

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

**Monday, April 3, 2017, 7:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** At 7:00 PM, Acting Mayor Maurer called the Regular Meeting of the Knoxville City Council to Order. All rose to recite the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

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

**Public Comments:** Mr. Roy Collins reported that the sidewalk in front of his house is in need of repair. He asked if the City could do the repair work to replace broken sidewalks. He gave the address of 709 East Main Street. Mr. Collins was informed that the City could make the repairs but that the City shares the cost of the cost of materials with the property owner. Mr. Collins was also informed that the cost is far less for the home owner because the City is not paying outside contractors but is doing the work “in-house”. Mr. Collins also complimented the Police Department on its performance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Alderman **Eiker moved** to approve the Minutes of the March 20, 2017 City Council Meeting, as presented; Alderman **McGovern seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **457-B Employee Retirement Plan:** Treasurer Whitney reviewed the materials for the proposed 457-B program. There is a conference call scheduled to prepare a final draft of the proposal, which should be ready for the next City Council Meeting.
2. **Building Administrator’s Compensation:** Alderman **Myers moved** to approve the increases in the Building Administrator’s compensation based on the schedule provided in by Acting Mayor Maurer in the Administrative Committee Meeting; Alderman **Naslund seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) Yes votes and no (0) dissent.
3. **Water Rates – Second Reading – Mahar:** There was some confusion of what Alderman Mahar was requesting. Some members and the minutes for the meeting indicated that the increase would be made each year for three years. Alderman Mahar indicated that he meant the increase of \$0.20 per thousand gallons on each sewer and water was a one-time increase to extend for a three-year period. This clarification will, therefore, be considered the First Reading and a vote will be postponed to the next City Council Meeting. The issue is tabled until April 17, 2017.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Building Permit Fee Increase - Maurer:** Acting Mayor Maurer had explained the increases in Building Permit Fees in the Administrative Committee Meeting held immediately before this Regular City Council Meeting. A list of the changes was in the on-line City Council Package. Alderman **Naslund moved** to approve the fee increases as shown in the document presented by Acting Mayor Maurer; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) yes and one (1) No vote.
2. **Proclamation – Child Abuse Prevention Month – Maurer:** Ashley German gave the Council information about child abuse and showed that there has been some progress in recognizing and reducing incidents of child abuse in Knox County. German asked that the City Council approve of putting the program’s pinwheels in the median of the Public Square. Acting Mayor Maurer read from the Proclamation, which will be posted in City Hall. Alderman **Naslund moved** to approve placement of the pinwheels on the Median of the Public Square; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.
3. **Resolution 2017-02 – Part Time Employment Grounds Maintenance Worker – Scott Reynolds:** Alderman **McGovern moved** to approve the appointment of Scott Reynolds as a Part-Time Grounds Maintenance Worker; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) yes and no (0) dissent.
4. **Resolution 2017-03 – Part Time Employment Grounds Maintenance Worker – Richard Tomlin:** Alderman **Myers moved** to approve the appointment of Richard Tomlin as a Part-Time Grounds Maintenance Worker; Alderman **McGovern seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) yes and no (0) dissent.
5. **Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment of Neil Smith - Maurer:** Acting Mayor Maurer explained that Neil Smith works for the engineering firm used by the City and that Smith lives just outside of Knoxville City limits but within the mile and a half where the ZBA has authority. Alderman **Olin moved** to approve the appointment of Neil Smith to the Zoning Board of Appeals; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) yes and no (0) dissent.
6. **Request from Jim Eastwood for Fishing Derby Funding – Maurer:** Acting Mayor Maurer noted that the City of Knoxville contributed \$500 for the Fishing Derby. This year Jim Eastwood is asking for \$250. Alderman **McGovern moved** to approve the expenditure of \$250 to fund the Fishing Derby; Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) yes and no (0) dissent.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Administrative – Benjamin:** None – Administrative Committee Meeting Minutes will cover it.

**Cemetery – Olin:** None

**Community & Economic Development – McGovern:** None

**Parks – Eiker:** None

**Police – Myers:** None

**Sanitation – Naslund:** The City-wide Spring Cleanup began today. Supervisor of Public Works Myers and his crew are doing an excellent job!

**Streets – Heller:** None

**Water/Sewer – Mahar:** None

**Mayor’s Report:**

- Acting Mayor Maurer reported that he anticipates changes to the TIF program to allow for the Building Administrator to evaluate potential projects and report findings to the City Council prior to their approving the project, at the discretion of the Council.
- There is some interest in the building commonly known as the “Pit Stop” for the purposes of erecting a building to house a micro-brewery, coffee shop or bakery. It is reportedly more cost effective to tear down the existing building and build a new one than to try to restore and repair the existing structure.
- In response to a question from a previous meeting, Acting Mayor Maurer reported that approximately 40% to 50 % of the streets targeted for oil and chip are in the TIF district and, therefore, are eligible to be funded through TIF.
- The motorcycle seized in relation to a crime now belongs to the City of Knoxville. State law requires that it be placed for public auction. Chief of Police Poyner reported that there are a few hundred dollars of repairs that will be required to get the machine in running condition prior to auctioning.
- The house and garage at 610 Division Street have been torn down. The resulting debris still has to be removed.
- There have been other complaints of buildings either abandoned or falling into disrepair that need attention.
- The Easter-Egg Hunt will be held in James Knox Park on Saturday, April 8, 2017.
- The Zoning Board of Appeals will review the request for zoning change from R1B to B for in the John G. Sandburns Western Addition.

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- Chief of Police Ron Poyner asked if the Building Administrator is able to give tickets for building violations. Attorney McCoy said that he would look into it. There may also be a way to have tickets produced that are specific to the Building Administrator.

**Future Agenda Items:**

- **Annual Appointments**
- **Employee Compensation:**
- **Water and Sewer Rates Increase of \$0.20 per 1,000 gallons, for each sewer and water for a period of three years:**
- **Stop sign on West bound truck exit from Love's:**
- **Reimburse Ag Club for flower pots:**
- **457-B Employee Retirement Plan:**

**Adjourn:** At about 8:15 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