

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, JANUARY 21, 2014

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 21, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Buttram presiding. The invocation was given by Council Member Perkinson; 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.

A motion was made by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Vice Mayor Davis, to omit from the agenda item XII (b) on the proposed ordinance to raise the sales and use tax and request a referendum of the people to approve the ordinance. Council Member Perkinson stated the Council needed more information and an opportunity to gather the information before they proceed. Council Member Pelley asked if there would be enough time to place this referendum on the May ballot if they omitted it from the agenda. City Manager Moore responded that would depend on the City Council timing. The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

- 1 -
MINUTES

The Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of December 17, 2013 was submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

- 2 -
COMMUNICATIONS

PRESENTATION OF VIVID AWARD

Vice Mayor Davis presented the Very Important Volunteer Individual Award for January 2014 to Debby Herbert for her outstanding support of this community. Mrs. Herbert stated she was honored to receive the award and thanked the City Council.

- 3 -
PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

AUDIENCE

Mayor Buttram opened the meeting for petitions and requests from the audience. Robert Greene, Director of Athens City Schools, stated the 2013 Report Card for Athens City Schools had been received from the Tennessee Department of Education and they ranked 1st in Math and 2nd in Reading in the Southeast District Ranking and 14th in Math and 23rd in Reading in the System State Ranking. He wanted to congratulate the teachers, administrators, staff and parents. C. David Derrick, 102 Nash Drive, stated he wanted to speak on the sales tax issue even though the item had been removed from the agenda. Mr. Derrick felt the .75% increase in sales tax was too much and a .25% increase would be more appropriate. He commented that several of his neighbors and friends had expressed their displeasure over some of the projects the City was applying for grant funding. These grants are not free and the City has to provide a certain amount of matching dollars. Mr. Derrick acknowledged revenues had not kept up with expenses but felt administrative costs were too high. Council Member Perkinson invited the public to contact the City Manager's office if they were interested in reviewing a detailed report of recent grant projects.

- 4 -
REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

- 5 -

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

- 6 -

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Jim Dyer presented the Fire Department Report for the month of December 2013. The report was accepted as presented.

- 7 -

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUARTERLY/ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Anthony Casteel, Community Development Director, presented the Building Permit Quarterly/Annual Report for the City of Athens. The report was accepted as presented.

- 8 -

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 Resolution No. 2014-01 to declare the week of January 19-25, 2014, Athens Flood Awareness Week;
- b.) Approve Resolution No. 2014-02 to authorize extension of a contract with SealMaster of Tennessee for bituminous surface treatment through May 30, 2015;
- c.) Approve Resolution No. 2014-03 to authorize extension of a contract with Huggins Lawn Care for cemetery maintenance of designated city cemeteries through March 30, 2015;
- d.) Approve Resolution No. 2014-04 to authorize extension of a contract with Alpha Omega Lawn and Landscaping for park maintenance/mowing of city-owned properties designated as Sections I and III and authorizing an addendum to the contract to include city-owned property on Redfern Drive through March 30, 2015;
- e.) Approve proposal to add SETHRA bus parking areas near SETHRA office.

On motion by Council Member Pelley, seconded by Council Member Burris, the Consent Agenda as stated above was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

- 9 -

NEW BUSINESS

ATHENS CITY SCHOOLS PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENT #1 – FY 2013/2014

A motion was made by Council Member Pelley, seconded by Council Member Perkinson to approve Athens City Schools proposed Budget Amendment #1 for fiscal year 2013/2014. The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

- 10 -

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 January and February. The report was accepted as presented.

- 11 -

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.



R. HAL BUTTRAM, Mayor



MITCHELL B. MOORE, City Manager