

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, JUNE 20, 2017

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 20, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Burris presiding. The invocation was given by Mayor Burris; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Coker, Perkinson, Raper, Burris

Mayor Burris noted the absence of Vice Mayor Pelley who was attending the National League of Cities Summer Board and Leadership Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio.

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 May 16, 2017 were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

- 2 -
COMMUNICATIONS

PRESENTATION OF VIVID AWARD – ATHENS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Council Member Raper presented the Very Important Volunteer Individuals (VIVID) Award for the month of June 2017 to the Athens City Middle School students and faculty. Athens City Middle School accepted “Rachel’s Challenge,” named for Rachel Joy Scott, who was the first person killed in the Columbine High School shooting on April 20, 1999. In her final school essay, Scott wrote: “I have this theory that if one person can go out of their way to show compassion, then it will start a chain reaction of the same. People will never know how far a little kindness will go.” ACMS teacher Sandy Starr led the middle school program titled “Cougars Care for Their Community” and along with Principal Mike Simmons coordinated the first-ever event of this kind at the school. On April 4, 2017, ACMS students spent the day serving others in the community. Several students along with Mike Simmons and Sandy Starr were present at the meeting to share their comments on their “Rachel’s Challenge” experience.

- 3 -

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION- AMATEUR RADIO WEEK

Mayor Burris read a proclamation declaring the week of June 18-24, 2017 as Amateur Radio Week. Several members of the McMinn County Amateur Radio Club were present to accept the proclamation. Everyone was invited to attend the Amateur Radio Field Day exercises on June 27, 2017 at the Athens Regional Park lake pavilion.

- 4 -

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL MODEL AVIATION DAY

Council Member Perkinson presented a proclamation proclaiming July 4, 2017 as National Model Aviation Day. Officers and members of the Association were present to accept the proclamation.

- 5 -

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – DENSO MANUFACTURING ATHENS TENNESSEE

City Manager Sumner presented a proclamation commemorating Denso Manufacturing Athens Tennessee 20th anniversary in Athens. Denso will hold a special celebration on Tuesday, July 18, 2017 in honor of this occasion.

- 6 -

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – SMALL CITIES MONTH

Council Member Perkinson presented a proclamation proclaiming June 2017 as Small Cities Month in Athens, Tennessee.

- 7 -

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – 2018 MCMINN COUNTY DISTINGUISHED YOUNG WOMAN – KARIS MITCHELL

Mayor Burris presented Karis Mitchell with a proclamation congratulating her on being named the 2018 McMinn County Distinguished Young Woman and on her extraordinary achievements. Ms. Mitchell will serve as an ambassador for the community in her senior year of high school.

- 8 -

PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD – ZACH WALKER

City Manager Sumner presented Athens postal carrier Zach Walker with the Distinguished Service Award from the Athens City Council for his heroic actions while on his route on May 15 during a "potentially life-threatening incident" when Athens experienced severe flooding.

- 9 -

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Burris acknowledged receipt of several letters of appreciation to the members of Athens Police Department and Mayor Burris.

- 10 -

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

AUDIENCE

Mayor Burris opened the meeting for petitions and requests from the audience. Harrison Brown, 711 Howard Street, advised the City Council that he had met with Nina Edmonds after appearing before them at the May 2017 meeting. He wanted to meet with the City Council to discuss the situation. His wife had passed before him and he wanted the \$200/month back that his pension was reduced by when his wife was alive. Richard Newman, 202 E Washington Avenue, spoke in support of Habitat for Humanity's request to waive any fees in order to get a grant. He felt this was the best investment the City could make to help Habitat help others. City Manager Sumner was asked to place this item on the July Study Session agenda. Linda Long requested the pavilion at Cook Park be remodeled to hold approximately 250 people with a bathroom and storage area added. She also requested access to hot water, playground equipment for children and "No Dogs Pooping" signs.

- 11 -

REPORTS

ATHENS CITY SCHOOLS REPORT

Dr. Melanie Miller, Superintendent of Athens City Schools, presented the City Council with her quarterly update.

- 12 -

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

- 13 -

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

- 14 -

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

- 15 -

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.) Approve Athens City Schools Proposed Budget Amendment #1 (Cafeteria/Food Service) for FY 2016/2017.
- b.) Approve City of Athens Budget Amendment No. 4 for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.
- c.) Adopt TDOT Local Government Guidelines Policy for projects funded through it.
- d.) Approve designation of Consultant Evaluation Committee for TDOT Projects.
- e.) Approve actual cost for City Manager's moving expenses.
- f.) Reappoint Charles Clark to the Board of Adjustments and Appeals, term expires June 3, 2021.
- g.) Reappoint Ralph Fenton to the Board of Zoning Appeals, term expires June 30, 2022.
- h.) Reappoint James Dodson to the Recreation Advisory Board, term expires June 30, 2021.
- i.) Reappoint Ron Starr to the Recreation Advisory Board, term expires June 30, 2021.
- j.) Appoint Shannon Alvey to fill vacancy on the Health and Education Facilities Board, term expires September 21, 2022.
- k.) Approve Resolution No. 2017-12 to authorize extension of a contract with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) for maintenance of state rights-of-way within the City of Athens for the period of time beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018.
- l.) Approve Resolution No. 2017-13 supporting Habitat for Humanity of McMinn County.

- m.) Approve staff's recommendation to declare assorted items as surplus property and authorize sale on GovDeals or removed as scrap, if unusable.
- n.) Approve Medical Insurance Renewal as submitted by Blue Cross Blue Shield for year beginning July 1, 2017.

On motion by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Raper, the Consent Agenda as presented was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

- 16 -

ORDINANCE NO. 1061 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, PROVIDING THAT THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 14, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 3.04.14 HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AND HISTORIC OVERLAY DISTRICT AND CONSERVATION OVERLAY DISTRICT BE AMENDED; TO SIMPLIFY THE ESTABLISHED DISTRICT AND THE PRESERVATION PROCESS; AND PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. Mayor Burris opened the public hearing. There being no one present wishing to discuss the Ordinance, Public Hearing was closed. **A motion was made by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Coker, to approve Ordinance No. 1061 on Second and Final Reading.** Ordinance No. 1061 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

- 17 -

ORDINANCE NO. 1062 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, PROVIDING THAT THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 14, CHAPTER 2, BE AMENDED; TO ESTABLISH COMMERCIAL, MEDICAL AND INDUSTRIAL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. Mayor Burris opened the public hearing. There being no one 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. 1062 on Second and Final Reading.** Ordinance No. 1062 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

- 18 -

ORDINANCE NO. 1063 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A BUDGET AND SET THE TAX RATE ON TAXABLE PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2017 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2018.

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. Mayor Burris opened the public hearing. There being no one present wishing to discuss the Ordinance,

Public Hearing was closed. **A motion was made by Council Member Raper, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, to approve Ordinance No. 1063 on Second and Final Reading.** Ordinance No. 1063 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

- 19 -

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 1064 – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, PROVIDING THAT THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 14, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 3.04.08.C USES PERMITTED ON REVIEW BE AMENDED; TO ADD MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL USES; AND PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. **A motion was made by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Coker, to approve Ordinance No. 1064 on First Reading.** The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

- 20 -

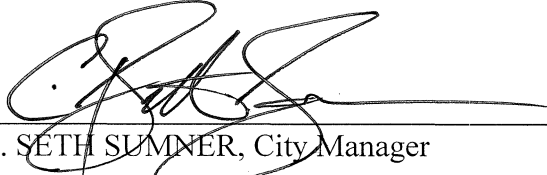
MANAGER’S REPORT

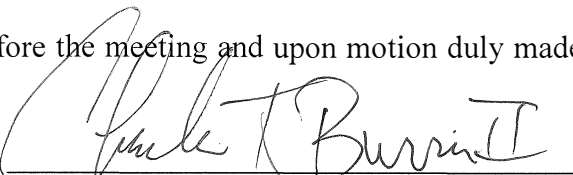
City Manager Sumner commented that they had a very lengthy study session and he took time over the weekend to reflect on the events of the past week. In church, the pastor brought up Professor William Nash, who leaves a lasting legacy in our community. Professor Nash is very well known for dismantling the racial barriers in the community. City Manager Sumner paraphrased a quote from Professor Nash “I tell these children of mine that we must have the courage to stand up and speak for our rights but I must not hate my neighbor even when I know he was wrong”. This quote touched him and he felt it was a good place to start. He also attended the Amy Grant concert on Saturday. She had several simple and powerful words to share. She started with “Loved People, Love People. Hurt People, Hurt People.” We see it every day and sometimes we see it in ourselves. We need to be more thoughtful of this and this is something he will continue to talk about. Amy Grant also told them of a prayer her mother-in-law taught her. “Lead me to the ones that I need and to those that need me and let something I do matter today.” It is a very simple prayer but he felt it very clearly spoke to the Athenian spirit. What they were trying to accomplish here at the Friendly City and as community, is to be very thoughtful in our approach and we want to be cooperative with our friends and neighbors. We want everybody to feel loved. We don’t want to hurt anyone and we don’t want to be hurt. So we want to project that image and be that guiding light in our community. We want to be that shining example. As our EDA Director Kathy Price noted at the study session, we are all ambassadors of our city and how we address others and handle ourselves matters. City Manager Sumner then presented his Manager's Report.

- 21 -

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.


C. SETH SUMNER, City Manager


CHARLES T. BURRIS, II, Mayor