

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 15, 2011

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 15, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Buttram presiding. The invocation was given by Council Member Davis; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Davis, Jackson, Pelley, Perkinson, Buttram

The following decisions were made and ordered made a part of the records of the Athens City Council.

- 1 -

MINUTES

The Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting on January 18, 2011 were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

- 2 -

COMMUNICATIONS

PRESENTATION OF VIVID AWARD

Council Member Davis presented the *Very Important Volunteer Individual Award* for the month of February 2011 to Walter and Kathleen Payne for their outstanding support of this community. Mr. and Mrs. Payne were present to accept the award.

- 3 -

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Buttram stated they did not have any miscellaneous correspondence this month.

- 4 -

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

AUDIENCE

Mayor Buttram opened the meeting for petitions and requests from the audience. There were none presented at this time.

- 5 -

REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Brad Harris, Finance Director, presented the Finance Department Report for the month of January 2011. After brief comments, the report was accepted as presented.

- 6 -

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Chuck Ziegler presented the Police Department Report for the month of January 2011. After brief comments, the report was accepted as presented.

- 7 -

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Jim Dyer presented the Fire Department Report for the month of January 2011. After brief comments, the report was accepted as presented.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Buttram advised that the following items were discussed during the recent work session and are presented as a part of the Consent Agenda. The recording clerk read the items into the record:

- a.) Approve staff's recommendation to declare the following as surplus property and authorize public sale or disposal thereof: five (5) partition screens, twenty (20) in-car video recorders, and one (1) 2004 Dodge Durango as detailed in memorandum from Brad Harris, Finance Director dated February 2, 2011;
- b.) Approve Budget Amendment No. 1 for FY 2010/11 dated February 1, 2011;
- c.) Reappoint Vickie Proffitt to serve another three-year term on Keep McMinn Beautiful Committee, term expires March 6, 2014;
- d.) Reappoint Connie Murphy to serve another three-year term on Keep McMinn Beautiful Committee, term expires March 6, 2014;
- e.) Approve recommendation to sunset the Southeast Tennessee Trade and Conference Center Board.

On motion by Vice Mayor Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Davis, the Consent Agenda as stated above was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Davis, Jackson, Pelley, Perkinson, Buttram
NAYS: None

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NEW BUSINESS

RECOMMENDATION FROM PLANNING COMMISSION

ORDINANCE NO. 992 – FIRST READING

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ‘THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE,’ SO AS TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO REZONE PROPERTIES IN AN AREA GENERALLY BOUND BY DECATUR PIKE, CONGRESS PARKWAY, MADISON AVENUE AND OLD RICEVILLE ROAD AND REFERENCED AS “AREA ‘A’”, IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE SPLIT ZONED PARCELS, TO CORRECT CERTAIN GRANDFATHERED USES, AS WELL AS PLACE PROPERTY IN MORE APPROPRIATE ZONES FOR DEVELOPMENT; SAID AREA BEING LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE AND SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED MAPS.”

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. **Motion was made by Council Member Pelley, seconded by Council Member Jackson, to approve Ordinance No. 992 on First Reading.** Upon roll call, the first reading of Ordinance No. 992 was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Davis, Jackson, Pelley Perkinson, Buttram
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

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TOURISM PROGRAM CONTRIBUTION (\$5,000)

A motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Davis, to contribute \$5,000 from the Contingency account to the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce for tourism programming. Council Member Davis stated that this item was discussed at the City Council retreat and noted that an investment in tourism by other communities had resulted in a significant increase in sales tax revenue. After brief discussion, the motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Davis, Jackson, Perkinson, Buttram
NAYS: Pelley

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COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT – ATHENS HOUSING AUTHORITY

A motion was made by Council Member Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Perkinson, to appoint Carl Williams to the Athens Housing Authority for a five-year term; term expires March 6, 2016. Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Davis, Jackson, Pelley, Perkinson, Buttram
NAYS: None

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT – ATHENS UTILITIES BOARD

Mayor Buttram advised members of the Council that a new application had been received after their work session and was in their folder. Council Member Pelley nominated Francis Witt-McMahan and Vice Mayor Perkinson nominated Robert Sevigny to fill the vacancy on the Athens Utilities Board. Council Member Pelley stated that Ms. Witt-McMahan was a hard working, industrious member of the community and had only her dissertation left before she earned her doctorate. He stated she was qualified and capable to serve on the board. Council Member Pelley felt that since a woman was going off the board they should fill the vacancy with another woman. Also, a minority representative would send a clear message that the city welcomes women on its committees. Vice Mayor Perkinson stated that he also felt that Ms. Witt-McMahan was qualified for the position but he had been looking at Robert Sevigny’s application for a year or two. Council Member Davis felt there were many qualified candidates but noted that Mr. Sevigny had been attending the Athens Utilities Board meetings for quite some time which spoke highly of his motivation to serve on this committee. Council Member Jackson commented that they had received all of the other applications at work session and at the Council Planning Session for review. He stated that he did not know Ms. Witt-McMahan though he would like to know her and vet her application like he did with the other candidates. **A motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Pelley, to table this appointment until the March 22, 2011 City Council meeting.** Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Davis, Jackson, Pelley, Perkinson, Buttram
NAYS: None

BEER BOARD

6:37 P.M.....The Athens City Council recessed and reconvened as the Athens Beer Board

PERMIT HOLDER NAME CHANGE

A motion was made by Board Member Pelley, seconded by Board Member Perkinson, to approve a request to amend the present CVS/Pharmacy #03783 beer permit to change the name of the permit holder to Tennessee CVS Pharmacy, L.L.C. Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Davis, Jackson, Pelley, Perkinson, Buttram
NAYS: None

6:39 P.M.....The Athens Beer Board adjourned and reconvened as the Athens City Council

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MANAGER'S REPORT

Mayor Buttram congratulated City Manager Moore on his appointment to the National League of Cities' (NLC) 2011 Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations Policy and Advocacy Steering Committee. The NLC is a national organization that in asking City Manager Moore to serve on this committee recognizes his qualifications and expertise. City Manager Moore presented the Manager's Report. He reviewed the progress of current city projects/meetings scheduled during the months of February and March. After brief comments, the report was accepted as presented.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

R. HAL BUTTRAM, Mayor

MITCHELL B. MOORE, City Manager