

CITY OF KNOXVILLE

Regular Council Meeting

Council Chambers, Knoxville City Hall Annex, 33 N Public Sq, Knoxville IL

Monday, April 3, 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, Reed and Taylor; Mayor Myers, Treasurer Barnum, Chief Poyner, and City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Alderman Moore, Attorney McCoy, Engineer Cooper. Also present: Mrs. Dawn Hutchison, Ms. Penny Flesner, Officer Zac Cox.

Public Comments: Chief Poyner provided copies of a video of the recent school shooting in Nashville TN. He commented that if there were to be a similar shooting in Knoxville, most likely he would be the only officer available to respond, with no back-up. He stated that there are currently four full time officers, including himself, but one is in academy training and one will probably be leaving soon to join a different agency. He is concerned for the future status of the department. He stated that police wages and benefits need to be competitive to hire qualified candidates, both full time and part time, and asked that this problem be addressed.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Gruner moved** to approve the Minutes of the March 20, 2023 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: Treasurer Barnum stated that she had transferred \$24,664.12 from the Sewer Capital Improvement MMDA to the Sewer Fund Checking account in March to cover two invoices.

City Clerk's Report: No report.

INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

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- 1. Spring Scenic Drive:** Mrs. Dawn Hutchison, chair of the Knoxville stop of the Knox County Scenic Drive reported that a Spring Drive, not associated with the official fall drive, will be held on May 6-7, 2023. By general consent, Mrs. Hutchison was given permission to hold the Spring Drive and to co-mingle funds between the Spring and Fall Drives to assist with expenses. A recommendation about Knoxville separating from the Knox County Scenic Drive after the October 2023 Drive will be put before the Council in the fall of 2023.
- 2. Commercial Yard Waste Disposal:** Disposal of yard waste by commercial lawn services was not addressed in Ordinance 2023-01. By general consent, only residents will be allowed to dispose of yard waste at the City tree dump. Attorney McCoy will be asked to draft an ordinance with this clarification.
- 3. Resolution 2023-02 Hire Full Time Sanitation Employee Patrick Rose:** Alderman **Eiker moved** to approve Resolution 2023-02 to hire Patrick Rose as Sanitation Employee at \$19.00 per hour. Alderman **Hope seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with six (6) Yes votes and one (1) Absent.

Mayor's Report:

- The Easter Egg Hunt on April 2, 2023 at James Knox Park was a success, with over 4000 eggs and 300 children served. Thank you to chair Heather Hawkinson.
- The solar farm at the Wastewater Treatment Plant is progressing.
- The TIF Joint Review Board Meeting was held April 4, 2023, to review FY2021 and FY2022 TIF annual reports.
- Severe storms forecasted for March 31, 2023 did not materialize, but the need for a City emergency plan and storm shelter options is evident. An emergency committee will be formed consisting of representatives from Police/Fire/Council.
- The Knoxville School District 202 decision to use a different trash collection service is on hold, so the City will continue to collect their trash as usual for now.
- The superintendent of Knoxville School District 202 will meet with the mayor soon to request TIF funding for an intergovernmental agreement.
- The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 17, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the City Hall Annex. Preceding that meeting, there will be a closed session Administrative Committee meeting to discuss wages at 6:00 PM.

Committee Reports:

- **Administration:** No report.
- **Cemetery:** No report.
- **Economic Development:** No report.
- **Parks:** No report.
- **Police:** No report.
- **Sanitation:** No report.
- **Streets:** Alderman Eiker reported that the Kubota utility vehicle had arrived, and has been put into use.

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- **Water/Sewer:** Alderman Gruner reported that the emergency sewer repairs for issues discovered during the televising process had been completed. The IL EPA notified the City of violations at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Bock Inc has been informed and is addressing these violations. The Fire Department used water from both water towers for an out of town fire recently.

Adjourn: At 8:00 PM, Alderman **Eiker moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Gruner seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Leslie Wilt
City Clerk