

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

Monday, January 16, 2023, 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, Moore, and Reed; Mayor Myers, Treasurer Barnum, Chief Poyner and City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Alderman Taylor, Attorney McCoy. Also present: Mr. Doug Honeyman, Ms. Penny Flesner.

Public Comments: Doug Honeyman, 319 E North St, addressed the Council about concerns with the property at 317 E North St. The house is empty, with trash outside, and with feral animals accessing the home. The water was not shut off, and during the December cold snap, the pipes burst and flooded the area, causing Mr. Honeyman's sump pumps to continuously run and water to come in his basement. The water is now turned off, and Mayor Myers noted that the City will continue to monitor the situation.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Eiker moved** to approve the Minutes of the January 3, 2022 City Council Meeting. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with one abstention.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: No report.

Engineer Report: No report.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Barnum stated that \$300,000.00 had been transferred in January from the Town checking account to the Town Money Market account, to take advantage of the higher interest rate.

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 one (1) Absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Yard Waste Burning Options:** Mayor Myers suggested changing Section 10-2-2 of the City Code to move from a burning ban one day a week to four days a week – Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. He suggested that the penalties section be revised to include penalties of \$100.00, \$250.00, and \$750.00 for first, second and third burning

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offenses, at the discretion of the police officer. A new section would be added to the code about the compost pile and tree dump, including penalties for illegal dumping and contamination of \$250.00, \$500.00, and \$750.00 for first, second and third offenses. New cameras may need to be purchased to monitor the area. Aldermen were asked to bring proposed changes to the February 20, 2023 Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **TIF Request – Guel’s Inc 310 W Main St – Knoxville Bar & Grill:** By general consensus, the Council was favorable towards this request, and directed that the request go before the Zoning Board of Appeals for a recommendation for approval.
2. **July 4 Fireworks:** The appropriated amount of \$8,000.00 for fireworks includes donations of \$727.54 collected at the 2022 fireworks. Alderman **Gruner moved** to hold the annual fireworks on July 4, 2023, with a rain date of July 5, 2023, and to spend \$8,000.00. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with six (6) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

Mayor’s Report:

- Clean-up week, traditionally held in April each year, may be cancelled, and will be discussed at the February 6, 2023 Council meeting.
- For consideration – new garbage containers and retro-fit trucks for automated pick-up. This item will be discussed at the February 20, 2023 Council meeting.
- No update on the solar project at the wastewater treatment plant.
- The Mayor, Alderman Gruner, and Bock employee Cruse will meet soon at the wastewater treatment plant to go over operations and needed repairs.
- Two police squad vehicles are currently out of commission due to accidents.
- Property tax deposits to the TIF account will begin again in June 2023. If an approved TIF project is eligible to be paid out before then, the requestor may have to wait until funds become available.
- A bid has been received for Courthouse pillar repair and outside upper level painting. This project will be placed on the February 6, 2023 Council agenda.
- The interior drywall work at the Library is progressing.
- The Old National Bank is leaving Knoxville in March 2023, leaving an empty building at 324 E Main St. Suggested uses are a community center, a Dollar Tree/Family Dollar, or moving the Library from its current location.
- A note from Hospice Compassus was circulated, thanking the City for the donation in memory of Jane Myers.
- The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held on Monday, February 6, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Committee Reports

- **Administration:** No report.
- **Cemetery:** No report.

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- **Economic Development:** No report.
- **Parks:** No report.
- **Police:** No report.
- **Sanitation:** No report.
- **Streets:** No report.
- **Water/Sewer:** Alderman Gruner noted that the sewer televising project has been completed, and the results are viewable on a flash drive. To cut down on costs for any immediate repairs, the City will order parts and haul any rock that is needed.

Adjourn: At 7:51 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