

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, JUNE 18, 2013

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 18, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Buttram presiding. The invocation was given by Mayor Buttram; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Burris, Pelley, Perkinson, Davis, Buttram

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

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MINUTES

The Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of May 21, 2013 and the Called Meetings of June 6, 2013 and June 10, 2013 were submitted and approved by unanimous consent. Council Member Perkinson stated for clarification purposes the 2% merit increase referred to in the May 21, 2013 Minutes was actually a merit increase of 0% up to 2%.

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COMMUNICATIONS

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION - "AMATEUR RADIO WEEK"

Mayor Buttram read a proclamation declaring the week of June 17 - 23, 2013 as Amateur Radio Week. Several members of the McMinn County Amateur Radio Club were present to accept the proclamation and everyone was invited to attend the Amateur Radio Field Day exercises June 22 - 23, 2013 at the Athens Regional Park lake pavilion.

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PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION - "NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES SMALL CITIES MONTH"

Council Member Perkinson read a proclamation declaring the month of June 2013 as National League of Cities Small Cities Month and encouraged everyone to work together to invest in small cities and towns to better the lives of all citizens. Mayor Buttram recognized Council Member Perkinson for his involvement on the Small Cities Council through the National League of Cities.

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MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Buttram acknowledged receipt of letters of appreciation for services performed.

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PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

AUDIENCE

David Davis, 1903 Congress Parkway, stated that he was a friend of Don Ledford, Sr. and they both had an interest in development along Congress Parkway. He commented that it appeared the City Council had mandated that Mr. Ledford build a sidewalk on a city right-of-way in exchange for closing a street that divides Mr. Ledford's property. The purpose of the closure was to enable Mr. Ledford to renovate Don Ledford Auto Park. Mr. Davis remarked that Don Ledford Auto Park pays in excess of \$1,000,000 a year in taxes and had paid \$1,283,016 in the past twelve months. He stated this did not include property taxes and business licenses. Mr. Davis asked why Mr. Ledford is being required to build a sidewalk to nowhere. Mr. Davis stated that the City should do the right thing and close the street. If the City wants a sidewalk then the City should build it. Kikki White, 157 South Jackson Street, asked why the Tourism Director had not been attending the monthly City Council meetings. She asked why the City was spending

money on an earth sheltered building now located at the Recycling Center when it was originally going to be located by I-75. Ms. White asked if the Council was aware of the city tree that fell on her neighbor's carport on Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. She stated she had made several attempts to warn the City that the trees were about to fall and cause major property damage. Now one of those trees had fallen and taken down the power lines with it. Ms. White commented that South Jackson Street is the most historical street in the community and wanted to know when the City was going to do something to improve it. Council Member Perkinson asked if the comments of Ms. White could be addressed at their next work session. Mayor Buttram asked City Manager Moore to place Ms. White's issues on the July 8<sup>th</sup> Work Session agenda for discussion and also include Mr. Davis' comments.

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REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Michael Keith, Finance Director, presented the Finance Department Report for the month of May 2013. The report was accepted as presented.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Chuck Ziegler presented the Police Department Report for the month of May 2013. The report was accepted as presented.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Jim Dyer presented the Fire Department Report for the month of May 2013. 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 Athens Utilities Board budget for Fiscal Year 2013/14;
- b.) Approve Athens City Board of Education Budget Amendment No. 3 for Fiscal Year 2012/2013;
- c.) Approve Athens City Board of Education Budget Amendment No. 4 for Fiscal Year 2012/2013;
- d.) Accept bid (Bid No. 1588 dated May 22, 2013) as submitted by Electro-Mech for Scoreboards;
- e.) Approve Resolution No. 2013-23 authorizing the acceptance of a Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program through the U.S. Department of Justice for Fiscal Year 2013;
- f.) Approve Medical Insurance Proposal as submitted by CIGNA for year beginning July 1, 2013;
- g.) Reappoint James Dodson to serve another term on the Recreation Advisory Board, term expires June 30, 2017;

- h.) Appoint Ron Starr to serve on the Recreation Advisory Board, term expires June 30, 2017.

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

**AYES: Burris, Pelley, Perkinson, Davis, Buttram**  
**NAYS: None**

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ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 1020 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO TEMPORARILY CONTINUE THE FISCAL YEAR 2013 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014.

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. Mayor Buttram opened the public hearing. There being no one present wishing to discuss the Ordinance, Public Hearing was closed. Mayor Buttram stated the reason for the continuance ordinance was because the City had not received its certified tax rate from the State. The delay was due to the property reappraisals. **A motion was made by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Burris, to approve Ordinance No. 1020 on Second and Final Reading.** Ordinance No. 1020 was approved by the following roll call vote:

**AYES: Burris, Pelley, Perkinson, Davis, Buttram**  
**NAYS: None**  
**ABSENT: None**

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NEW BUSINESS

AUTHORIZATION OF DONATION TO MCMINN CAREER ACADEMY

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Davis, seconded by Mayor Buttram, to authorize a one hundred fifty dollar (\$150) donation to the McMinn Career Academy.** Vice Mayor Davis stated the donation was for another initiative of the Workforce Development Board involving the junior and senior high school students from both high schools. The students go through eight (8) days of training including touring plants and working on a class project to be completed by the end of the program. If approved the check should be made payable to the Tennessee Technology Center. Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote:

**AYES: Burris, Pelley, Perkinson, Davis, Buttram**  
**NAYS: None**


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MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Moore presented the Manager's Report. He reviewed the progress of current city projects/meetings scheduled during the months of June and July. 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 6:53 p.m.

  
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R. HAL BUTTRAM, Mayor

  
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MITCHELL B. MOORE, City Manager