

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

**Monday, November 6, 2017, 7:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

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

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

**Public Comments:**

- Mr. George McCracken rose to say that he was with Scout Troop 220 who are working on their Civics Merit Badges and were here to observe the City Council in action.
- Sharon Larson rose to explain that an area on Market Street outside of the Presbyterian Church is designated as a Handicap Parking space and it should be a No-Parking space because it is used for access to the sidewalk by both handicapped individuals and the elderly because the curbs are much too high for many of them to get up from the street. She also suggested that another parking space be designated Handicap Parking on Sunday only.
- Mr. Keith Vaughn rose to ask that the Council consider a variance for the width of a culvert to be placed as a second entry point on the Market Street side of the St. Mary property on Market and Douglas Streets. The wider culvert (to 36 feet instead of the standard 24 feet) is to accommodate semis and other delivery vehicles for building materials and for the delivery of other products when the project is completed. Trucks currently entering the property on the Douglas Street side go over the edge of the culvert and into the ditch. Mr. Vaughn asked that the issue be placed on the agenda for the next (November 20, 2017) City Council Meeting.
- Mr. Pradeep Kataria rose and explained that he had increased his investment in the BP Station on Henderson Street and is deep in debt because of it. He has made significant improvements and is still unable to compete with Love's across the street. He is asking that the City Council again consider granting him a pouring license and said that he would limit the availability of alcohol to the small gaming room only. Mr. Kataria also indicated that he is considering dedicating one pump to donating one cent per gallon sold (from that pump) to the school district on one side and another non-profit on the other. Mayor Maurer explained that he had surveyed the Aldermen at the last City Council meeting and they were not interested in revisiting it. He further explained that if the Council granted his request a special ordinance would have to be passed and it would apply to other businesses as well as his. Mayor Maurer asked if anyone on the Council would be willing to revisit the issue as an item on the agenda. There was no response and the issue will not be on the next meeting's agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:** Alderman **Eiker moved** to approve the Minutes of the October 16, 2017 City Council Meeting as presented; Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

**GENERAL REPORTS**

There were none

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**INFORMATION ITEMS**

Mayor Maurer pointed out that the two items, following, are in the package:

- **The Treasurer's Report for October 1, 2017 is in the package.** Treasurer Bivens had passed out paper copies of the Treasurer's Report at the last meeting (October 16, 2017). The item in the on-line package is just the electronic copy and is only for information.
- **Plans for Proposed Hidden Valley Winery:** Plans for the proposed Winery are included for information purposes. Upon consideration the Winery has decided to run its sewer line into the main line rather than the one proposed earlier, which would have required City Council approval. Tapping into the main line does not, and is the proper and safer option.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Tim Rossell Hiring – Supervisor of Public Works - Resolution # 2017-41:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Resolution 2017-41 to hire Tim Rossell as Supervisor of Public Works; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.
2. **Ron Curry – Street Department Assistant and City Mechanic - Hiring Resolution # 2017-42:** Alderman **Heller moved** to approve Resolution 2017-42 to hire Ron Curry as Street Department Assistant and City Mechanic; Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.
3. **Ron Curry Cell Phone Allowance:** Alderman **Myers moved** to approve the payment of \$30.00 per month to Tom Curry for phone allowance since his new position also requires that he be on call 24/7; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.
4. **207 E. North Street – Course of Action:** Mayor Maurer reported that he and others have been through the building and it is so badly damaged and mold-infested that there is nothing to be done except demolishing it. The foundation falling apart, the roof is leaking badly, the inside is wet and there are clothes and other materials that are wet and moldy. 3 K Farms of Maquon, IL has submitted bid in the amount of \$7,500 for removal of the house, garage and all contents as well as trimming the tree in the front yard. Attorney McCoy said that there are two options for selling the property. One is to have it appraised and then the sale price could not be lower than 80% of the appraised value. The other is to advertise for sealed bids with a minimum that would cover the expenses involved, legal and demolition costs, of approximately \$10,500. Alderman Myers said that 3 K Farms told him that if approved they can start work on the demolition on Saturday and have it completed on Sunday with some removal after that. Alderman **Heller moved** to accept the bid from 3 K Farms; Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and two (2) Absent and one (1) Abstention.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Madison Street – Prior Action Follow-Up – Ordinance - McCoy:** Copies of the Minutes of the Knoxville City Council Meeting of September 5, 1979 are included in the on-line package. They show that the Council approved vacating the section of Madison Street north of Douglas to Washington Street. The vote to do so was unanimous but no ordinance was ever produced and it was not filed with the County. Attorney McCoy had spoken to the parties involved and prepared Ordinance 2017-17. Alderman **Heller moved** to approve Ordinance 2017-17 be approved; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Administrative – Benjamin:** None

**Cemetery – Hillier:** None

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

**Parks – Eiker:** Alderman Eiker is getting prices for the Half-Pipe for the skate-board area of James Knox Park.

**Police – Myers:** None

**Sanitation – Naslund:** None

**Streets – Heller:** None

**Water/Sewer – Mahar:** Tuck pointing at the pump building is completed and the brick work looks fine.

**Mayor's Report:**

- The Computer for the Museum is in and will be installed tomorrow.
- Mayor Maurer approved signs on the Square for the Methodist Church Men's Pancake Breakfast because the request came in after the Council Meeting and the event was Sunday.
- Mr. Burgland will present the Audit Report at the next Meeting of the City Council.
- Mr. Morse will present material on Liability Insurance at the next City Council Meeting.
- The Action Team will be meeting in the Old Courthouse on November 14, 2017 beginning at 5:30 PM. They will be discussing the Sidewalk questionnaire and preparing to report on it to the Council in January of 2018.
- The Christmas Parade will be on Saturday, December 2, 2017.

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- The next City Council Meeting will be on Monday, November 20, 2017

**Future Agenda Items:**

- Handicap parking and ramp on Market Street
- Second Driveway and variance on culvert for St. Mary Chapel Property
- Ordinance for Sale of 207 East North Street Property – McCoy:
- Two other houses on Main Street need to be evaluated. Attorney McCoy needs the addresses as do other members of the Council

**Adjourn:** At about 8:00 PM, Alderman **Hillier 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