

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 20, 2018

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Burris presiding. The invocation was given by Council Member Perkinson; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Coker, Perkinson, Raper, Pelley, Burris

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

- 1 -  
MINUTES

The Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of January 16, 2018 were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

- 2 -  
COMMUNICATIONS

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – OPTIMIST DAY

Mayor Burris asked members of the Optimist Club to join him at the podium as he read a proclamation recognizing the first Thursday of every February as "Optimist Day". Council Member Perkinson, who serves on the Board, accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Optimist Club. Vice Mayor Pelley, City Manager Sumner, and Director of Schools Dr. Miller are members of the Optimist Club and joined the Mayor.

- 3 -

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER PRESENTATION

C. Seth Sumner, City Manager, presented the "Employee of the Quarter" award for the period ending December 31, 2017 to Police Detective Gary Miller.

- 4 -

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Burris acknowledged receipt of thank you notes to City Manager Sumner, Parks and Recreation and Public Works.

- 5 -  
PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

AUDIENCE

Mayor Burris opened the meeting for petitions and requests from the audience. Carl Lansden, 3176 Chestnut Circle, Cleveland, announced he was a candidate for Tennessee Senate District 9 representing lower and middle income families and asked for the audience's support. North City School Principal Holly Owens, 1602 Palos Street, thanked the City for its generous donation of Lysol wipes for the children, teachers, and staff of the school to help fight influenza and illness. She also thanked the Police Department for their quick, professional response to an incident at her school.

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REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Michael Keith, Finance Director, presented the Finance Department Report for the month of January 2018. The report was accepted as presented.

- 7 -

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Couch presented the Police Department Report for the month of January 2018. The report was accepted as presented.

- 8 -

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Dyer presented the Fire Department Report for the month of January 2018. The report was accepted as presented.

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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 items into the record:

- a.) Reappoint John Boyd, James Dodson, Paul McMillan, John Proffitt, Mary Scudder, Barry Toomey, Burkett Witt and Francis Witt-McMahan to Council Advisory Committee, terms expire March 21, 2021.
- b.) Appoint Sam Stephens to Council Advisory Committee, term expires March 21, 2021.
- c.) Reappoint Yvonne Raper and Trey Winder to Keep McMinn Beautiful, terms expire March 5, 2021.
- d.) Accept bid as submitted by Melton Sand for demolition and site clearing of two (2) condemned residential structures located at 1111 Davidson Road and 312 Scott Street.
- e.) Accept bid as submitted by On-Site Development for demolition and site clearing of two (2) condemned residential structures located at 608 McEl Street and 910 Georgia Avenue.
- f.) Approve Resolution No. 2018-06 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Lose and Associates for hourly services related to budgeted park improvements.

**On motion by Council Member Coker, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, the Consent Agenda as stated above was approved by the following roll call vote:**

**AYES: Coker, Perkinson, Raper, Pelley, Burris**  
**NAYS: None**

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ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 1068 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 8, FORMER CHAPTER 2, NOW CHAPTER 3 “BEER” OF THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. Mayor Burris opened the public hearing. There being no one else present wishing to discuss the Ordinance, Public Hearing was closed. **A motion was made by Council Member Coker, seconded by Council Member Raper, to approve Ordinance No. 1068 on Second and Final Reading.** Ordinance No. 1068 was approved by the following roll call vote:

**AYES: Coker, Perkinson, Raper, Pelley, Burris**  
**NAYS: None**

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OLD BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT OF CITY JUDGE

Mayor Burris commented that five outstanding legal professionals had expressed an interest in the City Judge position. The five applicants considered were: Andrew E. Bateman, Rufus F. Beaty, D. Mitchell Bryant, William H. Estes, and Derek T. Green. **A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pelley, seconded by Council Member Raper, to appoint Derek Timothy Green as City Judge.** Upon roll call, the motion was accepted by the following vote:

**AYES: Coker, Perkinson, Raper, Pelley, Burris**  
**NAYS: None**

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NEW BUSINESS

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Sumner announced awards had recently been bestowed upon the City and its employees. Fire Chief Jim Dyer received the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce Chairman's Award for leading the response to the downtown fire. The City was honored with the Spirit of Community Award at the United Way's annual meeting for the 2017 fundraising campaign. He thanked all of the City employees that donated generously to make it a success. The City has been successful in trademarking the City logo to offer protection for its branding efforts. The City had some recent successes as it re-establishes the Sister City relationship with Isahaya, Japan and Nagasaki Wesleyan. Isahaya is also interested in re-establishing this relationship with Athens. The School Forecasting Consultant has been hired and has started to work on the project. City Manager Sumner announced that in coordination with Public Works and Community Development all of the identified unoccupied substandard houses have had the doors and windows boarded up to prevent entry by persons that should not be there and to help protect the public. 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 6:41 p.m.

  
C. SETH SUMNER, City Manager

  
CHARLES T. BURRIS, II, Mayor