

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

Monday, August 6, 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**.

Mayor Maurer announced that **New Business Item #4 – Resolution 2018-45**, is **withdrawn** from the agenda at this time.

Roll Call: Present: Aldermen Benjamin, Eiker, Heller, Hillier, Mahar, McGovern, Myers, and Naslund; Mayor Maurer, Treasurer Bivens, Attorney McCoy, Chief of Police Poyner, and Acting City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** None. Also in attendance: Mr. and Mrs. Richard Carlson, Mr. Scott Anderson, Mrs. Tara Bahnks, Mr. Roger Lenz, one member of the press, and seven additional people.

Public Comments: Mrs. Tara Bahnks, Principal of Mable Woolsey Elementary School, announced that the Big Blue Bullet Blitz fundraising run would be held on Saturday, September 15. She stated that the course has been changed to keep off busier streets. She asked permission to hold the run on city streets, and for use of some city barricades during the run. By general consensus, the Council approved the run on the modified course. Mrs. Bahnks also reported that the morning school drop off procedure at Mable Woolsey has changed for the coming school year, and volunteers will be in the street in front of the school informing parents of the changes.

Treasurer Bivens reported that she had received comments from Deane Hoehn, 111 Oakview Drive, stating how nice the landscaping and planters looked in the downtown area.

Mr. Roger Lenz owns a lot behind 401 Madison Street. He no longer has access to this lot to mow it, as the Madison St. address has a new owner, and his lot is landlocked, unless he uses the Railroad right of way. Attorney McCoy stated that Mr. Lenz may have an implied easement, and he will look into the situation and respond to Mr. Lenz.

Golf Carts: Mr. Richard Carlson, 718 William Drive, asked if Eiker Acres residents would need a golf cart permit if they were to drive their carts into the city limits, and was told that they would. He also stated that he is a Knoxville school bus driver and that the school district has some new buses with cameras on the bus stop signs.

Golf Carts: Mr. Scott Anderson stated that he would like to see the golf cart ordinance pass and he provided the Council with a sample golf cart ordinance from the City of Canton.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve the Minutes of the July 16, 2018 City Council Meeting; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with one Abstention.

GENERAL REPORTS

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None.

INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Lead Line Water Survey:** Mayor Maurer reported that of the 141 survey letters sent to homes with identified lead lines, only 16 had responded, with 12 yes, 1 no, and 3 maybe. Alderman Mahar suggested that the City contact our State Representative to try to get Knoxville into the free lead line replacement program, instead of focusing on the Illinois program. Due to the low response rate, the project was tabled.
2. **Golf Cart Ordinance:** Mayor Maurer referred to the Golf Cart and Qualified Non-Highway Vehicle draft ordinance from the July 16, 2018 meeting. As clarification, a “qualified non-highway vehicle” refers to side by side UTV vehicles such as Gators and Mules, and not to ATV vehicles such as four-wheelers, and the vehicles must have lights, a horn, and turn signals. Alderman Myers said that citizens want the ordinance to pass, and that it will generate needed revenue. Aldermen Hillier and Mahar stated that they had received negative comments. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve Ordinance 2018-11 Authorizing Operation of Golf Carts and Non-Highway Vehicles on City Streets. Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion. Alderman **McGovern moved to amend** Ordinance 2018-11 to strike the reference to daylight hours and to change the age requirement to licensed driver. The current wording specified age 18 or older. Alderman **Myers seconded** this motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) No votes. The Council then voted on the original motion to approved Ordinance 2018-11, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) No votes. Alderman Myers volunteered to inspect the vehicles for licensing. Licensing procedures, forms, and a decal will need to be drawn up.
3. **Sidewalk Replacement 204 W Main St:** As the sidewalk at 204 W Main was damaged during the house demolition, Mayor Maurer suggested that a demolition permit procedure be put into place before the city issues any further permits. Building Administrator Larry Rigg had proposed to the Mayor a 4 point inspection of the house and lot, including making sure contractors take all precautions to care for the sidewalk prior to the house demolitions. No action was taken on the sidewalk in question. As a side note, Council members discussed ways to make the citizens aware of the City’s sidewalk replacement program.
4. **Public Library Windows:** Mayor Maurer presented two options for library window replacement from First Glass and from Glass Specialty. One option presented was for

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working windows and the other for non-functioning ones. As they were not comparable, the City will ask for a new quote with comparable features. Attorney McCoy reminded the Council that the City should have used a bid process, but that option could be waived if necessary. Alderman **Myers moved** to table the project. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Employee Health Insurance Renewal:** Dan Hiett of John Graham and Associates had met with Mayor Maurer, Alderman Benjamin, and Acting Clerk Wilt about health insurance renewal options. As there is projected increase of about 10% from the current carrier United Healthcare, Mr. Hiett is looking into alternatives to provide about the same coverage at a lower rate. He had requested that employees fill out an online survey which he could then present to other companies. This is a new procedure that can help with small group coverage. Mr. Hiett will present his findings at the August 20, 2018 Council meeting.
2. **Resolution 2018-43 – Hiring Part Time Painter Martin Sterr:** Alderman **Myers moved** to hire Martin Sterr at \$15.00 per hour. Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) Yes votes. Mr. Sterr has passed all pre-employment screening.
3. **Resolution 2018-44 – Hiring Full Time Police Officer Andrew Avery:** Alderman **Myers moved** to hire Andrew Avery at \$15.50 per hour. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** with eight (8) Yes votes. Mr. Avery has passed all pre-employment screening.
4. **Resolution 2018-45 – Hiring Part Time Officer Tyler Hillery:** Withdrawn – see Mayor’s comments at the start of the meeting.
5. **Rescind TIF Application for 223 E Main St:** Keith Vaughn, on behalf of the Knoxville Mercantile, has sold this property. He has requested to rescind his TIF application from October 12, 2015, and will not be asking for any TIF funding for work already done. Alderman **Hillier moved** to rescind the TIF application for 223 E Main St. Alderman **Myers seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Mayor’s Report:

- The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, August 20, 2018.
- The Mayor met with Elias Sahyouni, owner of the old Goff’s Building at 222 E Main St, and Mr. Singh and Mr. Dogra. They would like to put in a grocery store, including selling produce, meat, and deli items. It is not a convenient store, but they would also want to apply for a package liquor license. They will be present at the August 20, 2018 Council meeting.

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- A new business, Art on Main, is going into the old Mauer Barbershop building at 226 E Main St.
- Chad Morse from Porter-Hay Insurance is getting a competing bid from ICRMT to compare with the renewal from our current carrier Illinois Municipal League before our December 1 renewal date.
- A letter from resident Mrs. Rose Burgess was read, complementing the parks, cemetery, and grounds this summer, as well as the leadership from the City Council and the efficiency of the City employees.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrative – Benjamin: None

Cemetery – Hillier: None

Community & Economic Development – McGovern: None.

Parks – Eiker: None

Police – Myers: None

Sanitation – Naslund: None

Streets – Heller: None

Water/Sewer – Mahar: The South Tower has been drained, repaired, and repainted. The North Tower will be checked next. Water Superintendent Johnson made a new manhole on Bayard Ave using the new vacuum truck.

Future Agenda Items:

- **Sidewalk Replacement Program**
- **Grocery Store at 222 E Main St**
- **Sidewalk Replacement at 204 W. Main St.**

Adjourn: At 8:26PM, Alderman **Myers moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Leslie Wilt
Acting City Clerk