



City of Bristol Tennessee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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6th Annual Citizens Municipal Academy Announced

City officials announced the 6th Annual Citizens Municipal Academy “Government...ology 101” dates have been set for October 17 through December 3, 2013. The Academy is a public information program that gives citizens insight into city services and function of city departments. The program explains the relationship between the City Council and City Administration gives an overview of the budgetary process and provides an outlet for citizen input. Sessions are hosted each Thursday evening beginning at 6PM and lasting for 2 ½ to 3 hours. Registration is free, and acceptance into the academy is on a first-come basis up to the capacity of 15.

“The academy was moved last year from a winter session to a fall session and seemed to do much better. The academy always draws citizens from all walks of life that represent just about every neighborhood in the city,” said Terrie Talbert, Director of Community Relations for the city and the academy’s coordinator. “We have had several citizens go through the academy only to go on to serve on many of the city’s boards and commissions and even some who now serve on City Council,” continued Talbert. The academy is set in a relaxed environment, with light snacks and drinks offered during each session. Each session has a different topic and presenter(s) and is hosted at various locations throughout the city.

“For most people civic lessons were given in middle or high school and beyond that there is not a lot of opportunity for residents, especially adults to quickly learn how their government functions or about the many services the city offers,” Talbert said. “Through citizens’ academies, Bristol residents can learn about their city, how the city improves the quality of their daily life and their city’s commitment to its citizens. This is an excellent public outreach program and another way to encourage future city leaders.”

To register, please go on-line to <http://www.bristoltn.org/CMA.cfm> and complete the form electronically and submit or just print out the application and mail to: Citizens Municipal Academy, City Hall, 801 Anderson St. Bristol, Tennessee 37620 or pick up an application at the City Manager’s Office in City Hall

at 801 Anderson Street or at the Bristol Public Library. If you have questions on the academy please call Terrie Talbert @ 423-764-4171 or e-mail at tsmith-talbert@bristoltn.org.

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