

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, NOVEMBER 28, 2016

The Athens City Council met in called session on November 28, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. with Mayor Davis presiding. The invocation was given by Vice Mayor Perkinson; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Burris, Pelley, Raper, Perkinson, Davis

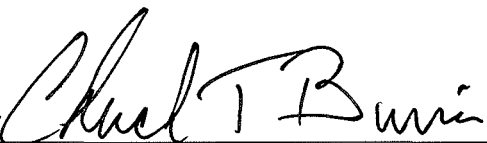
The following decision was made and ordered made a part of the records of the Athens City Council.

The purpose of the meeting, as issued in the "Notice of Called Meeting" dated November 15, 2016, was read and made a part of these minutes:

NOTICE OF CALLED MEETING

There will be a called meeting of the Athens City Council on Monday, November 28, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. in the Athens Municipal Building Burkett L. Witt Council Chambers located at 815 North Jackson Street. The purpose of the called meeting is to:

1. Approve Minutes of the November 15, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Athens City Council
2. Accept the Certification of Election results from the McMinn County Commissioners of Election
3. Swear in newly elected council members
4. Reorganize the Athens City Council
 - a. Elect Mayor
 - b. Elect Vice Mayor
 - c. Appoint Council Representatives

/s/ 
Chuck T. Burris, Council Member

/s/ 
Dick Pelley, Council Member

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MINUTES

The Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of November 15, 2016 were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

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CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION

The following official tabulation of the Athens City Election was presented by City Attorney Trew and is entered herein as a part of these Minutes:

"We, the undersigned members of the McMinn County Election Commission, do hereby certify that we held a Municipal Election for the City of Athens on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, in all of the voting precincts in this city, according to law, for the purpose of electing the offices of City Commissioner and City School Board, and that we have canvassed the returns of said election as required by law, and we do hereby certify that the following three (3) pages of tabulation are a true, correct, and complete accounting of the results by precinct and county of said election as established by the canvassing of the returns, this 22nd day of November, 2016."

McMinn County Commissioners of Election

/s/ Amber Robinson, Chairman

/s/ Bobby Goodman, Secretary

/s/ Brenda Ratledge, Member

/s/ Matthew T. Watson, Member

ATHENS CITY COUNCIL – (4 YEAR TERM) VOTE FOR TWO (2)

Chuck Burris	2,348
John Coker	1,975
Whitney Kimball Coe	1,592
Tim Hughes	1,202
Jordan Curtis	<u>931</u>

Total Votes Cast 8,048

ATHENS CITY SCHOOL BOARD – (4 YEAR TERM) VOTE FOR THREE (3)

Chris Adams	3,329
Michael L. Bevins	3,278
Beth Jackson	<u>3,265</u>

Total Votes Cast 9,872

ATHENS CITY SCHOOL BOARD – (2 YEAR TERM) VOTE FOR ONE (1)

Johnny Coffman	<u>3,857</u>
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Total Votes Cast 3,857

A motion was made by Council Member Pelley, seconded by Council Member Raper, to accept the Certification of Election results as presented. Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote:

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

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SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

The swearing in of the newly-elected council members (Burris and Coker) was conducted by City Attorney Chris Trew. Upon seating of the new council, followed by roll call, the following members were in attendance:

Burris, Coker, Pelley, Perkinson, Raper

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REORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL

The method of selecting the mayor is determined by the Charter of the City of Athens (Article V; Sections 1 & 11), whereby the councilmen at the first regular meeting after each biennial election shall elect from one of their number a mayor and vice mayor for a term of two years.

ELECTION OF MAYOR

To begin the reorganization of the Council, City Attorney Trew announced he would accept nominations for the election of mayor.

Council Member Perkinson moved to nominate Council Member Burris to serve a two-year term as Mayor, seconded by Council Member Raper. Council Member Perkinson stated he felt Council Member Burris would serve the city of Athens well as Mayor. Council Member Coker stated that since Council Member Burris received the largest percentage of votes, he should be the nominee for Mayor. He felt Council Member Burris would do a fantastic job and the citizens had chosen well. He looked forward to the opportunity to serve the citizens under Council Member Burris' leadership. The motion to elect Council Member Burris as Mayor passed by the following roll call vote:

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

ELECTION OF VICE MAYOR

Mayor Burris announced he would accept nominations for the election of vice mayor.

Council Member Raper moved to nominate Council Member Perkinson to serve a two-year term as Vice Mayor. The motion died for lack of a second.

Council Member Coker moved to nominate Council Member Pelley to serve a two-year term as Vice Mayor, seconded by Mayor Burris. He stated he had contacted the McMinn County Elections Commission and found that Council Member Pelley had led the voting in 2014 when he, Council Member Perkinson and Council Member Raper were on the ballot. This was the primary reason he felt Council Member Pelley should be nominated for Vice Mayor. Council Member Perkinson stated he could not vote for Council Member Pelley. He wanted to strive for unity on the Council and felt he had worked to that effect. He expected and wanted everybody else to also, but, for that reason, he could not vote for Council Member Pelley for Vice Mayor. Mayor Burris stated that every time Council Member Pelley ran for election he was the top vote getter. He promised that the one thing he would work hard for was to have everyone respect each other. They may not always agree with each other but they will respect each other and the citizens of Athens. Council Member Raper asked Council Member Pelley for better communication with his fellow council members. Council Member Coker stated they were going to be civil to one another and they were going to listen to the people. He commented that he plans to push for the elimination of the three-minute time limit on individual public comments during Council meetings. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the motion to elect Council Member Pelley as Vice Mayor passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Burris, Coker, Pelley
NAYS: Perkinson, Raper

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Mayor Burris deferred appointment of council representatives until the December 20, 2016 meeting. He wanted to have an opportunity to discuss the appointments with the Council at their December 12, 2016 Work Session.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting and upon motion duly made by Council Member Perkinson and seconded by Council Member Coker, the meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.



CHUCK T. BURRIS, Mayor



MITCHELL B. MOORE, City Manager