

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

Monday, August 20, 2018, 7:00 PM

MINUTES

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

Roll Call: Present: Aldermen Benjamin, Eiker, Hillier, Heller, Mahar, and Myers; Mayor Maurer, Treasurer Bivens, Chief of Police Poyner, Attorney McCoy, Engineer Cooper, and Acting City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Aldermen McGovern and Naslund. Also in attendance: Dan Hiatt of John Graham & Associates, Mr. Harpreet Singh, Mr. Piyush Dogra, Mr. Roger Lenz, Mr. Jared Poppett, and one member of the press.

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: Aldermen **Hillier moved** to approve the Minutes of the August 6, 2018 City Council Meeting; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: Attorney McCoy reported that he, Mayor Maurer, and Treasurer Bivens had met with Josh Gibb with the Galesburg Community Foundation to discuss combining some of the City's Cemetery Trust funds with the Foundation to receive a higher rate of return on the investment. The City funds are labeled as Trust funds, but Treasurer Bivens stated that the funds are not truly a legal trust, but just in name only. If the funds were combined with the Foundation funds, they could never be touched again. By general consent, the Council decided to not move forward with combining the funds at this time.

Engineer Report: Engineer Cooper said that he had been approached by a family about subdividing 22 acres near Lincoln and West Main Streets into residential lots. He asked if the Council felt it would be a conflict of interest if he performed this private sector work while he is City Engineer. He does not see it as a conflict, as he feels he can provide insight and expertise to both parties. By general consent, the Council saw no conflict with Engineer Cooper doing this private work.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bivens thanked Mayor Maurer for his assistance in streamlining her monthly report. She also noted that there would be some CD's maturing this fall.

City Clerk's Report: None

Payment of City Bills: Alderman **Heller moved** to approve payment of the City Bills; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.

Information Items:

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- Mayor Maurer pointed out that the monthly departmental operating reports were available in the online Council packet.
- **Lead Water Line Survey** – Engineer Cooper reported that Abingdon had received a state loan for lead water line replacement which was being totally forgiven because of Abingdon’s economic situation. Knoxville would not qualify for full loan forgiveness.
- **Grocery Store Proposal Presentation** -- Mr. Harpreet Singh and Mr. Piyush Dogra addressed the Council about possibly opening a 700 sq ft grocery store in the old Goff’s building at 222 E Main St, with a later expansion into 218 E Main St. The store would sell prepackaged meat, produce, dairy, and packaged goods. They requested that the City grant them a license to sell packaged liquor. The men have retail grocery experience. The Council advised the gentlemen to consider re-orienting the store to have the public entrance in the back and the deliveries in front, due to parking issues and the condition of the alley behind the store. After a straw poll, the Council was favorable towards making an additional liquor license available, and this request will be on the September 4, 2018 agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Employee Health Insurance:** Dan Hiatt with John Graham and Associates presented two options for employee healthcare renewal. Rates for current provider United Healthcare have increased 9.9%. National General had more affordable rates, but the out of pocket expense was considerably higher. Alderman **Hillier moved** to re-enroll with United Healthcare for 2018-2019. Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent. Alderman Heller requested that next year healthcare renewal should be discussed much sooner than the September 1 deadline.
2. **Golf Cart Ordinance Enhancements:** Mayor Maurer presented a list of concerns about the golf cart ordinance 2018-11, which was approved at the August 6, 2018 meeting. By general consensus, the vehicles must have a full or half windshield, on which an annual licensing sticker will be placed, there should be no more passengers than what the vehicle is rated for, and if the vehicle comes with seat belts, they must be used. The vehicles will be prohibited at the intersections of Broad and Main Streets, and also at the Main St/Division St/Galesburg Rd/Henderson Rd intersections. Attorney McCoy will make these enhancements a part of Ordinance 2018-11.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Easement to Lot behind 401 Madison St:** Mayor Maurer reported that the land-locked lot behind 401 Madison St. needs a culvert on Depot St so the owner may access it. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve the installation of the culvert. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.

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2. **Sidewalk Replacement:** Mayor Maurer provided a tentative demolition permit list of rules and regulations. There was no further action on the damaged sidewalk at 204 W. Main St.
3. **Resolution 2018-46, Hire Cemetery Sexton Geoff Hurd:** Alderman **Hiller moved** to hire Geoff Hurd at \$12.20 per hour. Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent. (The incorrect resolution number 2018-42 was on the original agenda and discussed and voted on at the meeting. The number was corrected to 2018-46 by the City Clerk.)
4. **Painting South Water Tower:** Engineer Cooper said that exterior of the South tower needs painting now, and would cost about \$100,000.00. The North tower could wait one more year for painting, and it would cost about \$150,000.00 to paint both the interior and exterior. He reported that painting techniques are better now and the paint will last longer than it has in the past. He has also inspected the Ground Storage Tank and says it is in great condition. Engineer Cooper was directed to obtain bids for both towers as one job.

Mayor's Report:

- The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at 7:00 pm, due to the Labor Day holiday on the regular Monday meeting date.
- Mayor Maurer, Acting City Clerk Wilt, Supervisor of Public Works Rossell, and President of Historic Sites Peg Bivens met to discuss the work of new part time painter Marty Sterr. A separate space in a City building will be set up for his supplies. Mr. Sterr will work with Supervisor Rossell to make a prioritized list of what needs to be painted.
- A thank you note from the George Hurd family was circulated, thanking the City for the memorial donation to the First Responders.

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: None.

Future Agenda Items:

- **Extend One (1) Class B Liquor License**

Adjourn: At about 8:50 PM, Alderman **Eiker moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

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Submitted by:

Leslie Wilt, Acting City Clerk