

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

Monday, November 20, 2017, 7:00 PM

DRAFT
MINUTES

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

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

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Eiker moved** to approve the Minutes of the November 6, 2017 City Council Meeting; Alderman **Mahar seconded** the motion which **passed** with no dissent and one (1) Abstention.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: Attorney McCoy reported that the property at 207 E. North Street is cleared for demolition. There are two more properties in Knoxville where action is beginning.

Engineer Report: In the absence of Engineer Cooper, Mayor Maurer reported that Engineer Cooper and Tim Rossell are beginning to work on MFT appropriation for 2018 street department materials.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bivens distributed paper copies of the current Treasurer's Report and indicated that the report would be available on-line for the next City Council Meeting. Treasurer Bivens reported that the only significant change is in the TIF funds because of expenses for the Lift Station refurbishment and the purchase of the property north of Pioneer Plaza.

City Clerk Report: None

Payment of City's Bills: Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve the payment of the City's bills as submitted for October, 2017; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no Committee Reports made, however, later in the meeting it was suggested that this item of business be addressed after the Mayor's Report.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Mayor Maurer indicated that the following Information Items are available in the on-line package and may be discussed if there are any questions:

- **Police Report**
- **Water Department Monthly Report**
- **Bock Monthly Report**
- **Cemetery Report**
- **Building Permits Report**

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OLD BUSINESS

1. **Handicap parking and ramp on Market Street:** Mrs. Sharon Larson was present again as a representative of the First United Presbyterian Church. The situation was discussed. The City Council agreed that the current parking space directly in front of the ramp should be designated as “No Parking” space, the parking space directly south of the ramp “No Parking” space will be designated a Handicap space. There is no need to revise the current Ordinance. There was a concern raised by Alderman Myers regarding the slope of the existing ramp as being too steep for handicap use. Mayor Maurer will talk to Supervisor of Public Works, Tim Rossell regarding this concern and advise Mr. Rossell to make the changes as soon as the weather permits.
2. **Ordinance 2017-18 - Sale of 207 East North Street Property – McCoy:** Alderman **Myers moved** to place the lot located at 207 East North Street up for sale by sealed bid with a minimum bid of \$10,500; The bids will be opened on January 15, 2018 at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Annual Liability Insurance Renewal - Chad Morse:** Chad Morse of Porter Hay Insurance presented two proposals, one from ICRMT (Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust) and the other from IML (Illinois Municipal League) Risk Management Association. The IML policy is about \$18,000 less in total cost to the City of Knoxville. Mr. Morse pointed out the differences in the two policies. The IML policy requires a 120 days notification of potential plan termination to change insurers while ICRMT only requires 90 days notification. Mr. Morse said that Porter Hay Insurance will monitor the dates and provide the notification at the appropriate time whether Knoxville decides to change or not. The IML policy provides a separate rider to cover Volunteer and Auxiliary Police at an additional cost of \$500. Alderman **Myers moved** to accept the IML product with an additional coverage for Volunteers and Auxiliary Police at an additional cost of \$500; Alderman Benjamin **seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.
2. **Annual Audit Report - Ben Burgland:** Mr. Ben Burgland of Blucker, Kneer & Associates reported no material findings or disagreements with the City of Knoxville’s financial records. He also reported that he had received full cooperation from City Hall personnel with all aspects of the audit. Mr. Burgland summarized the accounts conditions and reported very little difference from last year’s financial position. Mr. Burgland did report that the City of Knoxville has a sufficient reserve for a one year period.
3. **Second Driveway and Variance for Oversized Culvert for St. Mary Chapel Property – Keith Vaughn:** Mr. Vaughn described the need for an entrance for semi-trailers to access the property. The proposed culvert would be 36 feet long and 12 inches in diameter. He has spoken to both the current and former Superintendents of Public Works and agrees with their recommendations. He does not plan to pave the drive with either concrete or asphalt but leave a permeable surface for water to be absorbed into the ground. Alderman Mahar moved to grant the request specifying the 36 foot long and 12 inch diameter culvert; Alderman Eiker **seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.
3. **Request to Close City Hall at Noon on November 24, 2017:** Mayor Maurer requested that City Hall be closed at noon on the Friday after Thanksgiving, November 24, 2017. Last year it was closed for the entire day after Thanksgiving. Alderman **Benjamin moved** to approve the closing of the Knoxville City Hall at noon on Friday, November 24, 2017; Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

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Mayor's Report:

- The next meeting of the Knoxville City Council will be on Monday, December 4, 2017.
- The 2016 taxes on 207 E. North Street have been voided by the County Collectors Office.
- Tax Levies are due by December 26th so the City Council needs discuss the need for either increasing the current tax levies or leave them as they are at the next meeting.
- A request has been made by the Chairman of the Library Board, Terry Mauer, to study the possibility of installing a security system in the Library similar to the current City Hall Security system.
- The Mayor asked the City Council if they would like to have the structure of the City agendas modified so that the individual Committee Reports be moved from the first meeting of the month to the second meeting of the month. In this way the additional detailed reports presented at the second meeting of the month could be used as part of the appropriate committees report. The response was to move the General Committee Report (as needed) section of the second meeting to the end of the second meeting's agenda rather than have it at the beginning of the agenda.

Additional Discussions:

- An Alderman brought up the issue of a business owner working on the façades of two buildings in the Historic District when they had not gone to the Planning Commission nor been brought before the City Council. Any façade project done in the Historic District requires approval of the Planning Commission, their recommendation to the City Council and approval by the City Council before work can proceed. Mayor Maurer indicated that there is are requests for TIF funding on both buildings. A number of aldermen expressed their displeasure with the current situation.
- City Account Specialist, Melanie Tuthill had been contacted by a resident of Lewis Lane with a request for a street light to be placed at the south end of the street. Mayor Maurer will research the situation and would like the opinions of other residents of the street before bringing this matter to the City Council for discussion..

Future Agenda Items:

- Tax Levies:

Adjourn: At about 8:30 PM, Alderman **Benjamin 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