

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

Tuesday, September 6, 2016, 7:00 PM

DRAFT
MINUTES

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

Roll Call: Present: Aldermen Olin, Maurer, Heller, Mahar, Myers, Naslund and Eiker; Treasurer Whitney, Attorney McCoy, Engineer Cooper, Chief of Police Poyner, Supervisor of Public Works Myers and City Clerk Gruner. **Absent:** Alderman McGovern.

Public Comments: Ange Lee informed the Council that State Farm is offering a “Betterment Grant” to a number of Cities. She suggested that she could write a grant request to complete the walking path around James Knox Park. Alderman **Olin moved** to have Lee prepare and submit the Grant Request; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Myers moved** to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2016 City Council Meeting; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

With Council Approval, Mayor Pro-Tem Maurer proposed moving items one and two under New Business to this point in the Agenda.

1. **Resignation of Mayor Johnson:** Mayor Pro-Tem Maurer referred to the Letter of Resignation from Mayor Johnson and then read off a lengthy list of accomplishments and years of public service. He then expressed best wishes to Dr. Robert O. Johnson, Jr. Alderman **Mahar moved** to accept the resignation of Mayor Johnson; Alderman **Olin seconded** the motion which **passed** with Seven (7) Yes votes and One (1) Absent.
2. **Selection of Acting Mayor:** Alderman **Olin moved** for the nomination of Alderman and Mayor Pro-Tem Maurer for the position of Acting Mayor; Alderman **Naslund seconded** the motion which **passed** with Six (6) Yes votes, One (1) Absent and One (1) Abstention. City Clerk Gruner administered the Oath of Office

With Council Approval, Acting Mayor Maurer proposed moving items One (1) and Two (2) and three (3) of Old Business to this point in the Agenda. Acting Mayor Maurer announced to the Council that he would “entertain a motion to go into Executive Session, pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act, to consider the employment, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee of the City, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged

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against an employee of the City to determine its validity.” Alderman **Naslund moved** to go into Executive (Closed) Session for the stated purpose; Alderman **Mahar seconded** the motion which **passed** with Seven (7) Yes votes and One (1) Absent. Acting Mayor Maurer asked that all persons except the Aldermen, the Chief of Police, the Supervisor of Public Works and the City Clerk leave the room while the Closed Session is in effect.

1. **The Regular, Open Session of the Knoxville City Council Resumed.**
2. **Roll Call: Present:** Aldermen Olin, Maurer, Heller, Mahar, Myers, Naslund and Eiker; Treasurer Whitney, Attorney McCoy, Engineer Cooper, Chief of Police Poyner, Supervisor of Public Works Myers and City Clerk Gruner. **Absent:** Alderman McGovern.
3. **Action on Personnel Disciplinary Issues:** Acting Mayor / Alderman **Maurer moved** to terminate the employment of Steve West; Alderman **Naslund seconded** the motion which **passed** with Seven (7) Yes votes and One (1) Absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **Nuisance 207 East North Street – Continuance to September 22, 2016 at 10:00 AM:** One of the owners of the property appeared at the Court Hearing on the subject. She stated that she has a buyer who will demolish the building and re-develop the property. Over Attorney McCoy’s objection, the Judge in the case granted the Continuance to September 22, 2016 at 10:00 AM at which time Mrs. Martin is to produce a contract or a plan of action regarding the property.
2. **Hidden Hills Winery – David Poland:** Mr. David Poland introduced himself. He is one of the owners of Hidden Hills Winery and plans to be developing 8.8 acres of land just east of the Love’s facility, as a vineyard, winery and tasting room. There is also a potential for having a banquet hall on the premises. Hidden Hills Winery will require sewer and water connection and the County has committed to having the road build to the Winery. Asked if Hidden Hills plans to request annexation to the City of Knoxville, Mr. Poland said that it is not in their current plans. Because of the issues they had with the County, he said, they are taking one step at a time.
3. **Report on Website Items – Municipal Codes; City Council Package – Gruner:** City Clerk Gruner reported on the status of the website project he has been working on. The meeting agendas and the approved minutes have been available on the website for several years. The Municipal Codes are now available and have been updated. They will begin to be kept up to date soon. The Package sent to the City Council Members is now also available. The entire package for this meeting is on line and available to all Council Members and anyone else who is interested in it. To get to either the Municipal Codes or the Council Package, go to kville.org, then go to City Government. Move down the drop-

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down menu to either City Council package or Municipal Codes Manual. Click to open. At the next Council Meeting, City Clerk Gruner will ask if anyone wants to use their own laptop or tablet or if they want the City to furnish one. This was discussed previously but not decided.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Pursuant to “Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1))”, The City Council May move into Executive Session for Personnel Disciplinary Issues.**
2. **Roll Call:**
3. **Action on Personnel Disciplinary Issues:**
 - a. **** The above three items were discussed before the Information items, above. ****
4. **Potential Amendment to TIF Repair Grant Application for Locke’s Roofing and Siding:** Locke’s Application had been approved before the final bills were processed. The Amendment is to include the later bills in the total. This sort of amendment has been made before for TIF projects. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve the amendment; Alderman **Naslund seconded** the motion which **passed** with Seven (7) Yes votes and One (1) Absent.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Resignation of Mayor Johnson:**
2. **Selection of Acting Mayor:**

**** The above three items were discussed before the Information items, above. ****
3. **Approve Water Usage Fee of \$15 for Scenic Drive Vendors – Maurer:** Acting Mayor Maurer reviewed the situation with the water usage at last year’s Scenic Drive and the need for the usage fee. Alderman **Mahar moved** to set a fee of \$15.00 for the use of City Water during Scenic Drive; Alderman **Olin seconded** the motion which **passed** with Seven (7) Yes votes and One (1) Absent.
4. **Approve Waiver of Sewer and Water Permit Fees for Love’s – Maurer:** Acting Mayor Maurer reported that Love’s had been granted a waiver from paying the Building Permit Fees to the City for its Travel Plaza Project but had not included a waiver on the sewer and water permits. Alderman **Maurer moved** to add the waiver for sewer and water permits to the waivers for Love’s Travel Plaza; Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion which **passed** with Seven (7) Yes votes and One (1) Absent.
5. **Improvements to Disposal Plant – What funds to make payments from?:** After some discussion on the availability of TIF funds and the relative balances in the of Sewer and Water, Alderman **Mahar moved** to take \$75,000 from TIF and the remainder, \$103,000,

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from the Sewer and Water Funds to pay for the improvements; Alderman **Olin seconded** the motion which **passed** with Seven (7) Yes votes and One (1) Absent.

6. **Easement Agreement with County Fair Board:** The Utility Easement Agreement with the Knox County Agricultural Board and Fair Association was discussed. The Fair Association will be granted the In-City rate for water usage. The Association will also have access to tap into the proposed new 12” water line. Once construction has been completed the grounds disturbed by construction will be restored to their original appearance. +
7. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve the Agreement; Alderman **Naslund seconded** the motion which **passed** with Seven (7) Yes votes and One (1) Absent.
8. **Sanitation – Garbage Truck Specs and Put out for Bid – Myers:** There is no requirement to put the truck out for bid. Supervisor of Public Works Myers and Alderman Naslund explained the problems with the current truck. It is constantly in need of maintenance and continually breaks down. The replacement truck will be a Freightliner. Alderman **Naslund moved** to approve payment of \$116,404 for a replacement of the Garbage/Sanitation Truck; Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion which **passed** with Seven (7) Yes votes and One (1) Absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrative – Maurer: Acting Mayor Maurer proposed modifying the Employee Evaluation Form. Changes have been proposed in the past and Acting Mayor Maurer would like to have the proposals assessed and appropriate changes be made.

Cemetery – Olin: None

Community & Economic Development – McGovern: The University of Illinois Extension Service will be hosting an Economic Development Webinar.

Parks – Eiker: No Report. Acting Mayor Maurer mentioned that some lights are burned out. Supervisor of Public Works Myers has been notified.

Police – Myers: Alderman Myers indicated that there is a potential problem on the corner of Mill and Gilson Street. There is no lighting on that corner and it could make for a dangerous situation on nights when there is a football game. After the game children cross that intersection and without adequate lighting there is the potential for accidents. He suggested that shorter than normal light polls might be preferable to the standard size so that they do not disturb area residents.

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Sanitation – Naslund: No report – The purchase of the truck was covered under New Business, Item Number 7.

Streets – Heller: None. Supervisor of Public Works Myers commented that the County was delayed in starting the street oil and chip project but once they got started they finished promptly and did a good job.

Water/Sewer – Mahar: Alderman Mahar reported that both City water towers are in need of cleaning and may also require some painting. He suggested that both should be addressed in the spring of next year.

Mayor’s Report:

- Acting Mayor Maurer reported that there is a meeting of the ZBA scheduled for Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the Old Courthouse Building.
- The Plan Commission will meet on Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at 7:00 PM, in the Old Courthouse Building to review building size limits and the proposed Subdivision for the Vaughn/Mercantile property facing North Street.
- The Action Team will be meeting on September 22, 2016. One of the subjects expected to be discussed is the need for the newsletter, since the Knoxville Bulletin.
- Treasurer Whitney reported that he will be holding a meeting with City employees regarding the Employee Pension Benefit. All City employees are welcome to attend at 11:30 AM Thursday Sept 8 in the Old Courthouse Building. Pizza will be served.

Future Agenda Items:

- On-line Package – Buy Tablets:
- Modify Employee Evaluations Forms:
- New Roof for the Newman School Building:
- Property at 610 Division Street:

Adjourn: At about 8:20 PM, Alderman **Eiker moved** to Adjourn the meeting; Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Charlie Gruner, City Clerk