

CITY OF KNOXVILLE
Regular Council Meeting
City Hall Annex, 33 N Public Sq, Knoxville

Monday, June 20, 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, Hope, Moore, Reed and Taylor; Mayor Myers, Treasurer Barnum, Chief Poyner, Attorney McCoy, and City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Alderman Hillier. Also present: Mr. Lyle Plack, Mrs. Melissa Plack, Mr. Jamie Hopkins.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Gruner moved** to approve the minutes of the Appropriations Work Session held on June 6, 2022. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. Alderman **Moore moved** to approve the Minutes of the June 6, 2022 City Council Meeting. Alderman **Eiker 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 **Gruner moved** to approve payment of the City Bills. Alderman **Taylor seconded** the motion which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. **City Hall Annex Message Sign:** Alderman **Gruner moved** to purchase the double face LED monochromatic illuminated message sign from Galesburg Sign and Lighting for \$16,800.00. Alderman **Hope seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and one (1) Absent. The sign is eligible to be paid for with TIF funds.
2. **Abatement Policy for Unkept Yards:** Attorney McCoy presented a draft ordinance for changes to Chapter 15 - Nuisances. Changes include specifically defining nuisance greenery, changing the number of days to address nuisance greenery from ten (10) to five (5), and charging \$100.00 per hour per worker if the City mows the property. The

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Council directed Attorney McCoy to include the ability to fine a violator for a second offense immediately after the initial notice. The Council will review the changes and discuss at the July 5, 2022 Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Employee Health Insurance Options – Sagacity Benefits:** Jamie Hopkins with Sagacity Benefits presented employee health insurance options with United Healthcare and Blue Cross Blue Shield. Renewal of the current United Healthcare plan would increase premiums 13.89%. Additional options will be presented by current broker Dan Hiatt at the July 5, 2022 Council meeting.
- 2. Request from Fire Department to Block Street to Perform Hose Testing:** Lyle and Melissa Plack, representing the Knoxville Fire Department, requested permission to close the South Side of the Public Sq on June 23-24 for a contracted company to perform hose testing. Hurd-Hendricks Funeral Home is aware of and supportive of this closure. Alderman **Gruner moved** to allow the temporary street closure on June 23-24, 2022. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.
- 3. 2022-2023 Appropriations Ordinance:** Clerk Wilt presented a draft copy of the Appropriations Ordinance, including changes submitted at the June 6, 2022 Appropriations Work Session. There will be an Appropriations Public Hearing at 7:00 pm on July 5, 2022.
- 4. Wheel Tax Software Upgrade:** This item was postponed pending additional information.

Mayor's Report:

- Sidewalks and bushes will be removed from the east side of Historic City Hall. Additional wings to the military honor wall will be installed during the week of July 5.
- All LED replacement lighting has been installed in the parks and city buildings, which will make the City eligible for Ameren rebates.
- The James Knox Park restrooms were vandalized with graffiti.
- The City paid \$7,500.00 in 2017 to demolish the home at 207 E North St. The City would now like to sell the lot for a minimum of \$10,000.00 by closed bids. The item will be placed on the July 5, 2022 Council agenda.
- The solar project at the wastewater treatment plant will cover one acre, with all trees removed from the area.
- Engineer Cooper will be contacted to begin the procedure to take out one quarter of the road on the northeast side Circle Drive to assist with drainage in the area.
- Council members will pass donation buckets during the July 4 fireworks.

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- A public hearing about the 2022-2023 Appropriations Ordinance will be held on Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 7:00 pm, immediately followed by the regular Council meeting.

Committee Reports

- **Administration:** No report.
- **Cemetery:** No report.
- **Economic Development:** No report.
- **Parks:** No report.
- **Police:** Alderman Moore reported that a new back up data storage system costing \$1,400.00 will be purchased and paid for from the Drug/DUI account. Also, the current tasers are becoming obsolete and will need replacing. This will be placed on the July 5, 2022 Council agenda.
- **Sanitation:** No report.
- **Streets:** No report.
- **Water/Sewer:** Alderman Gruner reported that he has been receiving better communications recently from the BOCK employees at the wastewater treatment plant.

Adjourn: At 8:03 PM, Alderman **Gruner moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Leslie Wilt
City Clerk