

# ATHENS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING

January 23, 2023

The Athens City Council met in called session on January 23, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. with Mayor Sherlin presiding. The invocation was given by Vice Mayor Eaton and upon roll call the following members were present:

Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Eaton, Sherlin

The following decision was made and ordered made a part of the records of the Athens City Council.

The purpose of the meeting, as issued in the "Notice of Called Meeting" dated January 18, 2023, was read and made a part of these minutes:

## **NOTICE OF SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

There will be a called meeting of the Athens City Council at the Athens Municipal Building Conference Room located at 815 N. Jackson Street, Athens, Tennessee, commencing at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 23, 2023.

The purpose of this meeting is to:

1. Interview candidates for the position of City Attorney.
2. Select a candidate for the position of City Attorney and approve any agreement, if necessary for the position.

Any interested citizen is invited to be present.

/s/

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Steven S. Sherlin, Mayor

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## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **INTERVIEW CANDIDATES AND MAKE A SELECTION FOR THE POSITION OF CITY ATTORNEY**

Mayor Sherlin opened the meeting by stating there were three candidates being interviewed for the position of City Attorney. He stated that each council member would be given the opportunity to ask questions of the candidates and that they would begin with Council Member Witt-McMahan to his far right and continue to the next council member until each one had asked all desired questions. The first candidate interviewed was Rita Roberts-Turner with the firm of Klein Solomon Mills, PLLC in Nashville. The next candidate interviewed was Andrew Bateman of Rogers Sauceman, PLLC located in Athens followed by Stephen Hatchett,

a sole proprietor located in Athens. After further discussion regarding each potential candidate,

**Council Member Pelley moved, Vice Mayor Eaton seconded, to appoint Stephen Hatchett as City Attorney.** Roll call vote:

AYES: Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Eaton, Sherlin  
NAYS: None

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APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY

**Council Member Curtis moved, Council Member Witt-McMahan seconded, to have Mayor Sherlin and Interim City Manager Keith discuss the payment agreement with Mr. Hatchett based upon his submittal included in the request for proposals.** Roll call vote:

AYES: Curtis, Pelley, Witt-McMahan, Eaton, Sherlin  
NAYS: None

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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.

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STEVEN S. SHERLIN, Mayor

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MICHAEL L. KEITH, Interim City Manager