

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

Monday, March 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; 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: Mr. Charlie Gruner, Cooper Wilt, Allyn Putnam, Ms. Ashley German, Mr. Justin Hensley, Mr. Drew Ponder, Mr. Jared Poplett, Mr. Derek Powell, and one member of the press.

Public Comments: Mr. Justin Hensley and Mr. Drew Ponder addressed the Council with a request to hold a 5K Run on July 4 at 8:30 am, and provided a course map. Alderman **Myers moved** to allow this run. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Approval of Minutes: Aldermen **Eiker moved** to approve the Minutes of the March 4, 2019 City Council Meeting; Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: Attorney McCoy reported that he had sent nuisance notices to the owner of 220 W. Ann St, but there had been no response. By general consensus, Attorney McCoy was directed to begin demolition proceedings.

Engineer Report: No report.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bivens reported that she had updated CD interest rates on her monthly report. She had also moved most funds from the Tort Immunity checking account to open a CD and the balance was added to the Tort Immunity Money Market Acct.

City Clerk's Report: No report.

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

Information Items: Mayor Maurer reported that the 3 year contract with Dynergy, which was approved at the last meeting, had been signed and finalized.

The monthly departmental operating reports were available in the online Council packet.

OLD BUSINESS

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There was no Old Business on the agenda, but Alderman Myers asked why the part time Street Department Utility Worker position had not been filled after it was previously approved. Mayor Maurer stated that the position was to be filled in the next fiscal year, when the expense could be appropriated. After discussion, a Job Resolution will be placed on the April 1, 2019 agenda, with a starting rate of \$13.75.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Knoxville High School Project Graduation Request:** Knoxville High School seniors Cooper Wilt and Allyn Putnam asked for a donation for this annual event. Alderman **Myers moved** to donate \$20.00 per senior for a total of \$1760.00 for Project Graduation. Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes and two (2) Absent.
- 2. Proclamation – Child Abuse Prevention Month:** Ms. Ashley German with the Blue Ribbon Task Force addressed the Council about child abuse awareness, and requested permission to place pinwheels on the Main St median from April 8 -12. Alderman **Hillier moved** to allow the request. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. Mayor Maurer then read the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation.
- 3. Evaluation of Wastewater Treatment Contract with Bock Incorporated:** Mayor Maurer reported that the current contract with Bock Incorporated expires in August 2019. A preliminary review shows that other providers would like to purchase the plant, whereas Bock would continue to only operate the plant, which is the option that the Council would like to continue. Mayor Maurer and Alderman Mahar will meet with Stan Bockewitz to find out an approximate cost for a new contract. If it is only a 5-10% increase, the Council will possibly contract with Bock instead of starting a bidding process.
- 4. Motor Fuel Tax – Street Maintenance:** Engineer Cooper provided a map with proposed improvements. Most of the work will be oil and chip, with the Knox County Highway Department doing the work. On portions of Hebard St and Oakview Dr, oil and trap rock will be used. On the north side of the Public Square, the street will be milled down 2 inches and then a new 2 inch surface will be laid. Curbs will also be replaced on the Square, with four sidewalk ramps installed to be IDOT compliant. The oil and chip will cost about \$95,000.00 and the milling will cost about \$65,000.00. Oil has gone up considerably in the past year. Alderman **Hillier moved** to appropriate \$170,000.00 from the Motor Fuel Tax account for the 2019 oil and chip program. Alderman **Mahar seconded** the motion which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.

Mayor's Report:

- Building Administrator Larry Rigg has resigned, effective immediately, due to health concerns. Names of qualified candidates to replace him were requested. Mayor Maurer commended Mr. Rigg for his dedication to this position.

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- An email from the IL Municipal League was received concerning House Bill 8-24 Non-Home Rule Sales Tax. The Mayor will provide information to the Council on Home Rule versus Non-Home Rule status.
- A Department Supervisor meeting will be held on March 20, 2019, and they will be asked to review Appropriations.
- The Action Team will meet on March 19, 2019 to discuss the Welcome to Knoxville sign and the Fishing Derby.
- The next Council meeting will be on Monday, April 1, 2019 at 7:00 pm. The Administrative Committee will meet at 6:30 pm that same evening to discuss wage increases and any changes to the employee manual.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrative – Benjamin: None

Cemetery – Hillier: None

Community & Economic Development – McGovern: None.

Parks – Eiker: New park and downtown area trash cans are needed, as many of the old ones are in poor condition. New ones are being considered, but they are very expensive. They may need to be purchased in phases.

Police – Myers: None.

Sanitation – Naslund: None.

Streets – Heller: None.

Water/Sewer – Mahar: None.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Roof Replacement on Park Shelters

Adjourn: At about 8:05 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