

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN (BMA)
MINUTES FOR
MARCH 08, 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, March 8, 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.

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

The invocation was said by Rev. Don Dixon and he led us in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

COMMENDATIONS AND CERTIFICATES:

Mayor Ray Knowis introduced the Honorary Alderman, Mr. Petros Pisinis. He is a senior at Tullahoma High School. Mr. Pisinis is involved with the following organizations at the school and community: THS Swim Team; THS Tennis Team; Mayor of the Mayor's Youth Group and a member of the Health Care Advocacy Group. He plans on attending a university out west in southern California to study Business Management.

Mayor Ray Knowis recognized Ms. Jennifer Moody the City Administrator. Ms. Moody gave the background information regarding the employee(s) of the month program. Ms. Moody then recognized, Mr. Andrew Frittenburg and Mr. Greg Stage from the Public Works Department. She said they were nominated by a citizen in the community. They happened to be in the right place at the right time. They helped an elderly woman who had fallen on the ice and broke her hip. Ms. Moody and Robert Taylor then presented them with their Employee of the Month Certificates.

PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Mayor Knowis recognized Ms. Diane Bryant. Ms. Bryant gave a brief presentation regarding the benefits of the City of Tullahoma supporting a proposed acquisition by the University of Tennessee System to covert the 150-year old private college (Martin Methodist College) to a public university in southern middle Tennessee. There is a Resolution on the agenda tonight for the BMA consideration.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: - NONE -

REPORTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

ALDERMAN AMACHER - Ms. Amacher said the Tree Board attended an Arbor Day Ceremony. She said the South Central Tennessee Tourism Association has a new website. The flashing “slow down” traffic lights at Robert E. Lee and East Middle schools have been adjusted for a start time of 7:00am instead of 7:30am. Ms. Amacher would like to see a Citywide Trash clean-up day. Ms. Amacher said all the Board members have completed their evaluation of the City Administrator, Ms. Jennifer Moody. Ms. Amacher’s small business “Shout Out” this meeting is to the Glick and Woods Dentistry. They will be hosting their 38th annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 27th at 10:00am at the Frazier - McEwen Park. She said she became a member of the Tullahoma Fine Arts Center. Ms. Amacher said comedian Henry Cho will perform at the South Jackson Civic Center on Friday, April 2, 20201 at 7:00pm.

ALDERMAN BERRY - Mr. Berry stated he attended the Arbor Day Ceremony. He said the Coffee County Consolidated Communications Commission will have a study session soon. He attended the little league tryout and watched a Middle School baseball game. Mr. Berry said the Jefferson Street Park is looking good. He stated he will be working with Alderman Dunn and the “Get Fit Tullahoma” members for an event that will not just be for getting physically fit, but also mentally and socially fit. Alderman Berry said that he is on the marketing committee for the South Central Tennessee Tourism Association.

ALDERMAN MCGEE - Ms. McGee stated the Tullahoma Housing Authority meeting had been cancelled. She did attend the Tullahoma Area Economic Development Corporation meeting. The Big Lots store will be moving into the building located next door to Hobby Lobby store. Ms. McGee thanked Alderman Blackwell for her efforts in helping with improving both the Jefferson Street Park and the Silver Street Park. Alderman McGee stated the City sponsored Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 3rd at the South Jackson Civic Center at 2:00pm. She congratulated the two employee(s) of the month. Ms. McGee said she has a list of resources for those who might be in need of some assistance.

MAYOR PRO TEM BLANKS - Dr. Blanks stated he had attended both the Tullahoma Utility Authority meeting and an Arts Council meeting. He stated in the past the alderman have adopted a portion of Clement Drive to help clean-up different parts of the city. Last year they did not do it because of COVID-19, but he hopes we can organize a clean-up day this spring. Dr. Blanks is in favor of the emergency purchase of a pool heater that is later on in the agenda. He said, “Shop Tullahoma”.

ALDERMAN DUNN - Ms. Dunn said last year was the first year the Board did not have a clean-up effort/clean-up day. She hopes this year the Board will consider doing it as part of "Earth Day". Alderman Dunn said the Go Green Committee will use the grant money it received from TUA for rain barrels that they will give away at the Farmer's Market on April 19, 2021. Ms. Dunn said she is working with Vanderbilt Hospital and the school system to establish a "no idle zone" at the local elementary and middle schools.

ALDERMAN BLACKWELL - Ms. Blackwell said at the Jefferson Street Park, they are working on getting new lighting put in and maybe some new playground equipment in the future. She is still helping out with the Domestic Violence Task Force as they are going into the middle schools in the area to discuss with the students what healthy relationships should look like. Alderman Blackwell said she will host two separate meetings this week. This Tuesday from 8:00am to 9:30am at the Celtic Cup and then this Thursday from 5:00pm to 6:30pm at the Camino Real. She said the Chamber held its annual event this year via Zoom. Alderman Blackwell said the Community Council on Diversity and Inclusion has formed its steering committee.

HONORARY ALDERMAN PISINOS - Mr. Pisinis stated the Tullahoma High School Prom will be held this year on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at the high school gymnasium.

MAYOR RAY KNOWIS - Mr. Knowis stated he had attended several meeting and events including: an Airport Authority meeting; an Arbor Day Ceremony and a Planning Commission meeting. He stated the Airplane Owners and Pilot Association (AOPA) would like to discuss having a class at the high school.

CITY ATTORNEY - Mr. Stephen M. Worsham said it is wonderful to see everyone in person. He stated he is working on several items for the City. The 2019 delinquent property tax cases have been filed at the county. He said he is still working on the delinquent tax sale for later this year.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR - Ms. Jennifer Moody reported a bill has been filed in the House and Senate to move our City Elections to even years only. Once it makes its way through the legislation she will bring it back to this Board for a final vote. She recently heard back from TDOT that the drainage under Waggoner Street does qualify for a grant. She gave more details/background information about the emergency purchase request (for the Pool Heater at DW Wilson) under the consent agenda.

Ms. Moody recognized the Police Chief, Jason Williams, and he gave an annual Police report. The report can be found in the agenda on pages 4 to 11.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEM NO. 21-29– MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

ITEM NO. 21-30 – ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD OF \$1,000 FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE’S ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE FARMERS MARKET TULLAHOMA

ITEM NO. 21-31 – RATIFY THE EMERGENCY PURCHASE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,306, FOR A REPLACEMENT OF THE INDOOR POOL HEATER AT DW WILSON COMMUNITY CENTER

ITEM NO. 21-32 – APPROVE A LIST OF CITY PROPERTY TO BE DECLARED SURPLUS

ITEM NO. 21-33 – SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MARCH 22, 2021 ON A REQUEST TO REZONE THE PROPERTY AT 200 FLOWERTOWN ROAD FROM HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL/MOBILE HOME PARK DISTRICT (R-4) TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (C-2)

ITEM NO. 21-34 - SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MARCH 22, 2021 ON A REQUEST TO REZONE A PARCEL AT 300 S. ATLANTIC STREET FROM CENTRAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (C-1) TO NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (C-3)

ITEM NO. 21-35 - SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MARCH 22, 2021 ON A REQUEST TO REZONE A PARCEL AT THE 200 BLOCK OF FLOWERTOWN ROAD FROM LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (R-1) AND LOW-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (UGB) RS-1 TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (C-2)

ITEM NO. 21-36 - SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MARCH 22, 2021 ON A TEXT AMENDMENT FOR SECTION 804 NONCONFORMING LOTS OF RECORD

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:

ORDINANCE NO. 1547 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA, TENNESSEE TO AMEND TITLE 2, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, ETC., OF THE TULLAHOMA MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DEFINE “PARTIAL TERMS”; adopt on the second and final reading.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1547 and gave the background information.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and was seconded by Alderman Amacher to approve Ordinance No. 1547 on the second and final reading.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 1854 – A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2021

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Resolution No. 1854 and said the background information could be found starting on page 27 of the agenda.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and was seconded by Alderman Berry to approve the Resolution reducing dependence on reserve and restoring programs and projects for the remainder of FY 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 1855 – A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE STATE ACQUISITION OF MARTIN METHODIST COLLEGE ESTABLISHING A FOURTH CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Resolution No. 1855 and said Ms. Diane Bryant spoke to the BMA earlier this evening about this opportunity.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and was seconded by Alderman Berry to approve this Resolution of support and to send the same to the Tennessee General Assembly.

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Ayes(s): Amacher, Berry, Blackwell, Dunn, Knowis, McGee
Nay(s): Blanks

The vote being six (6) ayes and one (1) nay; the motion passed and was so ordered.

Please see note at the end of the Meeting

ITEM NO. 21-37 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF 2.03 ACRES OF REAL PROPERTY AT THE INTERSECTION OF OVOCA ROAD AND RILEY CREEK ROAD (MAP 109, PARCEL 053.12), IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,000, AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 21-37 and gave some background information.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and was seconded by Alderman Berry to approve this purchase and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents necessary to execute the purchase.

City Administrator, Ms. Jennifer Moody, gave more detailed information.

A discussion ensued.

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

ITEM NO. 21-38 – CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO NEGOTIATE, AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE, A ONE-YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA AND THE LITERACY COUNCIL (AND THE BOOK SHELF) FOR USE OF REAL PROPERTY AT 114 SW ATLANTIC STREET, SUBJECT TO FINAL REVIEW OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT BY THE CITY ATTORNEY

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 21-38 and gave some background information.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to approve Agenda Item No. 21-38 thereby authorize the City Administrator to negotiate and authorize the Mayor to execute a 12-month lease agreement with the Literacy Council and the Book Shelf for use of real property at 114 SW Atlantic Street; subject to final review by the City Attorney.

A discussion ensued.

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

Alderman Berry asked if he could change his vote on an earlier item, Resolution No. 1855.

RESOLUTION NO. 1855 – A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE STATE ACQUISITION OF MARTIN METHODIST COLLEGE ESTABLISHING A FOURTH CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM

Alderman Berry then made a motion and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell for the BMA members to vote again on Resolution No. 1855.

A discussion ensued.

The motion was called.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Ayes(s): Blackwell, Dunn, Knowis, McGee

Nay(s): Amacher, Berry, Blanks

The vote being four (4) ayes and three (3) nays; 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 7:20pm.

CITY RECORDER

MAYOR