

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

Monday, July 17, 2017, 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order: Mayor Maurer called the Appropriations Public Hearing to order at 7:00 PM. All rose to recite the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

- 1. Appropriations – FY 2018:** Mayor Maurer pointed out that, since there was no increase in the Tax Levy, there would not be additional money to add to the Appropriations and that money could only be moved to an item by removing it from another. He reminded all present that the details were discussed at the July 3, 2017 City Council Meeting and that the Appropriations Ordinance (Ordinance 2017-13) had been posted at City Hall for at least ten (10) days. He asked if there were any questions, comments or proposed changes to the Ordinance. There were none.

ADJOURN: At about 7:05 PM, Alderman **Eiker moved** to Adjourn the Public Hearing; Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Call to Order: At about 7:10 PM, Mayor Maurer called the Regular City Council Meeting to Order.

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

Public Comments: Mr. Trent Shores asked the Council about the status of a house on North Street. Attorney McCoy responded. The issue is being brought before the court and is expected to be resolved in a few months, at which time the Public Works Department can demolish the structure.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve the July 3, 2017 City Council Meeting Minutes; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with one (1) abstention and no dissent.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: None

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Engineer Report:

- Knox County is scheduled to begin the oil and chip project in Knoxville on about the week of July 31, 2017.
- Work on replacing the faulty valve and a new control panel should be completed by the end of the week.
- Work on the lift station and control panel near the McDonald's is scheduled to begin in August.
- The Power Washing of the North Water Tower is complete.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report has been included in the on-line package.

City Clerk Report: None

Payment of City's Bills: Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve payment of the City Bills as presented; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes Votes and one (1) Absent.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations – Ordinance 2017-13:** Alderman **Mahar moved** to approve the 2017 – 2018 Appropriations Ordinance, number 2017-13; Alderman Benjamin **seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes Votes and one (1) Absent.
- **Weight Limit on Ann Street between Highway 150 and Henderson Road:** Engineer Cooper was asked about the street situation and if the semis could be a potential cause of damage done to the underground water pipes. The complaint originated because of the proposed insurance indicating that it was the homeowners' responsibility to pay for damage to water lines, due to ground shift, from the main to the house. The resident did not think it appropriate because any ground shift must be caused by the weight of the trucks on that section of Ann Street. Engineer Cooper said that the weight of trucks on the street would have no impact on any ground shift that could cause damage to underground water pipes as long as the main is at four (4) feet below the surface. There are already signs restricting truck traffic and citing weight limits.
- **Public Notices – Galesburg Register-Mail or Knoxville Bulletin:** Mayor Maurer distributed an e-mail conversation from David Adams, President and Publisher of the Register-Mail to City Clerk Gruner. Attorney McCoy had looked into the question and said that either the Register-Mail or the Knoxville Bulletin would qualify for Notices. Discussion included questions about the need for some notices to be published in particular time-frames for specific Public Hearings or that needed wider distribution because they are requests for bids. Alternately, there are some that are strictly local and not of particular interest outside of Knoxville. The consensus of the Council was that the City Clerk should have the discretion to make the decision based on the particulars of each individual case.
- **Water Department – Internet:** Mayor Maurer reported on the costs of Internet Service to the Water Department from ComCast and CenturyLink. CenturyLink is changing representatives and has not been responsive. Based on the initial quotes, ComCast has a better rate for roughly comparable capability. Mayor Maurer also noted that the City can purchase a cable modem for under \$100 and that would eliminate the monthly Modem Equipment Fee. Alderman **Mahar moved** to go with Comcast and buy our own Modem; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes Votes and one (1) Absent.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Employee Health Care – Dan Hiett:** Mr. Hiett distributed a chart showing the costs of the various options and walked through them for the Council. Hiett will work with Mayor Maurer and City Collector Wilt on the details and implementation. He would like to have a meeting with the affected employees to discuss the options and have a final proposal ready for a meeting by the second City Council Meeting in August. The renewal is due in September.

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2. **Jeremy Moore Resignation:** Officer Jeremy Moore submitted his resignation due to accepting a position with the Knox County Sheriff's Deputy as a Full-Time Patrol Deputy. The Resignation is effective after July 19, 2017. He has requested to remain on the Knoxville Police Department with the status of a Part-Time Officer. Chief of Police Poyner is hesitant to offer the Part-Time Status because he understood that the Sheriff's Department does not allow new officers to take Part-Time positions while in training. Chief Poyner will keep the Council informed if that is not the case and if he is in need of another Part-Time Officer.
3. **Library Appropriation Request - \$10,000:** Council Members discussed the request and decided to table it pending an explanation of what the funds are intended to be used for.

Executive Session: 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. In reference to the preceding, Mayor Maurer asked for a motion to move into Executive Session at about 7:50 PM. Alderman **Naslund moved** to go into Executive Session for the above stated reason; Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes Votes and one (1) Absent.

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

Reconvene and Roll Call: At about 8:10 PM, Alderman **Hillier moved** to reconvene the Regular City Council Open Meeting and call the roll; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with one (1) abstention and no dissent.

Action to Consider Discipline of a City Employee: Alderman **Naslund moved** that the subject employee be terminated without contesting any Unemployment Compensation claims; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes Votes and one (1) Absent.

4. **Resolution 2017-39: Police Department New Hire:** The Candidate is Emily Ordaz. Chief of Police Poyner remarked on the Candidate's background and recommended that she be hired, contingent on results of drug tests and a physical. Alderman **Naslund moved** to hire Office Ordaz with the contingencies expressed by the Chief of Police; Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes Votes and one (1) Absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

As Needed

Mayor's Report:

- **Report on Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission Meeting had been cancelled because Locke's request was withdrawn because they are dropping the project.
- **Fireworks Collections:** Mayor Maurer, Aldermen Hillier, Myers and Benjamin collected donations for the fireworks; there was also a bucket placed at the Mercantile's stand. Barb Slaton held a Trivia Night to benefit the fireworks display. In total, \$1,301.86 was collected. The general feeling was that people were pleased with the display.
- **Action Team Meeting July 18:** The Action Team Meeting is scheduled to be held at First Midwest Bank at 5:30 PM. They will be looking for grants to help finance the sidewalk build/repair for the "Walkable Community" Project. They are also looking for public input.
- **TIF Related Items:**
 - The PEO lot that was sold to Petersen Health Systems will start to bring in real estate tax. The Agreement with Petersen was that we would rebate moneys from the taxes to Petersen. There needs to be an amendment to the sale from taxes.
 - Language needs to be added to TIF so that the Building Administrator can evaluate projects prior to their approval for TIF funding, as the project is progressing and upon completion.

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- The Ghada Corporation wants to have TIF funding for projects in the old Goff Building and the old Video Building. The Mercantile had already applied for TIF funding on projects that were never completed. The Mercantile needs to rescind its request before a new project can begin on the old Goff Building.
- “Fireball Run”, a reality show, will be coming to Knoxville and visiting the Museum.

Future Agenda Items: Knox County Scenic Drive – Dawn Hutchison:

Adjourn: At about 8:45 PM, Alderman **Eiker moved** to Adjourn the meeting; Alderman **Naslund seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Charlie Gruner, City Clerk