

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, APRIL 18, 2017

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 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 March 21, 2017 were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

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COMMUNICATIONS

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER PRESENTATION

C. Seth Sumner, City Manager, presented the "Employee of the Quarter" award for the period ending March 31, 2017. Patrol Officer Randy Queen was honored for his outstanding service to the community. City Manager Sumner stated that although there were too many stories to list where Officer Queen's kindness was shown to others, there was one in particular that earned him this honor. While working in the Detective Division, Officer Queen was investigating a home burglary. Among the stolen property recovered was a laptop computer that had been given to a 9-year-old boy as a Christmas present. Regretful of having to confiscate the boy's present, Officer Queen returned to the police station and began discussing a solution with Sergeant Thomas. Officer Queen and seven other co-workers pooled together enough money to purchase another laptop computer for the boy and were recognized for their act of kindness by the City Council at their February 2017 meeting. City Manager Sumner remarked that this was just one example of why Officer Queen is well liked and respected in the community and has had a positive influence on the Athens Police Department. Fellow officers described Officer Queen as good hearted; cares about everyone; puts himself last at work and at home; soft spoken; and deals well with the public. Officer Queen was presented with a \$50 cash award and becomes eligible for the "Employee of the Year" award. City Manager Sumner closed by saying he was very proud of the job Officer Queen has done, his attitude, and the way he approaches serving the community and protecting the citizens.

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MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Burris acknowledged receipt of a letter from Beth Jones, Executive Director for the Southeast Tennessee Development District, expressing her appreciation and thanks to Fire Chief Jim Dyer and the Athens firefighters that responded to the fire at the TN Career Center/American Job Center at 410 North Congress Parkway on March 9th. Those individuals demonstrated their professionalism; and in her opinion, helped to minimize their property loss and enabled them to be back in operation by noon. Mayor Burris stated he had received a thank you card from Athens Middle School for speaking to the students on the Day of Caring. It warmed his heart to see more than 400 children go out into the city and county, in areas like Highway 307, the Turner and other farms, and various areas throughout the city to help with the cleanup. Those children showed him what caring was all about.

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PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

AUDIENCE

Mayor Burris opened the meeting for petitions and requests from the audience. Kristine Walden, City Park Elementary School Principal and resident, 409 East Madison Avenue, stated she was honored and privileged to be with Athens City Schools and appreciated the support of

the Athens City Council. She wanted to applaud the Athens Police and Fire Departments for their work with the students and teachers.

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REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Michael Keith, Finance Director, presented the Finance Department Report for the month of March 2017. The report was accepted as presented.

- 6 -

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Interim Chief Rob Davis presented the Police Department Report for the month of March 2017. The report was accepted as presented.

- 7 -

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Dyer presented the Fire Department Report for the month of March 2017. The report was accepted as presented.

- 8 -

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

Mr. Anthony Casteel, Community Development Director, presented the Building Permit Quarterly Report for the City of Athens. 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.) Authorize extension of a contract with Truegreen for fertilization services through June 30, 2018.
- b.) Reappoint L. Michael Ingram to the Board of Adjustments & Appeals, term expires April 21, 2021.
- c.) Appoint Allen Carter (**Coker**), Shannon Alvey (**Pelley**), and Stephen Dick (**Perkinson**) to the Council Advisory Committee, terms expire March 21, 2020.
- d.) Reappoint Amy Arnwine (**Raper**) to the Council Advisory Committee, term expires March 21, 2020.
- e.) Reappoint Caroline Young to Keep McMinn Beautiful, term expires March 6, 2020.
- f.) Appoint Terrence Christensen to fill vacancy on Keep McMinn Beautiful, term expires March 3, 2019.
- g.) Reappoint Lynn Perkinson to the McMinn County Library Board, term expires June 30, 2020.

City Manager Sumner advised the City Council that item b.) was to reappoint L. Michael Ingram to the Board of Adjustments & Appeals. Mr. Ingram has been serving as an alternate on this board. There is currently a vacancy on the board and it was staff's recommendation to move him from the alternate position to a full position on the Board. This will change the date his term expires from April 21, 2021 to June 3, 2019. As a result of this change, the two alternate

spots will be vacant but there will then be a full complement on the board. Council Member Perkinson advised the City Council that it was his wife, Lynn Perkinson, who was being considered for reappointment to the McMinn County Library Board. He had spoken to the City Attorney who had advised him to make this acknowledgement prior to voting on this item. **On motion by Council Member Raper, seconded by Council Member Coker, the Consent Agenda as amended was approved by the following roll call vote:**

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

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NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PUBLIC RECORDS POLICY

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-11

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PUBLIC RECORDS POLICY

City Manager Sumner advised the City Council that the State Legislature passed legislation requiring all cities to establish a written public records policy by July 1, 2017. The City of Athens already had a public records policy in place. The Tennessee Comptroller's Office of Open Records Council (OORC) distributed a model public records policy in January 2017. The City used the OORC model and an example policy from the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) to compare with the City's existing policy. City Manager Sumner noted that staff tried to mirror what was currently in place and meet the spirit of the law. He felt it was best to repeal and replace the existing public records policy with the updated version. The caption of Resolution No. 2017-11 was read by the recording clerk. **Motion was made by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Coker, to approve Resolution No. 2017-11.** The resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

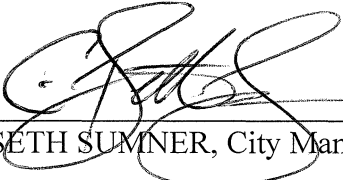
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MANAGER'S REPORT

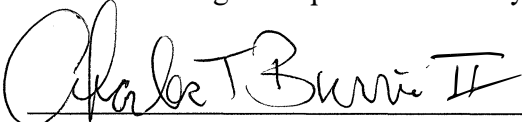
City Manager Sumner noted this was his third City Council meeting. He was very excited to be out in the community meeting our citizens, business owners, visitors, and stakeholders. He plans to continue to do so until he has made a good faith effort to meet everyone. City Manager Sumner commented that there was a lot of excitement continuing in the community. He reviewed the various Public Works' projects and Parks and Recreation activities going on throughout the city as presented in his monthly report.

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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 6:42 p.m.



C. SETH SUMNER, City Manager



CHARLES T. BURRIS, II, Mayor