



MEMORANDUM

May 21, 2014

TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Eric Stuckey, City Administrator
Vernon Gerth, ACA-Community and Economic Development
Catherine Powers, Planning and Sustainability Director
Donald Anthony, Planning Supervisor
Amanda Hall, Preservation Planner

SUBJECT: Consideration of Funding Request for Purchase and Installation of Two (2) Replica Civil War Artillery Carriages

Purpose:

The purpose of this memorandum is to convey the vote/recommendation of the Battlefield Preservation Commission to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) regarding the purchase of Civil War artillery carriages for the cannons on the square.

Background:

As you are aware, there are four (4) Civil War era cannons on Franklin downtown square. These 1861 model six pounder field guns are currently mounted on concrete pedestals. For several years, historians in the City have expressed concern that the concrete pedestals are not historic and diminish the look and integrity of the original 153 year-old cannons. Therefore, in conjunction with activities to commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Battle of Franklin, volunteers from several Franklin heritage preservation groups formed a committee, entitled "Cannons on the Square." The purpose of this committee is to purchase and install four (4) national park quality field carriage reproductions to display the cannons. The committee also seeks to place an official Tennessee Historical Marker with a description of the guns as part of the carriage installation. This installation will add to the historic value of the very visible cannons on the square and allow the public to experience a period-appropriate piece of history in Franklin.

Since there are four (4) cannons to be purchased, the "Cannons on the Square" committee is requesting the City of Franklin purchase and install all four (4) gun carriages. The "Cannons on the Square" committee, however, wishes to pay the City in advance for two (2) of the gun carriages with funds raised from a pending Tennessee Wars Commission matching grant and private donations.

It is the wish of the "Cannons on the Square" committee that all four (4) new gun carriages be owned and maintained by the City of Franklin and that all site preparation and placement of the guns and carriages be conducted under the supervision and control of the City of Franklin staff.



The Battlefield Preservation Commission voted unanimously to endorse the purchase and installation request for two (2) gun carriages at its April 10, 2014, meeting (13-0).

Financial Impact:

The following is the estimate for the project:

Cost of four (4) Replica Civil War Field Artillery Carriages	\$55,000
Site Preparation	3,000
Signage	<u>4,000</u>
Total	\$62,000

The cost to be incurred by the City is 50 percent of the project cost, not to exceed \$31,000. Sufficient funds are available within the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund to support this expenditure.

Recommendation:

The Battlefield Preservation Commission has recommended this expenditure.

RESOLUTION 2014-48

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF FRANKLIN TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL TWO (2) REPLICA CIVIL WAR ARTILLERY CARRIAGES

WHEREAS, there are currently four (4) city-owned original Civil War era cannon tubes displayed on the city-owned Franklin Public Square, mounted on concrete pedestals; and

WHEREAS, volunteers from several Franklin preservation groups have formed a "Cannons on the Square" committee with the mission to purchase and install four (4) National Park-quality reproduction No. 1 Field Carriages on the square by November 30, 2014, to commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Battle of Franklin; and

WHEREAS, the "Cannons on the Square" committee requests that the City of Franklin purchase and install two (2) of the new gun carriages, with the costs of the remaining two (2) gun carriages, site preparation, and the interpretative historical marker be paid by the City of Franklin with funds given to it by the "Cannons on the Square" committee, Franklin's Charge, and Save the Franklin Battlefield Inc. from a pending Tennessee Wars Commission matching grant and private donations; and

WHEREAS, all four (4) new gun carriages be owned and maintained by the City of Franklin and all site preparation and placement of the guns and carriages be conducted under the supervision and control of the City of Franklin staff; and

WHEREAS, the "Cannons on the Square" committee estimates a total project cost of \$62,000 to purchase and install the four reproduction field carriages and interpretative signage, with the estimated cost to be incurred by the City is no more than 50% of the estimated project cost (up to \$31,000); and

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission voted unanimously to endorse the purchase and installation request for two (2) gun carriages at its April 10, 2014 meeting (13-0).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE:

The City of Franklin will purchase and install two (2) replica Civil War artillery carriages on the Public Square at a cost of \$31,000.00. The City will also purchase and maintain two (2) additional replica Civil War artillery gun carriages on the Public Square with funds provided by the "Cannons on the Square" committee, Franklin's Charge, and Save the Franklin Battlefield Inc. All four (4) artillery carriages will be owned and maintained by the City of Franklin.

Approved this ____ day of _____, 20__

ATTEST:

CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE

BY: _____
ERIC S. STUCKEY
City Administrator/Recorder

BY: _____
DR. KEN MOORE
Mayor

Approved as to form by

Kristen L. Corn, Staff Attorney