

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

Monday, December 16, 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, Gruner, Hillier, Howard, and Myers; Mayor Maurer, Attorney McCoy, Treasurer Bivens, Chief of Police Poyner, City Clerk Wilt, Engineer Cooper. **Absent:** Alderman Naslund. Also in attendance: Mr. Don Moffitt, Mr. Tom Hoehn, Mrs. Tina Hope, and one member of the press. Mr. Jared Hawkinson arrived at 7:22 pm.

Public Comments: Mr. Don Moffitt thanked the Council on behalf of the Knoxville Community Fire Protection District for the Intergovernmental Agreement TIF grant.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Eiker moved** to approve the Minutes of the both the December 2, 2019 Public Hearing and the December 2, 2019 City Council Meeting; Alderman **Benjamin seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: No report.

Engineer Report: Engineer Cooper noted that the sewer lining project has been completed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bivens distributed the monthly treasurer's report.

City Clerk's Report: No report.

Payment of City Bills: Alderman **Gruner moved** to approve payment of the City Bills; Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

Information Items:

- Mayor Maurer noted that the monthly departmental operating reports were available in the online Council packet.
- Mayor Maurer thanked the Fire Department for the snacks provided for the Council members prior to the meeting.
- Mayor Maurer thanked Chief Poyner for purchasing the new conference table.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Ordinance 2019-16 – Amending the Zoning Code Regarding Adult-Use Cannabis Businesses:** Attorney McCoy amended this ordinance as per Council request at the December 2, 2019 meeting, mirroring elements of the current liquor code by changing the zoning to include cannabis businesses in Business zoning as well as C-I-M. The code

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prohibits dispensaries within 100 feet of churches, schools, and hospitals. Any potential cannabis business would need to apply for a special use permit, so proper channels would need to be followed in each case. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve Ordinance 2019-16 -- Amending the Zoning Code Regarding Adult-Use Cannabis Businesses. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes, one (1) No vote, and one (1) Absent.

2. **Ordinance 2019-17 Cemetery Rate and Procedure Change – Additional Items:** Some items not addressed with Ordinance 2019-13 included charging a \$500.00 mausoleum permit fee and not allowing burials on city holidays. Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Ordinance 2019-17, Regarding Holiday Burials and Mausoleum Permit Fees. Alderman **Gruner seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.
3. **North Public Square Parking:** Alderman Eiker stated that Supervisor of Public Works Rossell will add three additional parking spaces just east of the current parking area behind the old courthouse, plus take away a second spot west of the mail and water drop boxes, to allow easier departure after using the boxes. These changes will be made in the spring of 2020.
4. **Cease Offering Residential Electronics Pick-Up:** Alderman Myers reported that Eagle Enterprises, the City's current recycling provider, will take TVs for \$0.40 per pound, which would require charging residents \$40.00 to \$50.00 per pick-up to break even on old-style TVs. The item will be placed on the January 6, 2020 agenda for further discussion.
5. **Draft Ordinance Vacating Washington Street Road Easement:** Mr. Tom Hoehn owns farmland directly north of this undeveloped street, and would like to purchase this property. Attorney McCoy noted that if the City chooses to vacate any street, typically half goes to each of the adjoining landowners. However, the City is permitted, by IL state statute, to sell the complete vacated street at a fair market price. Attorney McCoy also noted that the ordinance states that if Mr. and Mrs. Hoehn would someday sell the property, that the City has the first option to buy it back if desired. Mr. Hoehn said he has no plans to sell the property during his lifetime, but he is agreeable to the terms. The property is approximately 63 feet wide by 300 feet, about 4/10 of an acre. Mayor Maurer asked the Council to consider a fair price for the property, and the item will be placed on the January 6, 2020 agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Yard Waste Truck:** Alderman Myers stated that the 2002 yard waste truck is in need of repairs totaling \$10,478.42 just to put it back into rotation. The yard waste truck currently sits outside year-round due to combustion issues, but other storage options could be explored. A new truck from McNeilus costs \$176,562.00, and the City would probably not have to buy another truck for at least ten years. Supervisor of Public Works

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Rossell will see what price can be obtained for the old truck as is. The item will be placed on the January 6, 2020 agenda.

- 2. Revised Vehicle Impoundment Ordinance:** Attorney McCoy provided a draft ordinance updating the code concerning vehicle impoundment with regard to cannabis laws that will go into effect January 1, 2020. Alderman **Gruner moved** to **table** the discussion on the ordinance to allow further review. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. The item will be placed on the January 6, 2020 agenda.

Mayor's Report:

- Mr. Ron Formhals has been made aware of the situation of the portion of Ann St that he owns that apparently has never been dedicated as a street. He will discuss the matter with his attorney, but is open to resolving this issue.
- The contractor performing drilling operations for MidCentury fiber installation has broken three water mains and one gas line in recent weeks. The digging operations are now shutdown for the season.
- Council members are encouraged to respond to the Knoxville Bulletin's request to provide New Year's Resolutions for a pending article.
- Pictures of a serious water intrusion issue within the Library on the southeast corner of the building were shared. The water intrusion appears to be a result of negligent roofing work being done on the building immediately south of the Library. The Mayor will alert Building Administrator Riggs, and together they will contact the owner of the adjacent building.
- The next Council meeting will be on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:00 pm.
- The next Library Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 7:00 pm.
- A note from the Friends of the Knox County Nursing Home was circulated, thanking the City for the donation made in memory of William Poyner.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrative – Myers: None.

Cemetery – Hillier: None.

Community & Economic Development – Benjamin: Alderman Benjamin thanked Bruner, Cooper, and Zuck for the 2020 calendars.

Parks – Howard: None.

Police – Naslund: None.

Sanitation: None.

Streets – Eiker: Alderman Eiker noted that besides the open position within the Street Department, another Public Works employee has resigned. He requested that a Resolution to hire Trevor Myers for a Full Time Utility position be placed on the January 6, 2020 agenda.

Water/Sewer – Gruner: None.

Adjourn: At 8:04 PM, Alderman **Hillier 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, City Clerk