

ATHENS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING

June 18, 2019

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Burris presiding. The invocation was given by Mayor Burris; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Coker, Lockmiller, Pelley, Perkinson, Burris

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

- 1 -

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of May 21, 2019 were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

- 2 -

COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – MODEL AVIATION DAY

Mayor Burris presented a proclamation proclaiming July 4, 2019 as Model Aviation Day. Officers and members of the Association were present to accept the proclamation.

- 3 -

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Council Member Coker presented a proclamation proclaiming the month of June 2019 as Optimist International Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Stanley Blair was present to accept the proclamation on behalf of the Optimists.

- 4 -

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – TENNESSEE WESLEYAN BULLDOGS DAY

Council Member Pelley presented a proclamation to honor and commend the Tennessee Wesleyan University Bulldogs for their 2019 NAIA World Series Championship. Coach Mayfield and Coach Berry were present to accept the proclamation on behalf of the TWU Bulldogs baseball team.

- 5 -

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – BIKE MONTH

Council Member Lockmiller presented a proclamation proclaiming the month of June 2019 as Bike Month in Athens.

- 6 -

PRESENTATION OF VIVID AWARD – REVEREND CHARLA SHERBAKOFF

Vice Mayor Perkinson presented the Very Important Volunteer Individuals (VIVID) Award for the month of June 2019 to Reverend Charla Sherbakoff in recognition of her service to The Friendly City.

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MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Burris acknowledged receipt of a thank you note from McMinn County E-911 dispatchers for thinking of them during the 2019 National Public Telecommunicator Week, a thank you note to Parks and Recreation staff from the ACMS 8th Grade Enrichment class for all of their “behind the scenes” help with their Storybook Trail opening, and a thank you note from the Meigs Tennis team for allowing them to use the courts at Ingleside.

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CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a.) Appoint Lisa Dotson to Athens Utilities Board, term expires June 30, 2023.
- b.) Reappoint Randy Heafner to Board of Zoning Appeals, term expires June 30, 2024.
- c.) Reappoint Chad Goodin to Recreation Advisory Board, term expires June 30, 2023.
- d.) Approve extension of contract with Sequatchie Concrete for concrete services through May 15, 2020.
- e.) Approve extension of contract with TRIO M Rentals & Sales LLC for equipment rental through May 15, 2020.
- f.) Approve extension of contract with Mobile Container Services for refuse container repair through May 15, 2020.
- g.) Approve bid as submitted by Hiwassee Builder Supply for Bid #1698 – Athens Fire Department Station 2 Energy Efficiency Retrofit.
- h.) Approve bid as submitted by International Equipment Company for Bid #1699 – Security Access Controls System.
- i.) Approve bid as submitted by MaidPro Services for Bid #1700 – Janitorial Cleaning Services.
- j.) Approve bid as submitted by Belgard/Oldcastle Adams for Bid #1701 – Ecological Permeable Pavers.
- k.) Approve bid as submitted by Hickory Hardscapes for Bid #1702 – DENSO Eco Park Paver Setting.
- l.) Reject bids submitted for Bid #1703 – Downtown Landscaping & City Hall Beautification and approve rebidding of project.
- m.) Approve contract with Lose Design to complete construction drawings and to prepare a bid package for the Heritage Park Renovation.
- n.) Approve proposed Athens Utilities Board budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.
- o.) Approve City of Athens Budget Amendment No. 2 for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.
- p.) Approve Athens Board of Education Appropriation Resolution regarding fund balance amounts at year end that will be committed or assigned for specific purposes.
- q.) Approve Athens Board of Education Appropriation Resolution stating the Athens City Schools Federal Projects Fund shall be the budget approved for the separate projects within the fund.
- r.) Approve Athens City Schools Proposed Budget Amendment #2 (General Purpose) for FY 2018-2019.
- s.) Approve Coalition for Better Schools membership renewal.
- t.) Approve recommendation to keep funding arrangement for Student Resource Officer the same through June 30, 2020.

A motion was made by Council Member Pelley, seconded by Council Member Lockmiller, to approve the Consent Agenda in its entirety. The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Coker, Lockmiller, Pelley, Perkinson, Burris
NAYS: None

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ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 1076 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ‘THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE,’ SO AS TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 509, 511 and 515 CONGRESS PARKWAY FROM B-3 (INTENSIVE BUSINESS DISTRICT) TO R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) SAID AREA BEING LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE.

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. Mayor Burris 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 Pelley, seconded by Vice Mayor Perkinson, to approve Ordinance No. 1076 on Second and Final Reading.** The motion to approve Ordinance No. 1076 was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Lockmiller, Pelley, Perkinson, Burris
NAYS: Coker

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CITY OF ATHENS BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

PRESENTATION OF BUDGET

City Manager Sumner shared his priority driven budgeting philosophy and an overview of capital items and changes in the 2019-2020 budget. He reviewed the items funded last year for accountability.

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ORDINANCE NO. 1077 – 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, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020.

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. Mayor Burris 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 Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Coker, to approve Ordinance No. 1077 on Second and Final Reading.** After brief comments, the motion to approve Ordinance No. 1077 was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Coker, Lockmiller, Perkinson, Burris
NAYS: Pelley

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ORDINANCE NO. 1078 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 1, CHAPTER 2, OF THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE DATED 1995, ENTITLED “CITY MANAGER” BY INCREASING THE CITY OF ATHENS MAXIMUM PURCHASE AMOUNT TO STATE MAXIMUM.

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. Mayor Burris 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 Pelley, seconded by Council Member Lockmiller, to approve Ordinance No. 1078 on Second and Final Reading.** The motion to approve Ordinance No. 1078 was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Coker, Lockmiller, Pelley, Perkinson, Burris
NAYS: None

- 13 -

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

- 14 -

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 705 EAST AVENUE - REQUEST BY BUDDIE BEAVERS

ORDINANCE NO. 1079 – 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 THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 705 EAST AVENUE FROM I-2 (HEAVY INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT) TO B-3 (INTENSIVE BUSINESS DISTRICT) SAID AREA BEING LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE.

The caption of Ordinance No. 1079 was read by the recording clerk. **A motion was made by Council Member Coker, seconded by Vice Mayor Perkinson, to approve Ordinance No. 1079 on First Reading.** The motion to approve Ordinance No. 1079 was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Coker, Lockmiller, Pelley, Perkinson, Burris
NAYS: None

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REPORTS

ATHENS CITY SCHOOLS QUARTERLY REPORT

Dr. Melanie Miller, Director of the Athens City Schools, stated that now the budget had been adopted on second reading she wanted to remind the City Council that Athens City Schools has not asked for an increase from the City since 2011. They did have the TIF funds. Mr. Green, former Director of Athens City Schools, had a great plan in place to merge their buildings down to fewer buildings. During that time, they had been putting money back into fund balance. The fund balance is projected for this year's budget at \$1.6 million, which is not something they can do every year. They are pulling from those reserves since they are not down to fewer buildings. The next step is to look at cutting personnel and programs. They are well over BEP funding because they have five buildings. Dr. Miller then presented the City Council with her quarterly update. Council Member Coker asked Dr. Miller if she had any idea on how many teachers and programs are going to have to be cut. Dr. Miller responded that if they went back to the BEP for instance, they could not have a counselor in every building which would hurt programming because kids need counselors on site. By the BEP formula, they could share counselors. Music and arts programs could be cut down. BEP funds one nurse per 3,000 students but ACS has two nurses because they have a lot of need. ACS spends \$40,000/year for the SRO that could be cut down. They have cut four of the reading teacher positions this year and are down to only one position that is left over from the TIF funding. The possible positions that could be cut would be one nurse, two counselors, and full-time librarians possibly going to part-time librarians. They are also looking at ways to increase their revenues. If they raise their revenues and don't use them, the Comptroller's office will restrict those funds somewhere in the following year's budget. Currently, they underestimate their revenues, so they don't have that problem. Council Member Coker asked where the ACS funds come from and Dr. Miller explained that funds come from BEP, the City, and the County. The County currently provides 21% which is based on the total number of students and may fluctuate year to year. There is approximately \$4 million in equity. Dr. Miller stated that if revenues did not come in as projected, they would have to pull \$1.6 million from reserves. Council Member Coker noted that if revenues do not come in as projected, then they are going to have to come to the City for additional funding and the City is then going to have to look at a property tax increase. Dr. Miller stated that is always the way they have had to do it for funding over the amount provided by the BEP. Council Member Coker then asked if the

new school is funded does ACS still anticipate needing to come back to the City for additional funding to balance its budget. Dr. Miller stated she hoped they did not have to do that.

Council Member Pelley left the meeting at 7:17 pm.

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FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

City Manager Sumner presented the Finance Department Report for the month of May 2019 as Finance Director Mike Keith was on vacation. The report was accepted as presented.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth presented the Fire Department Report for the month of May 2019. The report was accepted as presented.

- 18 -

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Cliff Couch presented the Police Department Report for the month of May 2019. The report was accepted as presented.

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REQUESTS FROM CITIZENS

NONE

- 20 -

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Sumner reviewed his monthly report including the various Parks and Recreation and Public Works projects and activities going on throughout the city.

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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 7:35 p.m.



C. SETH SUMNER, City Manager



CHARLES T. BURRIS, II, Mayor