney Ron Mills. Photo by Mike Steely.

Continue on page 3

MPC discusses new subdivision regulations

By Pete Gawda

Regulations that were ten years in the making were discussed on Jan. 23 when a roomful of interested persons gathered at the city's public works service center to hear Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) staff member Thomas Brechko discuss recently adopted subdivision regulations.

The regulations, which were adopted by the MPC Oct. 12, 2017 will become effective Feb. 1 of this year. Brechko said his organization had worked on the regulations off and on for ten years. He added that the section on sidewalks delayed the process a year.

Some of the changes consisted of clarification in wording and some changes sought to be consistent with both city and county regulations and Tennessee law. Over the years Brechko said both city and county have passed regulations that might have been in conflict with MPC regulations. The new regulations cite specific city or county regulations when there is a deviation. The existing subdivision regulations have seven active sections. As a result of consolidation the new regulations consist of five sections.



Lonsdale Principal Wendy Hansard (right) presents Zenobia Dobson with a check for \$1,137 for the Zaevion Dobson Fund. The money was raised by Lonsdale students to honor Zaevion.

Lonsdale honors fallen hero, stresses the virtue of courage

By Ken Lay

Lonsdale Elementary School honored one of its own Wednesday afternoon as it celebrated the life and legacy of Zaevion Dobson at the second annual Zae Day.

Dobson, a 15-year-old Fulton High School football player, was killed on Dec. 17, 2015 when he valiantly shielded two friends from random gunfire. He was posthumously awarded the Arthur Ashe ESPY Award for courage by ESPN.

Zae Day is celebrated by the school and Lonsdale Community on Jan. 24. The date is no coincidence. Dobson's uniform number

with the Falcons was 24 and it has been retired by Fulton High School as Lonsdale and North Knoxville now regard themselves as being 24 Strong.

"We celebrate this day and honor Zaevion and we will do it now and forever," said Lonsdale Elementary School Principal Wendy Hansard. "We do this on this day because his football number at Fulton was 24."

The theme of Zae Day 2018 was courage and three students shared their stories of courage in essays.

Other speakers included Julie Lowe, a physical education teacher at Lonsdale who is undergoing treatment after recently being

diagnosed with brain cancer. Zaevion's mother, Zenobia, former Lonsdale student Markies "Boski" Barrett and former University of Tennessee football player Derrick Furlow Jr.

The program included performances by Lonsdale's choir as well as the school's fourth grade dancers. Guests were also entertained by Lonsdale's basketball players and the school's gymnastics team when they arrived.

Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett was in attendance Wednesday afternoon along with Knox County Schools Superintendent Dr.



Lonsdale Elementary School physical education teacher Julie Lowe speaks at the school's annual ceremony honoring Zaevion Dobson, a former Lonsdale student slain in 2015 while shielding friends from random gunfire.

Continued on page 2

Emerald Youth, rezoning, Knitting Mill on City agenda

By Mike Steely
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Knoxville City Council may rezone a piece of vacant land from residential to Public Parks and Refuges in order to become part of the proposed Emerald Youth complex in Lonsdale.

The resolution to change the zoning is before the city council's Tuesday meeting on Second Reading.

Also on second and final reading is the rezoning request of Gary Koontz for changes along Central Avenue Pike north of Callahan Drive from residential to C-3 Commercial. Other rezoning before the council includes a lot on West Anderson Avenue and one on Magnolia, both requesting C-3 Commercial.

The Oakwood-Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association is asking the council to deny MPC's decision to allow Habitat for Humanity to build a new house at 431 E. Springdale Avenue. The neighborhood is objecting to the design of the home as being incompatible with other homes there.

The council may also approve an award of \$180,000 in Affordable Rental Development Funds to Restoration House of East Tennessee. The money would be used for 10 affordable housing units for low income, single-mother households at 2205 Village Place Way.

Standard Knitting Mill is asking for the city to grant an easement for access.

Continued on page 4



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