

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

Monday, February 18, 2019, 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, Myers, Naslund; Mayor Maurer, Treasurer Bivens, Chief of Police Poyner, Attorney McCoy, Engineer Cooper, Supervisor of Public Works Rossell, and Acting City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Alderman McGovern. Also in attendance: Mr. Charlie Gruner, Mr. Jared Poplett, and two members of the press.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Minutes: Aldermen **Hillier moved** to approve the Minutes of the February 4, 2019 City Council Meeting; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with one abstention.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: No report.

Engineer Report: No report.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

City Clerk's Report: No report.

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

Information Items: Mayor Maurer pointed out that the monthly departmental operating reports were available in the online Council packet.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Emergency Procedures for Closing the City:** Mayor Maurer reported that at a supervisor's meeting on February 13, 2019, emergency weather closings were discussed, and if the situation arises again, the supervisors will decide together what action to take. It is possible that during a weather emergency, City Hall could be closed while the other departments would remain open.
2. **2019-2020 Wheel Tax Sticker Design:** Four designs representing Community Bible Church were circulated. Alderman **Hillier moved** to select the design (#1) showing the church building. Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

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NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Ordinance 2019-03 Authorizing Sale or Disposal of Certain Personal Property:** Chief Poyner compiled a list of obsolete electronic equipment. Most items were recommended for disposal, but some items had come from other agencies and would need to be returned. One printer could possibly be sold. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve Ordinance 2019-03, leaving disposal of said items to Chief Poyner's discretion. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

- 2. Fireworks Donations:** By general consensus, Council members approved allowing Mayor Maurer and Alderman Benjamin to make plans to distribute donation cans within the City, including forming a list of businesses to approach, and making arrangements to collect the donations. They will report their plan at a future Council meeting.

- 3. Pavilion Roof at James Knox Park:** The roofs of both the large and small pavilions at James Knox Park need replacing. Local roofers are booked through the next 12 to 18 months, so the work may not be able to be completed this summer. Supervisor of Public Works Rossell will seek traditional roof bids, and Engineer Cooper will obtain a bid on a steel roof.

- 4. City Liability on Building Coverage:** Mayor Maurer reported that the Illinois Municipal League asked to update the insurance coverage on two City buildings that they deemed under-insured. The replacement cost for the Police Department storage building at 215 N Hebard St was suggested to be raised to \$278,030.00, which will not affect the premium much. The other building is the N Market St cemetery storage shed. As the building is not used much, and would not need to be replaced if it was destroyed, it was suggested that replacement coverage be removed, just leaving liability coverage. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve insuring 215 N Hebard St at the full replacement cost, and to remove the coverage on the N. Market St cemetery building. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with seven (7) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

Mayor's Report:

- There are no updates on the liens on the City-owned 610 S. Division St. property.
- There is no further information of the possible subdivision of the City-owned Hebard St property.
- The final contracted price with Constellation Energy for natural gas for City building from the February 4, 2019 Council meeting was \$0.31589 per therm.
- A Fishing Derby committee meeting was held on February 6, 2019. Chairman Jim Eastwood would like to move the Derby from May to July 4, and offer other family-oriented activities such as Bingo and horseshoes, and to have food vendors. As the James Knox Park pond can only be stocked in April, the concern was raised that there would not be enough fish in the pond on July 4. An additional concern was that families are busy

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on July 4, and it would be hard to attract visitors and volunteers. These issues will be discussed at the Action Team meeting on Tuesday, February 19, 2019.

- Billy Fitzgerald, the contact for the City's retirement plan, has left John Graham and Associates. A new representative will be assigned to our account.
- The Mayor reminded the Council to be thinking about upcoming pay raises, especially in light of the proposed increase to the Illinois state minimum wage.
- The Street Department currently has three employees, as after former Supervisor of Public Works Myers retired in November 2017, the fourth position was not re-filled. Current Supervisor of Public Works Rossell would potentially like to add a part time employee to the department. There is currently a part time employee in another department that could work in the Street Department, but wages would need to be adjusted. Job descriptions may also need updating. This item will be placed on the March 4, 2019 agenda.
- The Mayor is updating Chapter 31 – Zoning of the Municipal Code to be able to provide updates for the Zoning Board of Appeals and for the website. He is cleaning up errors, including numbering and the index. When he is completed, he will publish the code as a PDF file to retain the diagrams and illustrations.
- The next Council meeting will be on Monday, March 4, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrative – Benjamin: None.

Cemetery – Hillier: None.

Community & Economic Development – McGovern: None.

Parks – Eiker: Alderman Myers mentioned that he would like to develop a handicapped-accessible fishing area or bridge at the James Knox Park pond.

Police – Myers: None.

Sanitation – Naslund: None.

Streets – Heller: None.

Water/Sewer – Mahar: There will be a new pump at the Wastewater Treatment Plant installed by City employees and new chlorination system will also be installed by contractor. There is a bid pending on cleaning and refurbishing the step screen at the plant. Engineer Cooper will try to obtain an additional bid.

Adjourn: At about 7:50 PM, Alderman **Hillier moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Submitted by:

Leslie Wilt, Acting City Clerk