

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

Monday, July 20, 2020, 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order: Mayor Maurer called the City of Knoxville Public Hearing on the 2020-2021 Appropriations Ordinance to order at 7:00 PM.

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

Roll Call: Present: Aldermen Eiker, Gruner, Hillier, Hope, and Myers; Mayor Maurer, Treasurer Bivens, Chief of Police Poyner, Attorney McCoy, Engineer Cooper, and City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Aldermen Benjamin, Howard, and Naslund. Also in attendance: Mr. Keith Vaughn, Officer Barry Petzold, Ms. Diane Gilman, Ms. Michelle Walker, Mr. Dan Hiatt. Alderman Howard was present on the virtual Zoom session.

Public Comments: None.

Adjourn: As there were no public comments, Alderman **Myers moved** to adjourn the Public Hearing. Alderman **Gruner seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. The Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:02 PM.

Call to Order: Mayor Maurer called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Roll Call: Present: Aldermen Eiker, Gruner, Hillier, Hope, and Myers; Mayor Maurer, Treasurer Bivens, Chief of Police Poyner, Attorney McCoy, Engineer Cooper, and City Clerk Wilt. **Absent:** Aldermen Benjamin, Howard, and Naslund. Also in attendance: Mr. Keith Vaughn, Mr. Barry Petzold, Ms. Diane Gilman, Ms. Michelle Walker, Mr. Dan Hiatt. Alderman Howard was present on the virtual Zoom session.

Public Comments:

- Officer Barry Petzold recapped his February 2020 injury and subsequent medical treatments, and stated that he felt he was not getting satisfaction from the employee insurance. Mr. Dan Hiatt, insurance services representative from John Graham and Associates, addressed Officer Petzold's concerns and will work with him for resolution. Officer Petzold also asked the Council to consider adding long term disability coverage for employees.
- Employee Michelle Walker recapped her health issues from May 2020, and also expressed concern about her insurance coverage. Mr. Hiatt will work with Ms. Walker for resolution.

Approval of Minutes: Alderman **Gruner moved** to approve the Minutes of the July 6, 2020 City Council Meeting. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

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GENERAL REPORTS

Attorney Report: No report.

Engineer Report: Engineer Cooper reported that the annual oil and chip project is scheduled for the week of August 3, 2020, and that the Wastewater Treatment Plant sewer discharge permit had been received.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bivens noted that the maturity dates for some CD's were missing on her monthly report, and an updated version will be issued.

City Clerk's Report: No report.

Payment of City Bills: Alderman **Hillier moved** to approve payment of the City Bills; Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Ordinance 2020-07 Appropriations:** Mayor Maurer presented the final draft of the 2020-2021 Appropriations Ordinance, which totaled \$4,796,870.00. Alderman Eiker asked to amend line item 742-000 Contract Services for the Street Department from \$20,000.00 to \$30,000.00. Alderman **Myers moved** to adopt Ordinance 2020-07 Appropriations, as amended, for a total of \$4,806,870.00. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.
2. **Ordinance 2020-08 Amending Number of Liquor Licenses:** Attorney McCoy provided a draft ordinance amending Section 4-1-7 of the Liquor Ordinance which changes the number of licenses for Class GS – Grocery Store and Class D – Hotel to zero (0), reduces Class B from four (4) to three (3) licenses, and adds one (1) Class E license to increase from three (3) to four (4). The additional Class E license is intended for the Knoxville Mercantile, pending acceptance of their application. Alderman **Myers moved** to approve Ordinance 2020-08 Amending Number of Liquor Licenses. Alderman **Eiker seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent. Knoxville Mercantile partner Keith Vaughn addressed the Council about paying over the concrete area in front of his location at 320 E Main St. Alderman Eiker will look into this request.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Employee Health Insurance Renewal:** Mr. Dan Hiatt, with John Graham & Associates, presented employee health insurance options. Renewal with current provider National General has increased 72%. Mr. Hiatt recommended selecting plans with former provider United Healthcare, or with Blue Cross Blue Shield. He will meet with Mayor

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Maurer and City Clerk Wilt on Thursday, July 23, to discuss details on recommended plans. This item will be revisited at the August 3, 2020 Council meeting.

2. **Use Request for City Owned North St Lot North of Big Catz BBQ:** Big Catz BBQ has requested to use the city-owned lot north of their restaurant at 221 E Main St during a National Guard Bags Tournament on Saturday, August 15, 2020 from 11:00am-6:00pm. Alderman **Gruner moved** to approve the request. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent. The Council requests that Big Catz BBQ provide proof of insurance for this event.
3. **Resolution 2020-48 – Hire Part Time Library Assistant Jady Walker:** Alderman **Myers moved** to approve Resolution 2020-48 to hire Jady Walker at \$10.00 per hour, contingent on her passing pre-employment screening. Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent.
4. **Employee Boot Reimbursement Policy:** Alderman **Eiker moved** to change the maximum reimbursement for work boots for full time employees from \$125.00 to \$175.00. Alderman **Gruner seconded** the motion, which **passed** with five (5) Yes votes and three (3) Absent. The policy for part time employees will be discussed at the August 3, 2020 Council meeting
5. **Proposed City Hall Addition:** Engineer Cooper presented draft plans for an addition to City Hall. A 2,100 sq ft standalone addition would connect on the west side, via walkway, to the existing building, which would be reconfigured. The new building would house Council chambers, private offices, two bathrooms, a mechanical room, and a vestibule and pass through window for visitors. Two façade choices were presented. The total cost is \$540,000.00. Alderman Myers suggested that the City could do some of the work to offset the cost, and Mayor Maurer will research TIF funding eligibility. By general consent, the Council agreed to move forward with this project, and are to give any suggestions about the project to Alderman Myers.

Mayor's Report:

- A note from the family of former Alderman Frank Olin was circulated, thanking the City for the memorial donation following his passing.
- COVID-19 cases are on the rise in Knox County. City employees need to exercise caution and best safety practices during work hours.
- The Mayor met with Interim School District 202 Superintendent Joe Burgess on July 1, 2020.
- The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held on Monday, August 3, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Committee Reports

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

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- **Parks:** No report.
- **Police:** No report.
- **Sanitation:** Alderman Hope reported that the new dumpsters have arrived.
- **Streets:** Alderman Eiker reported that Love's Travel Stop has begun installing their solar field.
- **Water/Sewer:** No report.

Adjourn: At 8:54 PM, Alderman **Gruner moved** to Adjourn the Meeting; Alderman **Hillier seconded** the motion, which **passed** by voice vote with no dissent.

Submitted by:

Leslie Wilt
City Clerk