

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

Tuesday, September 4, 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, Eiker, Heller, Hillier, Mahar, and Myers; Mayor Maurer, Treasurer Bivens, Attorney McCoy, Chief of Police Poyner, and Acting City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Aldermen McGovern and Naslund. Also in attendance: Mr. William Munson, Mr. Elias Sahyouni, Mr. Piyush Dogra, Mr Jared Poplett, and two members of the press.

Public Comments: Mr. William Munson, 100 Willow Lane, commended the Police Department on the increased patrol for traffic violations, and feels that overall the traffic in town has slowed to more appropriate speeds.

Alderman Dan Eiker, representing Community Bible Church, requested that the Church be allowed to post a banner on the West Main St boulevard announcing their upcoming Awana children's program. By general consensus, the Council approved the banner placement.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Myers moved** to approve the Minutes of the August 20, 2018 City Council Meeting; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

GENERAL REPORTS

City Clerk: Acting City Clerk Wilt reported that the IL Dept of Transportation had audited the Motor Fuel Tax funds for 2017 and found them to be in compliance.

Alderman Myers asked if Dan Hiett of John Graham & Associates had responded back to any of the questions raised at the August 20, 2018 Council Meeting about employee health insurance. Acting City Clerk Wilt responded that he had not.

INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Consideration to make available an additional Class B Liquor License:** Mr. Piyush Dogra is seeking a liquor license for a proposed grocery store at 222 E Main St. Attorney McCoy suggested that instead of issuing an additional Class B license, a new class should be created especially for grocery stores. That way, if the proposed store did not open as a grocery store, the City would have some recourse. Attorney McCoy proposed that the

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percentages of grocery shelf space total 75% and liquor shelf space total 25%. Mr Dogra requested 50%/50%, stating that the liquor sales are necessary to support the store. He does not necessarily intend on making it 50/50, but wanted the flexibility. The Council, by general consensus, would like the percentage to be closer to 75/25. Attorney McCoy will draft a new ordinance defining grocery stores and adding an additional class, and email it to Mr. Dogra for review before the next Council meeting on September 17, 2018.

- 2. Ordinance 2018-12 Golf Cart Ordinance Enhancements:** Attorney McCoy presented Ordinance 2018-12, which incorporated changes to the Golf Cart and Qualified Non-Highway Vehicle Ordinance 2018-11, as were discussed at the August 20, 2018 meeting. Alderman Myers will perform the inspections at the Knox County Fairgrounds with two assistants. He intends on inspecting them all on one Saturday, either October 27, 2018 or November 3, 2018. Police Chief Poyner will procure a simple sticker to use after registration. The application, ordinance, and information about the inspection will be posted on the City website and Facebook page, plus will be available at City Hall. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve Ordinance 2018-12 Revising the Code Regarding Operation of Golf Carts and Non-Highway Vehicles on City Streets. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes, one (1) No vote and two (2) Absent.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Knox County Scenic Drive – Knoxville Stop Requests:** Dawn Hutchison, Knoxville Stop Chairman, addressed the Council about the upcoming Knox County Scenic Drive on October 6-7 and 13-14, 2018. She requested that vendors be able to leave their tents up in the public square during the week between the Drive weekends, as was allowed in 2017. She also requested \$1,500.00 to be used towards entertainment, decorating, and portable restrooms, as was also allowed in 2017. Alderman **Hiller moved** to allow Scenic Drive vendors to remain set up between weekends and to donate \$1,500.00 towards the Knoxville Stop. Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.

Mayor's Report:

- The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, September 17, 2018.
- The Mayor swore in new full-time police officer AJ Avery on August 24, 2018. Police Chief Poyner noted that Officer Shawn Keith graduated from PTI training on August 23, 2018, and has begun his local training.
- Supervisor of Public Works Rossell has asked if the Council would consider allowing people outside of the city limits use the tree dump area, with a \$60.00 charge for contractors. It is currently only for residents. Alderman Myers noted that too much burning there affects the air quality at the nearby Knox County Nursing Home. Treasurer Bivens, commenting as a citizen, noted that the burning ordinance is already not favored by a percentage of residents, and additional burning would certainly decrease air quality, plus the additional revenue would be negligible. At the Council's request, Attorney

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McCoy will draft a list of rules for using the tree dump area, including size limits, to be brought before the Council at the September 17, 2018 meeting.

- IL State Senator Chuck Weaver held a local meet and greet on August 22, 2018. Following that event, Mayor Maurer was contacted by Senator Weaver's office to offer a Group Capital Development Grant that could total between \$5,000.00 and \$10,000.00, and would need to be used for renovation, expansion, and/or new construction. Council members suggested replacing the Library windows, updating sidewalks, completing the sidewalk at James Knox Park, and expanding the Street Department building. The Mayor will pass the suggestions on to Senator Weaver's office.
- The new business, Art on Main, at 226 E Main St, will have a grand opening on Wednesday, September 5 at 12:00pm, and all Council members are invited to attend.
- A request from Mr. Rex Cherrington, a member of an Underground Railroad Tour group, was made to add the Old Knox County Courthouse as an Underground Railroad stop, and he is asking permission to submit an application for the structure. By general consensus, permission was granted.
- New painting employee Marty Sterr has begun painting the Historic Sites, starting with the Old Courthouse. All agreed his work looks good so far.

Future Agenda Items:

- Grocery Store Liquor License Classification
- Golf Cart Inspection
- Tree Dump Rules

Adjourn: At 7:45 PM, Alderman **Myers moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Submitted by:

Leslie Wilt
Acting City Clerk