

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, JUNE 17, 2014

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 17, 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.

- 1 -
MINUTES

The Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of May 20, 2014 was submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

- 2 -
COMMUNICATIONS

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE FROM THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES (NLC)

Council Member Perkinson presented to City Manager Moore and Human Resource Director Rita Brown a certificate which was presented to him at the NLC Small Cities Council Steering Committee Summer Meeting in recognition of saving city residents more than \$500,000 on the cost of prescriptions through the NLC Prescription Discount Card Program since the inception of the program in early 2009. The City of Athens is currently ranked fourth in the country in total savings behind such cities as: Detroit, Michigan; Monroe, North Carolina; and Clarksburg, West Virginia. City Manager Moore asked that the certificate be presented to Ms. Brown since she did all the work necessary to bring this program to the citizens of Athens. Ms. Brown stated Athens was one of the first cities to start this program and the area pharmacies were very helpful in implementing it.

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PRESENTATION OF VIVID AWARD

Vice Mayor Davis presented the Very Important Volunteer Individual Award for June 2014 to the McMinn County Amateur Radio Club for its outstanding support of this community. Several members of the McMinn County Amateur Radio Club were present to accept the award. Phil Prichard, President, stated he was honored and humbled to receive the award on behalf of the McMinn County Amateur Radio Club. Mr. Prichard briefly explained the purpose of the club and announced their upcoming events. He encouraged everyone to attend.

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PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION - AMATEUR RADIO WEEK

Mayor Buttram read a proclamation declaring the week of June 23-29, 2014 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 28-29, 2014 at the Athens Regional Park lake pavilion.

- 5 -

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Buttram acknowledged receipt of a thank you letter from North City School for allowing them to borrow the stage for their 90th Anniversary and Reunion.

- 6 -

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

AUDIENCE

Mayor Buttram opened the meeting for petitions and requests from the audience. Ray Priest, 919 Stephanie Lane, distributed to members of the City Council a summary of actions he had taken in an attempt to have the property at 1823 Hammerhill Road cleaned up. Mr. Priest asked to have this matter brought up at the next City Council Work Session. Mayor Buttram requested this item be placed on the July Work Session agenda for discussion.

- 7 -

REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Michael Keith, Finance Director, presented the Finance Department Report for the month of May 2014. The report was accepted as presented.

- 8 -

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Chuck Ziegler presented the Police Department Report for the month of May 2014. The report was accepted as presented.

- 9 -

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Dyer presented the Fire Department Report for the month of May 2014. 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. Council Member Perkinson acknowledged his wife, Lynn Perkinson, was being considered for appointment under item j. of the Consent Agenda. The recording clerk read the items into the record:

- a.) Approve Athens Utilities Board budget for Fiscal Year 2014/15;
- b.) Approve Athens City Board of Education Budget Amendments Nos. 2 and 3 for Fiscal Year 2013-2014;
- c.) Approve Medical Insurance Proposal as submitted by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee for year beginning July 1, 2014;
- d.) Accept low bid (Bid No. 1604 dated May 23, 2014) as submitted by Progression Electric LLC for traffic signal renovation for Congress Parkway at Ingleside Avenue;
- e.) Approve Resolution No. 2014-12 to authorize extension of contract with MCS for mobile container services through June 30, 2015;
- f.) Approve Resolution No. 2014-13 to authorize a User Agreement with TWC to maintain/develop Knight Park;

- g.) Accept resignation by Troy Huff on Board of Adjustments and Appeals, Board of Zoning Appeals, and Council Advisory Committee;
- h.) Approve appointment of Kenny Charles to Board of Zoning Appeals to fill vacancy, term expires June 30, 2018;
- i.) Approve appointment of Carolyn Crawford to Council Advisory Committee to fill vacancy, term expires March 21, 2015;
- j.) Approve appointment of Lynn Perkinson to Library Committee, term expires June 30, 2017;
- k.) Approve appointment of Johnny Coffman to Recreation Advisory Board, term expires June 30, 2018.

On motion by Vice Mayor Davis, seconded by Mayor Buttram, 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. 1025 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, SO AS TO AMEND TITLE 14, CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 3.04.06.B., 3.04.07.B. AND 3.04.08.B. TO ADD REGULATIONS THAT ADDRESS MUSEUMS WITH OR WITHOUT TOURS IN THE B-1 LOCAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, B-2 CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT AND B-3 INTENSIVE BUSINESS DISTRICT AS PERMITTED USES; AND PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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. **A motion was made by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Vice Mayor Davis, to approve Ordinance No. 1025 on Second and Final Reading.** Ordinance No. 1025 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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ORDINANCE NO. 1026 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, SO AS TO AMEND TITLE 14, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 4.22 FENCES, WALLS AND HEDGES TO ADD REGULATIONS THAT ADDRESS FENCE SETBACKS IN ALL ZONING DISTRICTS; AND PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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. **A motion was made by Council Member Burris, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, to approve Ordinance No. 1026 on Second and Final Reading.** Ordinance No. 1026 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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ORDINANCE NO. 1027 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, SO AS TO AMEND TITLE 14, CHAPTER 2, SECTIONS 3.04.06.C. AND 3.04.08.C. TO ADD REGULATIONS THAT ADDRESS VETERINARY CLINICS AND OUTDOOR RUNS IN THE B-1 LOCAL BUSINESS DISTRICT AND B-3 INTENSIVE BUSINESS DISTRICT AS USES PERMITTED ON REVIEW; AND PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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. **A motion was made by Vice Mayor Davis, seconded by Council Member Burris, to approve Ordinance No. 1027 on Second and Final Reading.** Ordinance No. 1027 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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ORDINANCE NO. 1028 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE TO ESTABLISH REASONABLE COURT COSTS.

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. **A motion was made by Vice Mayor Davis, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, to approve Ordinance No. 1028 on Second and Final Reading.** Ordinance No. 1028 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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ORDINANCE NO. 1029 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A BUDGET AND SET THE TAX RATE ON TAXABLE PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015.

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. **A motion was made by Council Member Burris, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, to approve Ordinance No. 1029 on Second and Final Reading with the following revisions from the first reading of the ordinance: decrease business tax revenues in the General Fund by \$10,000; decrease Athens City Schools funding the General Fund by \$10,000; include final budgeted amounts as approved by the Athens City Board of Education for the General Purpose School Fund, Federal Projects Fund and the Cafeteria Fund; increase the residential sanitation rate from \$8.50 to \$9.00 per month, resulting in an increase of \$30,000 in revenues; and increase the landfill charges by \$30,000 based upon the notification from McMinn County that rates are expected to increase by \$3.00 per ton.** City Manager Moore stated this budget did not include a property tax increase. The City was taking \$606,000 from the General Fund reserve to cover the shortfall and keep the budget balanced as a result of funding the Athens City Schools full requested amount. Council Member Pelley disagreed with Mr. Moore's statement as he felt it was unfair to attribute the entire shortfall to Athens City Schools and believed you had to look at the budget as a whole. At the conclusion of the discussion, Ordinance No. 1029 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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NEW BUSINESS

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Moore stated he had received notification earlier in the day that Athens will be recognized with a 2014 Tennessee Municipal League Achievement Award for Excellence in Community Service at TML's 75th Annual Conference in Chattanooga on June 24, 2014. He read a TML Media Advisory in its entirety ending with the following quote from Margaret Norris, Municipal Technical Advisory Service management consultant. "Many citizens across our nation have come to believe that it is the sole responsibility of the government to provide the means for their every need and project. In Athens that is not true, as the volunteer spirit is alive and well. The city deserves this TML award. The staff and council have a respectful relationship, they work well together, and move forward accomplishing great things."

Mr. Moore then 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 7:08 p.m.



MITCHELL B. MOORE, City Manager



R. HAL BUTTRAM, Mayor