

ATHENS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING

July 17, 2018

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 17, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Burris presiding. The invocation was given by Council Member Raper; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Pelley, Perkinson, Raper, Coker, 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 meetings of May 15, 2018 and June 19, 2018, and the called meeting of July 9, 2018 were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

- 2 -
COMMUNICATIONS

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

C. Seth Sumner, City Manager, presented the "Employee of the Quarter" award for the period ending June 30, 2018 to Tony Byers, a Patrol Sergeant with the Athens Police Department.

- 3 -

RECOGNITION AND COMMENDATION OF FIRE CHIEF JIM DYER

Fire Chief Jim Dyer recently announced his resignation, effective Aug. 10, to take a job closer to home as the assistant chief of the Karns Fire Department. On behalf of the Athens City Council, City Manager Sumner read a surprise resolution in honor of his service and milestone accomplishments as fire chief and presented him with a plaque honoring his service to the city. Chief Dyer thanked the Athens Fire Department officers and firefighters for their tremendous hard work stating he could not have done it without them. He thanked the Council for supporting the fire department with their money and their time. Chief Dyer stated he appreciated the opportunity he had been given in the City of Athens and thanked everyone.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-24

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING JAMES "JIM" DYER FOR HIS DEDICATION AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE CITY OF ATHENS AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

Motion was made by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Raper, to approve Resolution No. 2018-24 as read in its entirety. Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

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PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

Mayor Burris opened the meeting for petitions and requests from the audience.

REQUESTS FROM CITIZENS

Linda Grubb, 209 Woodman Street, presented a letter to the City Council and City Manager regarding an animal control issue in which two pit bulls were running loose in her neighborhood

and killing cats including her own. Animal Control picked up the dogs on several occasions but released them back to the owner only to have the owner allow them to run free again. After the fifth time, Animal Control captured the dogs and euthanized them per stipulation with a friend of the owner who had picked up the dogs from the shelter. Mayor Burris thanked Ms. Grubb for taking the matter to the City Manager. He promised her that if there was any way to resolve this problem, City Manager Sumner, Police Chief Couch and Public Works Director Burchfield will find it.

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REPORTS

MCMINN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY UPDATE

Ms. Kathy Price, Executive Director of McMinn County Economic Development Authority, presented the City Council with her quarterly update.

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HOUSING TASK FORCE UPDATE

Mr. Jordan Curtis, Chair of the Housing Task Force, presented the City Council with an update on housing in the City. The Southeast Tennessee Development District is seeking to hire a consultant to do a full housing study for their entire service area. It is the Task Force's hope to piggyback on all of the data that they are going to gather. While they are waiting for that data to be compiled, they have formed committees to do a workforce survey to target the top 10 largest employers in the county, survey people that operate apartments, and community survey/poll similar to one done by Thrive recently. It is the hope of the Task Force to have the Strategic Plan finished and to the City Council ahead of schedule and under budget.

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FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

- 8 -

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

- 9 -

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

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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 following items were read into the record:

- a.) Appoint Everett Gillespie and Joan Moore to fill vacancies on McMinn County Library Board, terms expire June 20, 2021.
- b.) Appoint Erica Peden to serve as the citizen member on the Friendly City Sister Cities Committee Board of Directors, term expires July 17, 2021.
- c.) Appoint Becky Simpson to serve as the representative of local schools on the Friendly City Sister Cities Committee Board of Directors, term expires July 17, 2020.
- d.) Appoint Council Member Perkinson to serve as the Athens City Council representative on the Friendly City Sister Cities Committee Board of Directors.
- e.) Accept bid (Bid # 1673) as submitted by Stephens Excavating, LLC to demolish and clear four condemned structures.
- f.) Accept bid (Bid # 1674) as submitted by Vacuum Truck Rentals, LLC to purchase a sewer jetter for Public Works.

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

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

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ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 1070 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE TO SET THE PROPERTY TAX RATE ON TAXABLE PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2018 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2019.

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 Perkinson, seconded by Vice Mayor Coker, to approve Ordinance No. 1070 on Second and Final Reading.** Ordinance No. 1070 was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

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OLD BUSINESS

AGREEMENT WITH MCMINN COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-19

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH MCMINN COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT TO CONTINUE AS A USER OF THEIR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK.

The caption of Resolution No. 2018-19 was read by the recording clerk. **Motion was made by Vice Mayor Coker, seconded by Council Member Raper, to approve Resolution No. 2018-19.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

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NEW BUSINESS

PROPOSED COMMITMENT TO THE CENTER FOR ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND BUSINESS INNOVATION (CAMBI) PROJECT

City Manager Sumner noted that the County originally agreed to contribute \$500,000 to the Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Business Innovation (CAMBI) Project and has agreed to provide an additional \$500,000, for a total of \$1,000,000. The City originally agreed to contribute \$250,000 and approval of an additional \$250,000 would bring the total contribution to \$500,000. **Motion was made by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Vice Mayor Coker, to commit an additional \$250,000 to the Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Business Innovation (CAMBI) project.** Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

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2018-19 TML "SAFETY PARTNERS" MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-20

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TML RISK MANAGEMENT POOL 2018-19 TML "SAFETY PARTNERS" MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM.

The caption of Resolution No. 2018-20 was read by the recording clerk. **Motion was made by Vice Mayor Coker, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, to approve Resolution No. 2018-20.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

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EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-21

A RESOLUTION TO REPLACE "PERSONNEL RULES & REGULATIONS" APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL ON AUGUST 20, 2002, ALONG WITH ALL AMENDMENTS TO SAID PLAN WITH AN "EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK."

The caption of Resolution No. 2018-21 was read by the recording clerk. **Motion was made by Council Member Perkinson, seconded by Vice Mayor Coker, to approve Resolution No. 2018-21.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

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INTER-LOCAL COOPERATION AND MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH 10TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DRUG AND VIOLENT CRIME TASK FORCE

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-22

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN INTER-LOCAL COOPERATION AND MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH THE 10TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DRUG AND VIOLENCE CRIME TASK FORCE.

The caption of Resolution No. 2018-22 was read by the recording clerk. **Motion was made by Vice Mayor Coker, seconded by Council Member Pelley, to approve Resolution No. 2018-22.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

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ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL FLAG FOR THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-23

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE OFFICIAL FLAG FOR THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE.

The caption of Resolution No. 2018-23 was read by the recording clerk. **Motion was made by Council Member Raper, seconded by Council Member Perkinson, to approve Resolution No. 2018-23.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

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MANAGER'S REPORT

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 7:25 p.m.



C. SETH SUMNER, City Manager



CHARLES T. BURRIS, II, Mayor