

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 16, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Buttram presiding. The invocation was given by Council Member Burris; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Burris, Perkinson, Davis, Buttram

Council Member Pelley was absent for the entire meeting.

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 August 19, 2014 was submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

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COMMUNICATIONS

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – 125TH ANNIVERSARY

Mayor Buttram read a proclamation recognizing the 125th Anniversary of First United Presbyterian Church. Reverend Wayne Williams and Elder Zelma McClure from the Church were present. Pastors, Elders and Members of First United Presbyterian Church presented the City Council with a book “Celebrating a Journey of Faith 125 Years First United Presbyterian Church”. Rev. Williams provided 125 tea cookies - one for each year the Church has been in existence to symbolize the tea cakes the church founder, Reverend J.L. Cook, sold as a child in the very dance hall where he founded the Church.

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PRESENTATION OF VIVID AWARD

Council Member Perkinson presented the Very Important Volunteer Individual Award for September 2014 to John Ray McKeehan for his outstanding support of this community. Mr. McKeehan along with his wife, Dean, children and grandchildren were present. Mr. McKeehan thanked the Council for recognizing him.

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MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Buttram acknowledged receipt of letter of appreciation from Dwight Sullivan of the Firefly Project to the Athens Fire Department for their hospitality in allowing the local collectors to come to the Fire Station this summer to collect lightning bugs and for assisting them with the project.

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PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

AUDIENCE

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

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REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

City Manager Moore presented the Finance Department Report for the month of August 2014. 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 August 2014. The report was accepted as presented.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Dyer presented the Fire Department Report for the month of August 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. The recording clerk read the items into the record:

- a.) Approve Resolution No. 2014-18 to apply to Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation for funding through the Division of Solid Waste Management for Athens Green Machine Program utility litter vacuum vehicle;
- b.) Approve Resolution No. 2014-19 to apply to Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation for funding through the Division of Solid Waste Management for used oil storage container and pumps;
- c.) Approve Resolution No. 2014-20 to authorize extension of a contract with Metro Janitorial Services, Inc. for cleaning services of the Athens Municipal Building and Public Works Service Center through August 31, 2015.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Davis, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, to approve the Consent Agenda as stated above. Vice Mayor Davis complimented Public Works Director Shawn Lindsey on bringing the concept of the Green Machine Program to their attention as it would enable staff to pick up litter five times faster than their current system. Council Member Burriss moved to table this item until the October meeting to allow Council Member Pelley to be present. City Manager Moore stated that the deadline to submit the grant is October 1st. Council Member Burriss then withdrew his motion. Council Member Burriss stated he had been contacted by several citizens with concerns regarding the effect this equipment would have on private property. Mr. Lindsey responded that 99% of their litter pick up was on City rights-of-way and roads and not on private property. Council Member Burriss asked Mr. Lindsey to explain the pick up process as it did not appear from the information he had been provided that the vehicle could hold a large amount of debris. Mr. Lindsey stated that the vehicle would be a six-wheel all-terrain vehicle because of the lay of the land. The City of Collierville had implemented a similar program but did not require the same size vehicle because their landscape was much flatter. An employee would vacuum up the litter and then periodically stop to replace the bag in the machine. The full bag would be left on the side of the road to be picked up by the operator upon his return. Mr. Lindsey stated this program would not eliminate any employees but would allow them to get more done with the same amount of employees. Council Member Burriss expressed concern with regard to placing a \$10,000 burden on the

taxpayers for the purchase of this vehicle. Upon conclusion of the discussion on the Green Machine, the motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Davis, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, to appoint Sam Stephens Jr. to the Board of Adjustments and Appeals to fill an unexpired term; term expires June 3, 2015. Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

Motion was made by Council Member Burris, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, to reappoint Fletcher Hudson to the Historic Preservation Commission; term expires October 1, 2019. Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

Motion was made by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Vice Mayor Davis, to reappoint Sam Stephens Jr. to the Historic Preservation Commission; term expires October 1, 2019. Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

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CONSIDERATION OF DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION'S REQUEST FOR PUMPKINTOWN 2014

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Davis, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, to approve the Downtown Business Association's entire request of September 3, 2014 for the use of Market Park, Market Park Pavilion and the city parking lot from Friday, October 10th through Saturday, October 11th for Pumpkintown and the Living History section. The request also included the use of the city's stage, sports fencing for Market Park and the city sound system plus two portable microphones. Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

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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 September and October. 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