

CITY OF KNOXVILLE
Regular Council Meeting
Knoxville Police Station, 215 N. Hebard St., Knoxville

Monday, August 1, 2016, 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order: At 7:00 PM, Mayor Pro-Tem Maurer called the Meeting to order. All rose to recite the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

Roll Call: Present: Aldermen Olin, McGovern, Maurer, Heller, Mahar, Myers, Naslund and Eiker; Attorney McCoy, Chief of Police Poyner and City Clerk Gruner. **Absent:** Mayor Johnson, Treasurer Whitney.

Public Comments: Resident Trent Shores asked for an update on the complaint about the building at 207 East North Street. Attorney McCoy reported that the Court had continued the hearing to later this month. Attorney McCoy will work with Chief of Police Poyner to determine if another notice is warranted. He will stay on top of the issue and report to the Council when it is resolved.

Approval of Minutes:

- July 18, 2016 Public Hearing & City Council Meeting. Alderman **Heller moved** to approve the Minutes of the Public Hearing of Monday, July 18, 2016; Alderman **McGovern seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Maurer pointed out an error on page 3 of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of Monday, July 18, 2016 and the misspelling of the name of the Appointee to the Knox County Scenic Drive – Knoxville Stop Committee on page 4 of the same Minutes. The text has it as “Hutchinson”; it should be “Hutchison”. Alderman **McGovern moved** to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council for July 18, 2016, as corrected; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

GENERAL REPORTS

None

INFORMATION ITEMS

None

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Knox County Area Partnership for Economic Development (KCAPED) – Ken Springer, President:** City Clerk Gruner informed Springer that he had made copies of the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan, which Springer had passed out at the previous Meeting, and distributed it again to all the Council Members. Mr. Springer answered a number of questions from the Aldermen. KCAPED is not a “membership” organization and the monetary request is not a membership fee but is called “an investment”. KCAPED will

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continue to try to develop economic development opportunities in the Knoxville Area, as well as all others in Knox County and beyond, whether Knoxville “invests” or not. There are nine (9) members of the KCAPED Board, three (3) of which are permanent positions held for particular Knox County and Galesburg officials. Mr. Springer has been appointed to represent the area on the Quad-City Regional Economic Development Authority (QCREDA) which handles bond issues for capital improvements. Alderman **Maurer moved** to approve the “investment” of \$2,000 to KCAPED; Alderman **Olin seconded** the motion which resulted in four (4) votes in favor and four (4) votes against. The motion **DID NOT pass**.

2. **Sewer Problems on North Street – Mahar:** A hole had developed on North Street. The Public Works Department has filled in the hole, which turned out to be smaller than originally expected. The Sewer Line still should be Televised to insure that there are no internal problems that need to be addressed.
3. **Sewage Treatment Plant – Pump Repair/Replacement - Mahar:** Alderman Mahar reported that there are a number of separate problems that needed to be addressed. The first is the replacement of a pump and this has been done. The second is a Flow Meter. The extent is still not known. Third, the Control Panel problem may have been cleared up with the replacement of the pump but the Control Panel still may have to be replaced because of its age and condition. Fourth, there is a problem with the Sludge Press. Until it can be repaired or replace, the old Sledge Beds are being used. Estimate for the work is in the \$5,000 range.
4. **Ordinance 2016-12 - Vacate Alley and Street Right-of-Ways at the St. Mary Chapel Property on Douglas Street:** This item has been approved by both the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals, subject to Proof of Ownership. The Proof of Ownership was presented at the last City Council Meeting (July 18, 2016). Alderman **Heller moved** to approve Ordinance 2016-12, to vacate the Ally and Street Right-of-Ways thru the St. Mary Chapel property on Douglas Street; Alderman **McGovern seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) yes votes and no dissent.
5. **Ordinance 2016-13 - 12 Gauge Tracer Wire for Sewer and Water:** Alderman **Mahar moved** to approve Ordinance 2016-13, to make the tracer wire in all new and replaced sewer and water lines 12 gauge rather than 18 gauge, at the homeowner’s expense; Alderman **Olin seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) yes votes and no dissent.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Police Department Surplus Items to be disposed of – Poyner:** Chief off Police Poyner submitted Ordinance 2016-14, to dispose of three (3) Tower Computers and three (3) Laser Printers. All of the items are severely used and obsolete, having no monetary value and no minimum purchase price. Chief of Police Poyner said that he would remove the hard drives before they are disposed of. Alderman **Heller moved** to approve Ordinance 2016-14 to dispose of

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the obsolete machines; Alderman **Maurer seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) yes votes and no dissent.

2. **Repairs to Fountain at James Knox Park – Eiker:** Alderman Eiker reported that water fountains in the park need to be replaced. He has a bid for tamper-proof, stainless steel water fountains. Two of these fountains would cost \$2,125, installed. Alderman Eiker said that he would decide if the two fountains are necessary but he still wants approval for both of them in case they are needed. He will report back with the reduced price if they are not needed. Alderman **Eiker moved** to approve the expenditure of \$2,125 for two Water Fountains in James Knox Park; Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) yes votes and no dissent.
3. **Request Use of Picnic Tables Saturday, August 20, 2016 – Knox County Nursing Home – Meg Wicks:** Meg Wicks let the Council know that the Knox County Nursing Home will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary at their current site and 150 years of activity on Saturday, August 20, 2016. They are planning a community-wide celebration and barbeque. Wicks asked to borrow four or more picnic tables for the event. The parking lot will be closed off beginning on Friday evening, August 19, 2016. The maintenance staff from the nursing home will move the tables to the facility on the Friday and return them after the event. Alderman **Heller moved** to permit the use of the picnic tables by the Knox County Nursing Home for the celebration; Alderman **Naslund seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.
4. **Purchase New Garbage Truck – Sanitation:** Alderman Naslund reported that the Sanitation Truck that has been causing trouble in the past has broken down again. This truck has had a history of problems since the City purchased it and is the subject of at least one class action lawsuit. The Council will need an estimate of the cost of a new Garbage Truck. The issue will be added to the next City Council Agenda.
5. **Piecemakers Quilt Guild – Place Sign in Central Park for August 5-6 Event:** Mayor Pro-Tem Maurer reported that the request was withdrawn.
6. **Community Bible Church – Post Directional Sign on Main Street (near other Church signs) and a Sign on South Market Street:** Pastor Bill White requested that directional signs for Community Bible Church (CBC) be placed with signs for other churches in the area. He listed five locations where those signs are located and where CBC would like their signs placed. Alderman Myers asked if the City has the authority to grant permission to place those signs since they are located on State Right-of-Ways. No member of the Council was aware of who has the authority and what the process might be. Attorney McCoy was asked to research the question and report back to the Council. City Clerk Gruner was asked to place the item on the Agenda for the next City Council Meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrative – Maurer: None

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Cemetery – Olin: One tree in the Cemetery has been cut down. It had been hit by lightning and the top was badly damaged, leaving it subject to deterioration and further damage.

Community & Economic Development – McGovern: Alderman McGovern had nothing to report regarding Economic Development. He reported that new regulations increase the fines for going around Rail Road Crossing Gates from \$500 to \$1,000. They will increase further for each subsequent offense. Alderman McGovern reminds us not to go around the Rail Road Crossing Gates. The fines can be costly and the action could be deadly.

Parks – Eiker: Alderman Eiker’s report is under NEW BUSINESS, # 2, Repairs to Fountain at James Knox Park.

Police – Myers: Work will proceed on clearing the space to pour concrete in the area behind the Police Station to house two more motor vehicles under cover. The expectation is that the concrete be poured before winter.

Sanitation – Naslund: Alderman Naslund’s report is under NEW BUSINESS, #4, Purchase New Truck.

Streets – Heller: Alderman Heller reported that the application of oil and chip, originally scheduled for late July has been postponed. Hopefully it will be completed before August 17, 2016 when the new school year begins.

Water/Sewer – Mahar:

- Alderman Mahar reported that the signal problems on the water tower are still occurring. The vendor is not responding to calls from the Water Department and they are being called out each night to correct the problem the alarm is reporting.
- The Control Panel has some electric problems associated with it.

Mayor’s Report: None

Future Agenda Items:

- Bids - Purchase New Garbage Truck – Sanitation:
- Bids – Sludge Press – Sewer
- Water Tower Alarm – Report Resolution Bid
- CBC – Signs – Pastor Bill White:

Adjourn: At about 8:00 PM Alderman **Olin moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Charlie Gruner, City Clerk