

CITY OF KNOXVILLE

Regular Council Meeting

Knoxville Police Station, 215 N. Hebard St., Knoxville

Monday, April 2, 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, and Myers; Mayor Maurer, Treasurer Bivens, Chief of Police Poyner, City Engineer Cooper, and Deputy City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Aldermen Eiker and McGovern, City Clerk Gruner. Also in attendance: Debby Jo Metsker with the Blue Ribbon Task Force, Candy Webb with Status Networks, and three members of the press.

Public Comments: none

Approval of Minutes: Aldermen **Hillier moved** to approve the Minutes of the March 19, 2018 City Council Meeting; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

GENERAL REPORTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. TIF Redevelopment Agreements for the Goff's Building, 222 E. Main St:** Mayor Maurer provided the updated redevelopment agreement that changed the percentage of reimbursement to 75% of eligible expenses up to \$40,000.00. Alderman **Benjamin moved** to approve Ordinance 2018-02 -- TIF Redevelopment Agreement with the Ghada Company for 222 E Main St. Alderman **Mahar seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes, one (1) No vote, and two (2) Absent. Alderman Myers stated that he voted No due to the fact that Mr. Sahyouni has not publicly shared his plans for the use of the building.
- 2. 207 E. North St Property Options:** Mayor Maurer said that he had spoken with Jordan Knight of the local Habitat for Humanity group, and they are interested in this lot. The Mayor asked if the Council would like to sell the lot or donate it. Attorney McCoy stated that if the lot is donated, the City would not have to have it appraised. If the lot is sold, that fee will be taken out of the total budget of the project, lowering the amount to spend on the house. In either case, if Habitat takes possession of the lot now, they would have to pay taxes on it and have it maintained, until they plan to build on the lot in 2019. Habitat would like for the City to maintain the lot in 2018. Mayor Maurer will speak with Mr. Knight about this timing. Attorney McCoy will prepare an ordinance transferring ownership to Habitat for Humanity when they are ready to commence working on the property.
- 3. City Hall Internet Service:** Mayor Maurer said that since Comcast is halting their free internet service with us, we need to set up new service. Comcast had provided figures on

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internet service only. Candy Webb from Stratus Networks presented a proposal for phone and internet service for City Hall, the Library, and the Museum. It is a fiber-based service with Voice Over IP phone. Mayor Maurer had prepared a handout comparing the two proposals. The Police Station and the Water building were not part of the quote but are in close enough proximity that they could be included in this proposal. Ms. Webb will provide a new quote adding those locations. Alderman Myers suggested that the matter be tabled until the April 16 meeting. Mayor Maurer will get a quote for phone service from Comcast.

- 4. Library Windows:** Mayor Maurer had spoken with Tim Cramer at First Glass and Alderman Myers had spoken with Glass Specialty about library replacement window alternatives. Options such as size, frosted vs clear, non-opening, and similarity to the Courthouse windows were discussed. As the building is in the Historic District, consideration should be given to what the original architecture featured. Both glass companies will be given these guidelines and asked for replacement options. Mayor Maurer will attend the Library Board meeting on April 3 to update them.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Motor Fuel Tax Resolution:** City Engineer Kevan Cooper provided a map of proposed 2018 oil and chip street maintenance. The cost should be \$58,500.00, but he is asking that \$62,000.00 be appropriated. This is less than half of what is currently in the Motor Fuel Tax account. Alderman **Heller moved** to approve the proposed work, appropriate \$60,000.00 for the project, and contract with Knox County for the work. Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.
- 2. Proclamation – Child Abuse Prevention Month:** Debby Jo Metsker of the Blue Ribbon Task Force addressed the Council about Child Abuse Prevention Month and requested that they be able to place pinwheels in the Main Street boulevard April 9-13. The request **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. Mayor Maurer read the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation.
- 3. Community Unit School District 202 Request for Approval of Sign – KHS Orchestra:** Alderman **Heller moved** to approve the request for IDOT signs in honor of the Knoxville High School Orchestra 2018 Class C State Champions of the IHSA Solo and Ensemble Contest. Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.
- 4. Independence Day Fireworks:** Alderman **Naslund moved** to approve the Fireworks display for Independence Day for Wednesday, July 4, 2018 with the Rain Date of Thursday, July 5, 2018. Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.
- 5. Purchase 10 New Dumpsters:** Alderman **Naslund** reported that new 2-yard dumpsters are needed to replace those that are no longer functional. Alderman **Naslund moved** to

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purchase ten (10) 2-yard dumpsters. Alderman **Mahar seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.

6. **Purchase Police Vests:** Alderman Myers stated that the protective vests currently used by the Police Department are outdated and there are not enough for all officers. According to a 2015 IL State Law, vests are mandated. Chief Poyner has researched and located appropriate vests costing \$399.00 each. Alderman **Myers moved** to purchase 13 police vests for a total of \$5187.00. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent. The vests will be paid for from the Police Uniform line item and from the Police Drug/DUI Special Account.
7. **Resolution 2018-03 Rehire Grounds Maintenance Worker Daniel Hendrickson:** Mr. Hendrickson had previously worked in this position in 2016. Alderman **Heller moved** to rehire Daniel Hendrickson at \$8.75 per hour. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.
8. **Resolution 2018-04 Hire Police Officer Kenneth McMillion:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to hire Kenneth McMillion at \$15.50 per hour, contingent on Mr. McMillion passing the pre-employment drug screen and physical. Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent. Officer McMillion is already certified in Law Enforcement.
9. **Ordinance Weight Limits on City Streets:** Mayor Maurer read the current weight limit passages from the City Ordinances. The City streets become damaged from overweight trucks. A fine for ordinance violation could be issued that could be used towards sidewalk repair. A scale could be purchased to verify weights. Chief Poyner provided an ordinance similar to one used by East Galesburg, which details truck weight limits. Alderman **Hillier moved** to **table** the truck weight limit discussion to gather further information. Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion, with **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. Attorney McCoy will work with Chief Poyner on this draft ordinance.
10. **Hiring Contract for New Police Officers:** Chief Poyner reported that trained police officers are increasingly difficult to find, and that future hires may need to be sent to school for training, currently at a total cost of \$14,700.00. A reimbursement agreement would guarantee that a newly trained officer would remain on the force for 2 years following training, or face a pro rata reimbursement schedule. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve the Police Training Reimbursement Agreement. Alderman **Naslund seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.
11. **Repair Issues with 1985 Water Service Truck:** Alderman Mahar reported that the motor on this secondary truck blew up and it is not cost effective to repair it. He also knows of someone interested in purchasing it. Alderman **Mahar moved** to dispose of the 1985 Water Truck. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent. Alderman **Hillier moved** to grant Alderman Mahar full

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authority to set a price and sell the truck. Alderman **Benjamin** seconded the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Mayor's Report:

- The Mayor reminded the Council that the next meeting on Monday, April 16, 2018 at 7:00 pm will be the final meeting of the fiscal year. There will be an Administrative Committee meeting at 6:30 pm that evening.
- A citizen had passed along information about two community projects. In one, a picnic table is set out and citizens are encouraged to utilize it for casual congregation. This could be set up in Central Park. In the second, a mural could be added to a wall such as the east or west wall of the old Pit Stop or the west wall of JC&R Power Equipment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrative – Benjamin: None.

Cemetery – Hillier: None

Community & Economic Development – McGovern: None.

Parks – Eiker: None

Police – Myers: The transmission on the 2013 Chevrolet police car has gone out. He would like to purchase a new car. This will be placed on a future agenda.

Sanitation – Naslund: None

Streets – Heller: None

Water/Sewer – Mahar: The laterals on the East North St sewer need to be repaired, but the problem is too deep below ground to be able to fix it without specialized equipment. This will be placed on a future agenda.

Future Agenda Items:

- **City Building Internet/Phone Service**
- **Library Windows**
- **City Street Weight Limit Ordinance**
- **Purchase new Police car**
- **E. North St Sewer**

Adjourn: At about 8:32 PM, Alderman **Mahar** 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