

REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN  
DECEMBER 8, 2020

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Fayetteville, Lincoln County, Tennessee, met in an open, public session at the regular meeting place of said Board in the Municipal Building of said City at 5:00 p.m. on December 8, 2020. Mayor Michael Whisenant was present and presiding. The following named Aldermen were present:

Jeff Alder, Danny Bryant, Donna Hartman, Roger Martinez and Dorothy Small

Absent: Tonya Allen

City Administrator Scott Collins was present via ZOOM electronic application.

Also, present was Johnny D. Hill, Jr., City Attorney.

The prayer was led by Vincent Ruhlander, and the pledge was led by Kaiden Ragsdale.

**Adoption of Agenda:**

The agenda for December 8, 2020 will stand. Mayor Whisenant then asked for Section 8. New Business items E. Employee Service Awards, F. Recognition of Retiree, and G. 2020 Distinguished Service Awards be moved to the Comments section of the Agenda. These awards would normally be presented at the annual City of Fayetteville Awards Banquet, but due to COVID there will be no event this year. Motion was made by Jeff Alder, seconded by Dorothy Small to move Section 8 items E., F., and G. to the Comments section of the Agenda. Upon roll call, the following voted:

Aye:

Danny Bryant, Dorothy Small, Jeff Alder, Donna Hartman, and Roger Martinez

Nay:

None

Mayor Whisenant declared the motion approved.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The Regular Meeting minutes of November 10, 2020 were approved as presented.

The Organization Meeting minutes of November 23, 2020 were approved as presented.

**Reports:**

**Fayetteville City Schools:**

Bill Hopkins, Director of the Fayetteville City Schools (FCS) introduced Coach Rusty McIntyre who called the offensive plays for the Fayetteville City Tigers football team. Bill Hopkins' report was then presented by students Jakala Small and Carlee Wakefield who are part of the FFA Chapter. Speaking on behalf of the FCS, they expressed thanks to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen for their ongoing support. Jakala Small reported that the Fayetteville High School (FHS) Band is combining with the Jazz and Bluegrass Band and has learned to play several songs. Carlee Wakefield added that the FHS Art Club sold two hundred dollars (\$200.00) of their work at the Host of Christmas Past event. Art students are creating cards to be delivered to the local nursing homes, hospital staff and patients next week. The FHS football team recently won the Title 1-A State Championship game that was played in Cookeville, Tennessee. Jakala Small stated that the FHS girls and boys basketball teams are both doing well this year. The FFA Chapter has chosen to focus this year on their membership. Fayetteville City FFA currently has eighty-four (84) members. At the virtual 2020 National FFA Convention, FHS alumni Richard Bryant and Ruthie Ruhlander received their American FFA Degree, which is the highest degree a member can apply for. Only one percent (1%) of members obtains this degree. In recent FFA competitions, Carlee Wakefield and Destiny Willis represented Tennessee at the National Convention with their Agri-Science Fair project in the Environment and Natural Resource System division. We currently have

members practicing for four (4) career development events to take place in January 2021. FCS has partnered with Health Connect America to provide social emotional support to students and their families. Personalized services will be provided based on the specific needs of the child and family by a licensed therapist. For the first semester, Ralph Askins had seventy-seven (77) virtual students, Fayetteville Middle School had one hundred twelve (112), and Fayetteville High School had one hundred sixty-two (162). This totals approximately twenty-seven percent (27%) of the student body. FCS just received its annual audit report which had an unqualified opinion. Then, Corian Cash was recognized as having exhibited an act of kindness by consoling a member of the opposing team after his team's defeat at the recent State Championship game and this was captured on video. This video has been shared nationally and has over three million (3,000,000) views on social media. Mayor Whisenant commended this student and the entire Tigers team for setting the example and showing so many others what this team and the City of Fayetteville is all about. Coach McIntyre thanked the City for its continued support. He then added that this team, in spite of its many challenges throughout the past couple of years, has exhibited resilience and have always risen to the occasion because they care about each other, they care about the coaches, and they care about people. What was captured on that video is just a moment in time of what we see in these kids every day. He concluded by stating that yes, we have good football players, but we more than that, we have great kids! Bill Hopkins added that due to the recent increase in active COVID cases and related contact tracing exposures, the FCS system will be fully virtual until after the holidays. The intent is to offer both traditional and virtual options after the first of the year.

### **Fayetteville/Lincoln County Library:**

Sherri Jacks reported that there were more than one thousand (1,000) visitors at the Library last month. The Library continues to offer many programs online. The Elk River Book Club continues to meet in house. Attendance has been good for the Facebook watch parties for those clubs that meet virtually every two (2) weeks. The staff at the Library continues to work hard to make sure everyone that visits stays safe. We are hopeful that a new director will be in place soon.

### **Fire Report:**

Chief Richard Howell presented the fire report. In the month of November 2020, we responded to two (2) building fires, one (1) passenger vehicle fire, fifty-seven (57) medical Emergency Medical Services (EMS) assists, one (1) motor vehicle accident with injury, and one (1) extrication of a victim from machinery. In addition to this, the Fayetteville Fire Department had their annual roadblock for the toy drive, which resulted in more than twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000.00) collected. This year's toy drive will be serving over two hundred sixty-five (265) families.

### **Police Report:**

Chief Richard Howell reported that during the month of November 2020, there were eighty-nine (89) reportable incidents to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), thirty-eight (38) arrests, and thirty-five (35) traffic citations were issued with a total police activity of one thousand, three hundred seven (1,307).

### **Finance:**

Stacy Rozell, Finance Director, reported the October 2020 Local Option Sales Tax received was two hundred thirty-six thousand, eight hundred twenty-six dollars and twenty cents (\$236,826.20). The total received this fiscal year is just under one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00). This is approximately one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) more than this time last year. As a matter of reference, FY2020 was the highest Local Option Sales Tax year on record, and we are exceeding those amounts this year in the middle of a pandemic. We do encourage our citizens to continue to shop locally as these tax dollars not only help local retail owners, but help the City provide necessary services to its citizens. We continue to collect property taxes with approximately twelve and one-half percent (12.5%) received at the end of November 2020. Property owners can mail their payment, pay online or over the phone.

### **Recreation Report:**

Scott Collins, City Administrator, reported that the Parks and Recreation Department recently hosted two (2) events. "Bright Lights and Festive Nights" was held on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> and was well attended in spite of taking place the same night as the state championship playoff game in which the FCS Tigers played. The annual Christmas parade was held on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Plans are being made for the upcoming spring sports leagues and events, as well as needed maintenance items.

### **Public Works:**

Eddie Plunkett, Public Works Director, reported that seventy-one (71) tons of leaves, two hundred forty-five (245) tons of trash and ninety-six (96) tons of brush were collected in the month of November 2020. The Public Works Department will be closed on December 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas holidays, but sanitation will run as normal on Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. We ask that citizens continue to put out their trash the night before their scheduled pickup, even in inclement weather. Hopefully by Friday of this

week we will be caught up with our leaf pickup. The garbage truck is running every day as scheduled. The Public Works Department is picking up household items this week and will pick up brush next week. Brookmeade and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue are now open. We received the paving bids which came in under the budgeted amount. We have met with the contractor and hope to begin paving next week.

### **Planning and Codes Report:**

Kristi Gentry, Planning and Codes Coordinator, reported that five (5) permits were issued and one thousand three hundred six dollars and thirty-four cents (\$1,306.34) in permit fees were collected for the month of November 2020. The total project valuation was seven hundred seventy three thousand, six hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$773,699.00). More than eight hundred fifty (850) property maintenance violations have been logged this year. We recently held our fifth workshop on the subdivision regulations update where we reviewed the third draft of the document. Plans are to call for a public hearing at the January 2021 Planning Commission meeting to be held in February. There will be no December Planning Commission meeting. We had a Board of Zoning Appeals meeting today with Kevin Fryer of Prince Signs, who proposed a sign variance for three (3) of the Chevron locations. Kristi Gentry and Eddie Plunkett will meet with City Attorney to discuss this item. There is a Board of Zoning Appeals meeting scheduled for January 5, 2021. Agenda items to be discussed include a side and rear set back variance for property located on Winchester Highway and consideration for approval for special exception of the use of property located at 201 William D. Jones Boulevard. This has gone through the Planning Commission but requires approval of the Board of Zoning Appeals as a special exception. We have completed the proofing of the downtown map and visitors guide for the Branding Initiative project. Both of these items will go to print very soon. There is a meeting scheduled with Drew Werner of Q-1 Media who will provide an overview of the digital media for November and the first round of data.

### **Administrator's Report:**

Scott Collins, City Administrator, provided an update on the William D. Jones Boulevard STBG project, stating there are daily communications with the engineering firm and significant forward movements have been observed. The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) traffic operations office has signed off on the documents, and the TDOT ADA office has approved the overall plans with the exception of minor modifications. We are working with Public Works Director Eddie Plunkett to devise a detour route to include a temporary access road for the affected apartments. The current environmental approval is scheduled to expire in February 2021, therefore we are working on obtaining an extension. We hope this project will go to bid within the next week or two. We have been in contact with Travis Rael of TN Valley Archeology Resources who stated he will provide the archeological report for the Greenway Phase 2 and 3 projects no later than December 9<sup>th</sup>. A pre-bid meeting has been scheduled for January 5, 2021 for the Local Parks and Recreation Fund (LPRF) soccer complex project, with bids scheduled to be opened January 19, 2021. We will also be working with TDOT on some new City Limit signs.

### **Resolution #2020-12 – Bond Issue:**

This corrective action item was presented as Unfinished Business from the November 2020 Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting due to an incorrect procedure on the original vote. Resolution #2020-12 entitled “Initial Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed Five Million, One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$5,100,000.00) in Principal Amount of General Obligation Bonds of the City of Fayetteville, Tennessee” was considered. Said Resolution is as follows:

Motion was made by Danny Bryant, seconded by Jeff Alder, to approve Resolution #2020-12 as presented. Upon roll call, the following voted:

Aye:

Dorothy Small, Jeff Alder, Roger Martinez, and Danny Bryant

Nay:

Donna Hartman

Mayor Whisenant declared the motion approved.

### **Resolution #2020-13 – Bond Issue:**

Resolution #2020-13 entitled “A Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds of the City of Fayetteville, Tennessee in the Aggregate Principal Amount of Not to Exceed \$12,450,000, in One or More Series; Making Provision for the Issuance, Sale and Payment of Said Bonds, Establishing the Terms Thereof and the Disposition of Proceeds Therefrom; and Providing for the Levy of Taxes for the Payment of Principal of, Premium, if Any, and Interest on the Bonds” was considered. Said Resolution is as follows:

Motion was made by Danny Bryant, seconded by Roger Martinez, to approve Resolution #2020-13 as presented. Upon roll call, the following voted:

Aye:

Jeff Alder, Roger Martinez, Danny Bryant and Dorothy Small

Nay:

Donna Hartman

Mayor Whisenant declared the motion approved.

**Dr. Martin Luther King Parade Permit – 01/18/2021:**

Motion was made by Dorothy Small, seconded by Roger Martinez to approve the permit for the Dr. Martin Luther King Parade for January 18, 2021 as presented. Upon roll call, the following voted:

Aye:

Donna Hartman, Roger Martinez, Danny Bryant, Dorothy Small, and Jeff Alder

Nay:

None

Mayor Whisenant declared the motion approved.

**Tiger Pep Rally – 12/03/2020:**

Motion was made by Danny Bryant, seconded by Jeff Alder to approve ex post facto the event permit for the Tiger Pep Rally that was held on December 3, 2020. Upon roll call, the following voted:

Aye:

Roger Martinez, Danny Bryant, Dorothy Small, Jeff Alder, and Donna Hartman

Nay:

None

Mayor Whisenant declared the motion approved.

**Chandler Thinks – Extension of Contract:**

Motion was made by Jeff Alder, seconded by Danny Bryant to extend the contract with Steve Chandler of Chandler Thinks for the period of January 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021. Upon roll call, the following voted:

Aye:

Danny Bryant, Dorothy Small, Jeff Alder, Donna Hartman, and Roger Martinez

Nay:

None

Mayor Whisenant declared the motion approved.

**FY20 Audit:**

Motion was made by Danny Bryant, seconded by Dorothy Small to approve the FY20 audit. Upon roll call, the following voted:

Aye:

Dorothy Small, Jeff Alder, Donna Hartman, Roger Martinez, and Danny Bryant

Nay:

None

Mayor Whisenant declared the motion approved.

**Employee Service Awards:**

City of Fayetteville employees were recognized for years of service as follows:

Richard Howell, Police	30 years
Ray Pullen, Parks and Recreation	25 years
Dion Shockley, Police	20 years
Jesse Casias, Police	20 years
Chris Mitchell, Parks and Recreation	10 years
Billy Brazier, Police	5 years
Lee Warren, Emergency Communications	5 years
Zach Mitchell, Fire	5 years

**Recognition of Retiree:**


Rebecca Sisk was recognized as retiring from the City of Fayetteville with 34 years of service.

**2020 Distinguished Service Awards:**

City of Fayetteville employees that were the chosen recipients of the Distinguished Service Awards for 2020 are as follows:

Administration	Lenace Hyde
Emergency Communications	Erica Hasting
Fire	Brandon Gentry
Parks and Recreation	Christopher Cole Crabtree
Police	Joseph T. Mastin
Public Works	Jamie Simmons

There being no more business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk