

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

Monday, March 21, 2022, 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order: Mayor Myers called the regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

All rose to recite the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

Roll Call: Present: Aldermen Eiker, Gruner, Hillier, Hope, Reed and Taylor; Mayor Myers, Treasurer Barnum, Chief Poyner, Attorney McCoy and City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Aldermen Howard and Moore. Also present: Mr. William Munson

Public Comments: Mr. William Munson, 100 Willow Lane, wishes to donate to the Knox County Historical Museum some memorabilia related to the late Gil Hebard. Mr. Munson was thanked and directed to the Historic Sites President Ron Poyner.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Gruner moved** to approve the Minutes of the March 7, 2022 City Council Meeting. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

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

INFORMATION ITEMS

- Mayor Myers noted that the monthly departmental operating reports were available in the online Council packet.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **New City Hall Addition Message Sign:** Clerk Wilt presented a bid from Galesburg Sign and Lighting for a two-sided electronic message board for \$27,601.00. No action was taken, and the item will be placed on the April 4, 2022 agenda.
2. **2022-2023 Wheel Tax Sticker Design:** Account Specialist Melanie Tuthill provided the wheel tax sticker vendor with a line drawing of City Hall and the new annex. A new proof has not been received yet. The item will be placed on the April 4, 2022 agenda.

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3. **Main Street Business District Snow Removal:** Attorney McCoy noted that he has reviewed sidewalk snow removal policies and does not see that other communities charge for the service. Items discussed included start and stop dates, business district boundaries, appropriate charges, use of salt, and approval of business owners. The item will be placed on the April 4, 2022 agenda.
4. **Building Administrator Position:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve the appointment of Joe Lorenzen as Building Administrator, effective April 1, 2022. Alderman **Gruner seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **July 4 Fireworks:** A letter was received from fireworks vendor J&M Displays stating that there is a 20% price increase implemented in 2022, plus there is difficulty obtaining the fireworks from China due to worldwide supply chain issues. There is currently \$7,500.00 appropriated for fireworks. Alderman **Gruner moved** to hold the annual fireworks on July 4, 2022, with a rain date of July 5, 2022. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.
2. **Resolution 2022-02 Hire Full Time Sanitation Worker Marty Sterr:** Full Time Street Department Employee and Painter Marty Sterr has requested to transfer to the open position in the Sanitation Department. Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Resolution 2022-02 Hire Marty Sterr as Sanitation Worker. Alderman **Gruner seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent. There is no rate change with this transfer.
3. **Sewer Plant Gear Motors Replacement:** There are two out of four gear motors at the Wastewater Treatment Plant that are old, broken, and need replacement at approximately \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 per gear. The old gears can be repaired and used as back-ups. Alderman **Gruner moved** to replace two gear motors at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent.
4. **Write Off Final Open Water Bills:** Account Specialist Tuthill had submitted a request to write off open final water bills too small to collect. Alderman **Gruner moved** to write off three uncollected final water bills totaling \$44.49. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and two (2) Absent. Attorney McCoy suggested that this write-off procedure could be part of a city policy.

Mayor's Report:

- City Hall Annex move in day is April 1, 2022 and the office will be closed April 1 and April 4. There will be an open house with light refreshments on Monday, April 4, 2022 from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm, with a ribbon cutting at 3:00 pm.

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- Some cemetery and Orange St trees need removal. Replacement trees will be planted in the cemetery and new ones planted on the west side of the City Hall annex.
- The mayor attended a recent Knox Township meeting to request approval for a TIF District extension, and he will attend a Knoxville School District #202 meeting next week with the same request.
- The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 7:00 pm, the first in the new City Hall Annex. A public hearing on lead water service lines will precede the meeting at 6:30.

Committee Reports

- **Administration:** No report.
- **Cemetery:** Alderman Hillier reported that seasonal mowers are needed.
- **Economic Development:** No report.
- **Parks:** Alderman Reed would like to remove the skateboard park equipment out of the park as soon as the weather permits.
- **Police:** No report.
- **Sanitation:** No report.
- **Streets:** Alderman Eiker reported that the staff have been readying all mowers for the season.
- **Water/Sewer:** Alderman Gruner reported that a resident of his ward was questioning if an alleyway between Locust and Mill Streets has been vacated. A neighbor is using the alleyway as an access to his property and is creating ruts. Attorney McCoy will research the issue.

Adjourn: At 7:55 PM, Alderman **Gruner moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Leslie Wilt
City Clerk