

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN (BMA)
MINUTES FOR
JANUARY 25, 2021**

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Tullahoma, Coffee and Franklin Counties, Tennessee assembled at the Municipal Building, in Tullahoma, for a meeting on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Ray Knowis presiding and the following named members of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen: Jenna Amacher, Daniel Berry, Rupa Blackwell, Jimmy Blanks, Robin Dunn and Sernobia McGee. All Board Members were present.

Due to the Covid-19 Emergency, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen will conduct its essential business by electronic means rather than being required to gather a quorum of the members physically present in the same location because it is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Tennesseans. This meeting is in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order No. 71.

Jennifer Moody, City Administrator; Stephen M. Worsham, City Attorney and Rosemary Golden, City Recorder were present at the meeting.

The invocation was said by Dr. Jimmy Blanks and he led us in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

COMMENDATIONS AND CERTIFICATES: - NONE -

PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Mayor Ray Knowis recognized Dr. Greg English. He has been named the "Assistant Principal of the Year" by the Tennessee Association of Secondary School Principals. He will now go on to represent Tullahoma in the national level. The Mayor recognized Jason Quick and he read the nomination letter that he submitted on behalf of Dr. Greg English.

Mayor Ray Knowis recognized Ms. Jennifer Moody the City Administrator. Ms. Moody gave the background information regarding the employee of the month program. Ms. Moody then recognized, Eric Pierce from the Public Works Department. She said he was nominated by an employee from another department. Mr. Robert "Butch" Taylor, his supervisor said a few words.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: - NONE -

REPORTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

ALDERMAN BERRY - Mr. Berry stated he attended several meetings and events including: a Community Council on Diversity and Inclusion meeting and a Coffee County Consolidated Communications Commission meeting. He said congratulations to Dr. Greg English for winning the “Assistant Principal of the Year Award”; congratulations to Richard Steiner on his retirement; congratulations to Eric Pierce on being appointed the “Employee of the month”; congratulations to three (3) Police Department employees for obtaining their master’s degree (Brook Arthur, Cody Brandon and Jason Williams). Alderman Berry said congratulations to Investigator Johnny Gore for 26 years of service. He noted that there has been a decrease in the City’s employee turnover rate. Alderman Berry said he is working on a “Champions in the Community” program.

ALDERMAN MCGEE - Ms. McGee said both the Tullahoma Housing Authority meeting and the Tullahoma Area Economic Development Corporation meeting were postponed this past month. Alderman McGee said she was able to raise \$1,000 and received an equal match in less than 36 hours in order to have the Evergreen Cemetery added to the “Wreaths Across America” event this year in December. Alderman McGee said she is planning a “Pop up Shop” seminar for small businesses, she hopes to have it in late spring. She said congratulations to both Dr. Greg English and Mr. Eric Pierce for their recent recognitions.

ALDERMAN AMACHER - Ms. Amacher said the Tourism Council meeting was cancelled this past month. She gave a small business shout out to the “For the Win Cigar Shop” located on Lincoln Street. She congratulated both Dr. Greg English and Mr. Eric Pierce for their recent recognitions. Alderman Amacher said she attended a Community Council for Diversity and Inclusion meeting and also the retirement ceremony for Richard Steiner. She said she is still working on an “Expungement Fair”. Alderman Amacher stated, “We need to continue the study work sessions”. She said the Tree Board wants to start a Facebook page.

ALDERMAN BLACKWELL - Ms. Blackwell said she attended several meetings including: a Planning Commission meeting and a Community Council on Diversity and Inclusion meeting. This coming Friday both the Tullahoma Board of Education and the Domestic Violence Task Force will be meeting. On Martin Luther King Day she spent it as a day of service and was picking up trash. Alderman Blackwell stated the project at Jefferson Street Park is coming along slowly due to the cold wet weather. She will host a “Coffee and Conversation” at the Camino Real Mexican restaurant on Thursday February 11, 2021. She said congratulations to both Dr. Greg English and Mr. Eric Pierce for their recent recognitions. Alderman Blackwell said she is working on a free mental health care program for Tullahoma residents.

ALDERMAN DUNN - Ms. Dunn said the "Go Green" committee received a grant from TVA, they intend to have a workshop for middle school students regarding Rock Creek. This committee also plans on having another "Rain Barrel" workshop. The Interlocal Solid Waste Authority ISWA is sponsoring a Zoom meeting scheduled for later this week regarding a composting demonstration.

MAYOR PRO TEM BLANKS - Dr. Blanks stated he had attended a Duck River Utility Commission meeting. He stated the Tullahoma Utility Authority meeting will be tomorrow. The Arts Council is working on arranging the American Water Color Society Exhibit that is coming to Tullahoma from Feb 6, 2021 to Feb. 27th. Alderman Blanks stated all the events that were scheduled at the South Jackson Civic Center have been cancelled for the months of January and February. He congratulated both Dr. Greg English and Mr. Eric Pierce for their recent recognitions. He said Public Works does a good job behind the scenes. Alderman Blanks said, "Shop Tullahoma."

MAYOR RAY KNOWIS - Mayor Knowis stated he had attended both a Planning Commission meeting and an Airport Authority meeting. He congratulated both Dr. Greg English and Mr. Eric Pierce for their achievements. Mayor Knowis stated the number of new Covid-19 cases in Coffee County has been going down.

CITY ATTORNEY - Mr. Stephen M. Worsham stated he is working on several items for the City. He said his office will soon start to file suit for the people who are delinquent on their 2019 property taxes.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR - Ms. Jennifer Moody reported the IT department has selected a vendor for the new City Website. Ms. Moody stated Winston Brooks and she are still working on the Advanced Coding Education (ACE) program. She thanked the Tullahoma Utility Authority for updating our Boardroom with cameras and microphones and said hopefully in March we will be able to meet in person.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEM NO. 21-09- MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

ITEM NO. 21-10 - FINANCIAL REPORT - DECEMBER 2020

ITEM NO. 21-11 - APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE REPLACEMENT OF ONE (1) FLATBED DUMP TRUCK IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$45,650.56 FROM RUSSELL BARNETT FORD OF TULLAHOMA FOR THE TULLAHOMA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

ITEM NO. 21-12 - APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT COMPUTERS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$13,397.77, UTILIZING STATE CONTRACT PRICING FROM DELL, FOR THE TULLAHOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Knowis read the captions for the items on the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and seconded by Alderman Blanks to approve the items listed above on the consent agenda.

On roll call all members present voted aye and it was so ordered.

OLD BUSINESS: - NONE -

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 1546 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA, TENNESSEE, AS SET FORTH IN THE TULLAHOMA MUNICIPAL CODE, WHICH IS ORDINANCE NO. 1392, TO RE-ZONE A PARCEL AT 104 SOUTHSIDE STREET (COFFEE COUNTY TAX MAP 127F, Group J, PARCEL 017.01) FROM C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL TO R-3 HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT; adopt on the first of two readings.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1546 and said we held a Public Hearing on this matter earlier this evening. He said the background information can be found starting on page 34 of the agenda

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to approve Ordinance No. 1546 on the first of two readings.

On roll call all members present voted aye and it was so ordered.

ITEM NO. 21-13 – ANNOUNCE A VACANCY ON THE TULLAHOMA AIRPORT AUTHORITY AS THREE (3) BOARD MEMBER TERMS EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 27, 2021

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 20-13 and said the background information can be found in the agenda starting on page 49. He said both Mr. Paul Sirks and Ms. Jennifer Benetti Longhini are interested in being considered for reappointment. This means that there will be at least one board seat left open and the BMA will be accepting Citizen Participation Forms from interested Tullahoma residents.

ITEM NO. 21-14 – REAPPOINT MR. PAUL SIRKS TO THE TULLAHOMA AIRPORT AUTHORITY AS HIS TERMS IS SET TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 27, 2021

Mayor Knowis said the TAA Board and himself recommend that the Board of Mayor and Alderman consider an exception to the 2-term limit policy for Mr. Paul Sirks; since Mr. Sirks only served a brief time of a partial term back in 2016.

A motion was made by Alderman Amacher and seconded by Alderman Blackwell to reappoint Mr. Sirks to serve a second full-term of five years to end on February 27, 2027 pending the outcome of Mr. Worsham’s research.

A discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry to postpone this agenda item to next meeting but the motion failed due to a lack of a second.

A discussion ensued

On roll call all members present voted on the original motion as follows:

Ayes: Amacher, Blackwell, Blanks, Dunn, Knowis and McGee
Nay: Berry

The result being six (6) Ayes and one (1) Nay; the motion passed and was so ordered.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Mayor and Aldermen at this time, the Board Meeting adjourned at 6:42pm.

CITY RECORDER

MAYOR