

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

Monday, March 19, 2018, 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 Benjamin, Hillier, Heller, Naslund, Mahar, Myers and Eiker; Mayor Maurer, Treasurer Bivens, Chief of Police Poyner, City Engineer Cooper, City Clerk Gruner, and Deputy City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Alderman McGovern. Also in attendance: Elias Sahyouni, and two members of the press.

Public Comments: none

Approval of Minutes: Aldermen **Hillier moved** to approve the Minutes of the March 5, 2018 City Council Meeting; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: None

Engineer Report: Engineer Cooper reported that he will have the City's oil and chip program contract with Knox County prepared for the April 2, 2018 meeting. He also reported that he had received a quote from Hoerr Construction for \$3,900.00 for televising 1800 feet of sewer lines on North St, Buena Vista Dr, and near the Knox County Fairgrounds. The sewer lining project after that will cost approximately \$50,000.00. Alderman **Mahar moved** to hire Hoerr Construction for the televising project for \$3,900.00. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

Treasurer's Report: None

City Clerk Report: None

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

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. 207 E. North St Property Options:** Mayor Maurer said that he had contacted Jordan Knight of the local Habitat for Humanity group to see if they were interested in this lot. Although the Mayor has not heard back, John Pulliam of the Knoxville Bulletin had spoken with Mr. Knight and said that Habitat is currently working on a project so their first opportunity for a new project would be in 2019. Mr. Knight would like to view the lot and

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wanted to know if the City was planning to sell or to donate the lot. If they did procure the lot, they would want the City to maintain it for them.

2. **TIF Redevelopment Agreements for the Goff's Building, 222 E. Main St:** Elias Sahyouni was present and said that the 40% of eligible costs agreement presented to him was not acceptable as he was expecting more of a reimbursement. He has been approached by two different parties to put different restaurants in the space, but the building needs much more work. Mayor Maurer will ask the Economic Development Group to rewrite the TIF Redevelopment Agreement to assist at the rate of 75% of the eligible costs of \$51,500.00, with a cap of \$40,000.00.
3. **Class D Liquor License Request for America's Best Value Inn:** Alderman Heller moved to approve Ordinance 2018-01 increasing the number of Class D licenses to one (1) and approving a Class D Liquor License request from America's Best Value Inn. Alderman Benjamin seconded the motion, which passed with five (5) Yes votes, two (2) No votes and one (1) Absent.
4. **City Hall Internet:** Mayor Maurer reported that he had received an initial bid from Stratus for internet service, but said that the company will re-bid at a lower rate. He also reminded the Council that City Hall and the Library are tied together, so both will need internet service when the current complimentary service ceases. He had spoken with Network Business Systems, who are not in our area yet. Alderman Myers had spoken with Mid-Century Telephone, who is also not in our area yet.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Report of the Plan Commission 3-14-2018:** Plan Commission member Charles Gruner reported that the Plan Commission voted to recommend the Larry Williams Subdivision which changes the lot lines on a property on Fleisher Rd within 1.5 miles of the City Limits. Alderman Myers moved to approve the Larry Williams Subdivision. Alderman Heller seconded the motion, which passed with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent. The Plan Commission also had discussed merging the Plan Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals to streamline the approval process and to address the issue of finding enough people to fill both boards. Attorney McCoy said that this change would require approval from both groups plus the City Council, and he will research the issue.
2. **Library Windows:** Some of the glass block windows are shattering, possibly due to age, moisture, and vibration from traffic, and shards are falling into the shelving. They are not original to the building, and were last evaluated in 2012. Librarian Walker had spoken with First Glass, who suggested using plexiglass until a permanent solution is reached. Mayor Maurer will contact Glass Specialty and First Glass to get estimates to repair or replace the windows.

Mayor's Report:

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- The Mayor reminded the Council that there are only two meetings left before the end of the fiscal year, and job resolutions need to be approved by May 1.
- Mayor Maurer emailed Alderman Jim McGovern about his commitment to the Council as he has not attended a meeting since October 2017. Alderman Myers had spoken to Mr. McGovern, and Mr. McGovern stated that his work commitments have kept him from attending, and he would step down as Alderman if a replacement could be found. Attorney McCoy said that if Alderman McGovern did step down, that the Mayor could make an appointment to fill his position.
- IDOT has notified the City that the bridge commonly known as Gates Bridge between Galesburg and Knoxville on Route 150 will be closed from April through October, and a new bridge will be installed. This may increase traffic through Knoxville.
- The next meeting of the Knoxville City Council will be Monday, April 2, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrative – Benjamin: None.

Cemetery – Hillier: Alderman Hillier reported that the 2011 tractor mower needs work. Replacement parts would cost approximately \$1,500.00, but a new motor would cost \$2,600.00. By general consensus, a new motor will be purchased.

Community & Economic Development – McGovern: None.

Parks – Eiker: None

Police – Myers: Alderman Myers had no report for Police, but he is working with Public Works Superintendent Rossell to get a quote for fencing off the City owned green space on Hebard St and on North St.

Sanitation – Naslund: City Clean-up will be the week of April 9.

Streets – Heller: None

Water/Sewer – Mahar: None

Future Agenda Items:

- **207 E North St Property Options**
- **Class D Liquor License for America's Best Value Inn**
- **City Hall Internet Service**
- **City-Owned Green Space**

Adjourn: At about 8:05 PM, Alderman **Eiker** moved to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Hillier** seconded the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Leslie Wilt, Deputy City Clerk