

ATHENS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING

July 21, 2020

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 21, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Burris presiding. This meeting was held pursuant to Governor Bill Lee's Executive Order # 16, allowing the virtual attendance of council members, and CDC/White House guidelines limiting the number of the group present. The City of Athens upholds its citizens right to witness their legislative body in action and provided this meeting by livestream and the ability to physically attend. The invocation was given by Mayor Burris; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Coker, Lockmiller, Pelley, Perkinson, Burris

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

Council Member Coker asked for a point of personal privilege. He announced that he had moved his permanent residence outside the city limits and was resigning his seat on the Athens City Council. He and his wife sold their Athens residence last year with the intention of finding a new home in the city. Unfortunately, they were unable to find another home in Athens that met their needs and ended up purchasing a home outside of the city. Council Member Coker stated it was his intent to maintain a residence in Athens for the duration of his Council term at an apartment he owns on North Jackson Street above his business, Coker Millwrights. When he eventually discussed his situation with City Attorney Trew and the McMinn County Elections Commission, he was informed by the Election Commission that because of the zoning laws the residence could not be used as his primary residence. Mayor Burris and members of the City Council expressed their thanks to Council Member Coker for his service and expressed their best wishes. Council Member Coker then asked to be excused. Mayor Burris stated that according to the City Charter, when any vacancy in the council occurs, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the council members. He asked that the Council discuss appointing a replacement to serve the remainder of Coker's unexpired term at the Council's next study session, scheduled for August 10, 2020.

- 1 -

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the June 16, 2020 regularly scheduled meeting were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

- 2 -

COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Burris acknowledged receipt of thank you letters from Coordinated Charities and St. Paul's Episcopal Church for the donations to their food banks. Austin Fesmire, Parks and Recreation Director, received a letter from the USA Softball of Tennessee organization commending him and his staff for their cooperation, professionalism, and hospitality displayed during the USA Softball of Tennessee Girls Class A Fast-pitch State Tournament held from June 26-28 at Athens Regional Park.

- 3 -

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 following items into the record:

- a.) Reappoint Jona Garrett to Athens Regional Planning Commission, term expires August 18, 2023.
- b.) Appoint Nancy Contreras and Amanda Curtis to fill vacancies on Health and Educational Facilities Board, terms expire September 21, 2021.
- c.) Appoint Lauren Shepherd to fill vacancy on Historic Preservation Commission, term expires October 1, 2024.
- d.) Approve purchase of Tyler Tech INCODE Public Safety Suite Records Management System and e-Citations solution.
- e.) Approve Resolution No. 2020-28 providing for maintenance, preservation, and protection of public records.

- f.) Approve Resolution No. 2020-29 authorizing City Manager to apply for a 2020-21 PEP "Safety Partners" Match Grant Program (50/50 match).
- g.) Approve Resolution No. 2020-30 authorizing City Manager to apply for a 2020-21 PEP James L. Richardson "Driver Safety" Match Grant Program.
- h.) Approve Resolution No. 2020-31 authorizing City Manager to apply for the 2020 Tourism Enhancement Grant through the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development.

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

AYES: Lockmiller, Pelley, Perkinson, Burris
NAYS: None

- 4 -

ORDINANCES

None

- 5 -

OLD BUSINESS

None

- 6 -

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1303 FRYE STREET – REQUEST BY DAN DILLION

ORDINANCE NO. 1089 – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND 'THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE,' SO AS TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1303 FRYE STREET FROM I-1 (LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT) TO M-1 (MEDICAL DISTRICT) SAID AREA BEING LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE.

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. **A motion was made by Council Member Pelley, seconded by Vice Mayor Perkinson, to approve Ordinance No. 1089 on First Reading.** The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Lockmiller, Pelley, Perkinson, Burris
NAYS: None

- 7 -

ORDINANCE TO ADD LANGUAGE TO THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT IN THE ZONING CODE

ORDINANCE NO. 1090 – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, PROVIDING THAT THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 14, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 3.04.11.B USES PERMITTED, BE AMENDED TO ADD LANGUAGE TO ALLOW VEHICLE SALES, RENTAL, AND SERVICE IN THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT; 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 Lockmiller, seconded by Vice Mayor Perkinson, to approve Ordinance No. 1090 on First Reading.** The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Lockmiller, Pelley, Perkinson, Burris
NAYS: None

- 8 -

ORDINANCE TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 521 EAST AVENUE – REQUEST BY CRISTIAN FERNANDEZ

ORDINANCE NO. 1091 – FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND 'THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE,' SO AS TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 521 EAST AVENUE FROM I-2

(HEAVY INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT) TO B-3 (INTENSIVE BUSINESS DISTRICT) SAID AREA BEING LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE.

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. **A motion was made by Vice Mayor Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Lockmiller, to approve Ordinance No. 1091 on First Reading.** The motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Lockmiller, Pelley, Perkinson, Burris
NAYS: None

- 9 -

REPORTS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUARTERLY BUILDING REPORT

Mr. Anthony Casteel, Community Development Director, presented the Quarterly Building Report for the City of Athens. The report was accepted as presented.

- 10 -

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Mike Keith, Finance Director, presented the Finance Department Report for the month of June 2020. The report was accepted as presented.

- 11 -

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Ainsworth presented the Fire Department Report for the month of June 2020. The report was accepted as presented.

- 12 -

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Cliff Couch presented the Police Department Report for the month of June 2020. The report was accepted as presented.

- 13 -

REQUESTS FROM CITIZENS

None

- 14 -

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER


City Manager Sumner reviewed his monthly report including the various Parks and Recreation and Public Works projects and activities going on throughout the city.

- 15 -

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.


C. SETH SUMNER, City Manager


CHARLES T. BURRIS, II, Mayor