

# ATHENS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING

August 16, 2022

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Perkinson presiding. The invocation was given by Council Member Curtis; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Lockmiller, Perkinson

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

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## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Vice Mayor Lockmiller moved, Council Member Witt-McMahan seconded, to approve the Minutes of the July 19, 2022 regularly scheduled meeting.** Roll call vote:

**AYES:**           Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Lockmiller, Perkinson  
**NAYS:**           None

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## COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD – ATHENS PLACE STAFF

The Distinguished Service Award was postponed until the September 20, 2022 meeting at the request of Athens Place.

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### PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – TOM HAMILTON

Mayor Perkinson presented a proclamation honoring Tom Hamilton for his distinguished service on the Athens Municipal-Regional Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals.

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### PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Council Member Curtis presented a proclamation declaring the month of September as Hunger Action Month.

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### PRESENTATION OF SOAP BOX DERBY PROCLAMATIONS

Council Member Pelley presented a proclamation honoring Jacob Barnes (Local Stock Car Champion), Vice Mayor Lockmiller presented a proclamation honoring Parker McDonald (Local Super Stock Car Champion), and Council Member Witt-McMahan presented a proclamation honoring Breylin Hagerty (Super Kids Champion), for their participation in the 27<sup>th</sup> annual All-American Soap Box Derby in Athens and their participation in the 2022 All-American World Championship Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio.

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## CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a.) Reappoint Cynthia McCowan to the Health and Educational Facilities Board, term expires September 21, 2028.
- b.) Appoint Timberly Guffey to the Historic Preservation Commission, term expires October 1, 2027.

- c.) Approve purchase of Utility Terrain Vehicle from Polaris (using a cooperative purchasing agreement) for the Athens Fire Department.
- d.) Approve purchase of replacement tractor and mowing unit for the Street Cleaning Department from CMI Equipment Sales, Inc. (using a cooperative purchasing agreement) and declare existing equipment (Asset No. 3974) as surplus, to be sold on GovDeals after receipt of equipment.
- e.) Approve bid (Items A, B, and Alternates 1, 2, and 3) as submitted by Wilson Construction for Playground Renovations/Pavilion Kitchen Addition.
- f.) Approve City of Athens Budget Amendment No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.
- g.) Approve Resolution No. 2022-18 authorizing participation in the BlueCross Healthy places Grant.
- h.) Approve Resolution No. 2022-19 authorizing the City Manager to apply for a 2022-23 PEP Property Conservation Grant (50/50 match).

**Council Member Curtis moved, Council Member Witt-McMahan seconded, that the Consent Agenda as stated above be approved. Roll call vote:**

**AYES: Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Lockmiller, Perkinson**  
**NAYS: None**

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ORDINANCES

None

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OLD BUSINESS

None

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NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING ON PLAN OF SERVICES AND ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON COUNTY ROAD 129

Mayor Perkinson opened the public hearing. There being no one present wishing to discuss the Plan of Services on the County Road 129 Annexation, Public Hearing was closed.

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ADOPT A PLAN OF SERVICES FOR THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON COUNTY ROAD 129

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-20

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PLAN OF SERVICES FOR THE ANNEXATION OF THE COUNTY ROAD 129 AREA PROPERTY BY THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE.

The caption of Resolution No. 2022-20 was read by the recording clerk. **Council Member Curtis moved, Council Member Witt-McMahan seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2022-20.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

**AYES: Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Lockmiller, Perkinson**  
**NAYS: None**

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APPROVE ANNEXATION REQUEST FOR PROPERTY LOCATED ON COUNTY ROAD 129

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-21

A RESOLUTION TO ANNEX THE REMAINING PORTION OF TAX MAP 055 PARCEL 104.00 LOCATED OFF COUNTY ROAD 129 AND DESCRIBED IN THE BODY OF THIS RESOLUTION, AND TO INCORPORATE THE SAME WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE.

The caption of Resolution No. 2022-21 was read by the recording clerk. **Council Member Curtis moved, Vice Mayor Lockmiller seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2022-21.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

**AYES:** Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Lockmiller, Perkinson  
**NAYS:** None

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ORDINANCE TO ZONE PROPERTY OFF COUNTY ROAD 129 TO R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT)

ORDINANCE NO. 1111 – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND 'THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE,' SO AS TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO INCLUDE AND ZONE PROPERTY OFF COUNTY ROAD 129 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. **Council Member Curtis moved, Vice Mayor Lockmiller seconded, to approve Ordinance No. 1111 on First Reading.** The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Lockmiller, Perkinson  
**NAYS:** None

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PUBLIC HEARING ON PLAN OF SERVICES AND ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED OFF VELMA ROAD

Mayor Perkinson opened the public hearing. There being no one present wishing to discuss the Plan of Services on the Velma Road Annexation, Public Hearing was closed.

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ADOPT A PLAN OF SERVICES FOR THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED OFF VELMA ROAD

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-22

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PLAN OF SERVICES FOR THE ANNEXATION OF THE VELMA ROAD AREA PROPERTY BY THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE

The caption of Resolution No. 2022-22 was read by the recording clerk. **Council Member Curtis moved, Vice Mayor Lockmiller seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2022-22.** Council Member Witt-McMahan left the meeting at 6:42 p.m. Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

**AYES:** Curtis, Pelley, Lockmiller, Perkinson  
**NAYS:** None  
**ABSENT:** Witt-McMahan

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APPROVE ANNEXATION REQUEST FOR PROPERTY LOCATED OFF VELMA ROAD

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-23

A RESOLUTION TO ANNEX PROPERTY LOCATED OFF VELMA ROAD AND DESCRIBED IN THE BODY OF THIS RESOLUTION, AND TO INCORPORATE THE SAME WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE

The caption of Resolution No. 2022-23 was read by the recording clerk. Council Member Witt-McMahan returned to the meeting at 6:45 p.m. **Council Member Curtis moved, Council Member Pelley seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2022-23.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

**AYES:** Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Lockmiller, Perkinson  
**NAYS:** None

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ORDINANCE TO ZONE PROPERTY OFF COUNTY ROAD 129 TO R-3 (HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT)

ORDINANCE NO. 1112 – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND 'THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE,' SO AS TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO INCLUDE AND ZONE PROPERTY OFF VELMA ROAD TO R-3 (HIGH 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. **Council Member Curtis moved, Council Member Witt-McMahan seconded, to approve Ordinance No. 1112 on First Reading.** The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Lockmiller, Perkinson  
**NAYS:** None

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APPROVE THE DESIGN AND SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED ANIMAL SHELTER FACILITY

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-24

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE LAYOUT AND SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED ANIMAL SHELTER FACILITY.

The caption of Resolution No. 2022-24 was read by the recording clerk. **Council Member Curtis moved, Vice Mayor Lockmiller seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2022-24.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

**AYES:** Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Lockmiller, Perkinson  
**NAYS:** None

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REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Finance Director Mr. Mike Keith presented the Finance Department Report for July 2022. The report was accepted as presented.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth presented the Fire Department Report for July 2022. The report was accepted as presented.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Fred Schultz presented the Police Department Report for July 2022. The report was accepted as presented.

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REQUESTS FROM CITIZENS

Bob Lamb, 915 Pinecrest Street, thanked the Council for the pickleball courts and tennis courts resurfacing. Steve Bain, 1016 Long Mill Road, did not choose to speak. Sheila Chesanow, 229 County Road 616, thanked the Council for approving the Animal Shelter Design and asked that the shelter be named after Larry Wallace. Ford Ector, 840 County Road 750, did not want to speak and had already left the meeting, Lisa Blos-Johnson, 1112 Springfield Drive, spoke against pickleball courts and requested that the pickleball courts be put on hold and Parks and Recreation bring back a reasonable bid on the courts. Dick Pelley, 155 Morning Pointe Lane, stated they violated the rules of a meeting – Title 1 of the Athens Municipal Code. He requested an outside investigation to look at how the meetings are run and to have a called meeting to look at the lies he previously mentioned. Glenn Whiting, 237 County Road 655, requested the City Manager refund the money spent on an ad for an award he claimed he had received.

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He asked that the City Attorney look at violations of law regarding the cameras. Larry Eaton, 279 Sweetfield Valley Road, requested that the Council when making a motion to approve a project such as pickleball courts, renovations of the parks, etc. include the exact dollar amount of the project.

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REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Sumner reviewed current projects and upcoming projects and events.

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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 7:31 p.m.



C. SETH SUMNER, City Manager



WILLIAM BO PERKINSON, Mayor