

CITY OF KNOXVILLE

Regular Council Meeting

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

Monday, May 20, 2024, 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, Rainey, and Reed; Mayor Myers, Treasurer Barnum, Chief Poyner, Attorney McCoy, and City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Aldermen Hope, Moore, and Taylor. Also present: Mrs. Dawn Hutchinson, Mrs. Jill Davis, Ms. Penny Flesner.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Gruner moved** to approve the Minutes of the May 6, 2024 City Council Meeting. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: Attorney McCoy noted the following:

- Two of the homeowners on Route 150 west of the city limits have requested to annex in to the City. An Ordinance will be drafted.
- 209 N Hebard St – the yard is not mowed, and the bank that now owns the property is ignoring any contact.
- 206 S Line St – the City and neighbors have been mowing the yard as needed.
- The annual appropriations ordinance must be filed by July 31, 2024. A public hearing is required. Mayor Myers set an appropriations work session at 6:00 PM on June 17, 2024, before the regular Council meeting.

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 **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

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- 1. Park Water Fountain:** The drinking fountain at James Knox Park has a leak and is not considered repairable. A new fountain would cost about \$6,000.00, including a new, potable water source. Alderman **Eiker moved** to remove the drinking fountain at James Knox Park and not replace it. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.
- 2. Yard Waste Bag & Sticker Pricing:** Clerk Wilt stated that the cost of yard waste bags had been increasing steadily, and that the most recent bags purchased cost \$1.04 each. The cost to residents has not changed in at least 12 years. Alderman **Hillier moved** to increase the price of city yard waste bags from \$1.25 to \$1.50, effective immediately. Alderman **Reed seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent. The yard waste sticker price will remain at \$1.75.
- 3. Resolution 2024-35 – Temporary Road Closure for Homecoming Parade September 20, 2024:** Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve Resolution 2024-35 Temporary Road Closure for Homecoming Parade September 20, 2024. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with no dissent.

Mayor's Report:

- The Farmer's Market starts May 22, 2024 at the west end of Central Park.
- There were more applicants for open police positions after the base pay rate was increased on May 1, 2024.
- The James Knox Park bathrooms have been vandalized. The possible purchase of new, no-touch fixtures will be discussed at a future Council meeting.
- The process has begun to select streets to tar and chip for this year's street maintenance program.
- A letter from Knoxville High School Project Graduation was circulated, thanking the Council for sponsorship.
- The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 3, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

Committee Reports

- **Administration:** No report.
- **Cemetery:** No report.
- **Economic Development:** No report.
- **Parks:** Alderman Reed reported that he is working with a school group on setting up a fundraising pickleball tournament to be held at James Knox Park.
- **Police:** Chief Poyner has issued 29 abatements so far in 2024, mostly for unkept yards.
- **Sanitation:** No report.
- **Streets:** No report.
- **Water/Sewer:** Alderman Gruner reported that the blower at the wastewater treatment plant may need repair soon.

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Adjourn: At 7:17 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