



## CITY COUNCIL

### SPECIAL CALLED MEETING AGENDA

Monday, October 18, 2021, 5:30 P.M.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
- II. **INVOCATION. COUNCIL MEMBER WITT-MCMAHAN**
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. **ROLL CALL**
- V. Place into the record of the Special Called Meeting the Notice of the meeting provided to the members of City Council containing the business to be discussed.
- VI. Receive and hear from City Employees any information concerning Nest cameras purchased for the Athens Police Department, which for a period of time could not be located, as requested by two (2) Council members as follows:

“Openly discuss the issues with the missing cameras. Ask the City Manager to explain his involvement with the cameras. Have others who were involved the opportunity to speak. Speaking to each person involved separately does not fully bring the closure that is needed to move forward. If the Council determines that the City Manager did something that requires discipline or corrective action, we will do so. If not, we will make a statement to the community on the City Manager’s behalf.”

#### **RECEIVING OF INFORMATION CONCLUDED DURING FIRST SPECIAL MEETING**

- VII. Receive and hear from City Employees any information concerning a claim by the Chief of Police of retaliation toward him, as requested by two (2) Council members as follows:

“Discuss in detail the issue of retaliation to Chief Couch regarding his statement about the cameras. The Council agreed in February 2021 that we would not allow the Chief to be treated unfairly due to his report about the cameras. Cliff has reported to me and many people in the community of problems that he has faced from the City Manager and feels that he is being retaliated against. I have discussed this with the City Manager, but feel it is important to bring this to an open meeting to give each individual an opportunity to discuss the alleged retaliation. If these

accusations are true, it will be necessary to determine discipline or corrective action.”

**RECEIVING OF INFORMATION CONCLUDED DURING FIRST SPECIAL MEETING**

- VIII.** Discuss with the City Manager an appropriate demeanor with Staff and others when conflicts arise, as requested by two (2) Council members as follows:

“Complaints about how the City Manager treats staff and others when disagreements occur. Our City Manager should always maintain self-control and respect even in the most uncomfortable situations.”

- IX.** Receive and hear information from the City Manager concerning his possession of a gun on airport property, as requested by two (2) Council members as follows:

“It is important to have an explanation about the gun at the airport in Maryville. I spoke with the City Manager and feel confident that this was an oversight. The community needs the opportunity to hear his side of this issue.”

- X.** Receive and hear information as to whether the Mayor and/or City Manager may have said that a citizen threatened the life of the City Manager, as requested by two (2) Council members as follows:

“A Citizen is saying that Bo & Seth said that said Citizen threatened Seth’s life. We need to set this to rest, also.”

- XI.** Discussion of items VI through X and determination as to whether any corrective suggestions to or discipline of the City Manager is warranted and take action, if necessary.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

*The City Attorney will separately read each Item above into the record of this proceeding, seat for each Item the person(s) with knowledge of each Item, administer to each person(s) an oath for truthfulness, ask initial questions concerning the Item, and thereafter tender the person(s) for examination by the Council Members.*

Agenda prepared by the Mayor for the City of Athens pursuant to the Athens Charter provisions for a Special Called Meeting.