

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN (BMA)  
MINUTES FOR  
AUGUST 8, 2022**

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 Board meeting on Monday, August 8, 2022, 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; Michael E. Giffin, Acting City Attorney and Rosemary Golden, City Recorder were present at the meeting.

Mayor Knowis called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was said by Rev. Tim McGehee and he led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Recorder, Rosemary Golden, called the roll.

Mayor Ray Knowis made an announcement that there have been four (4) Open House meetings scheduled for public comments on the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The schedule is as follows:

Friday, August 19, 2022 from 1:00 to 4:00  
Saturday, August 20, 2022 from 10:00 to 2:00  
Friday, August 26, 2022 from 1:00 to 4:00  
Saturday, August 27, 2022 from 10:00 to 2:00

**COMMENDATIONS AND CERTIFICATES: - NONE -**

**PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

Mayor Ray Knowis presented Mayor Pro-Tem, Jimmy Blanks, with a plaque for his 13+ years of service on the Board of Mayor and Aldermen as both an Alderman and as the Mayor Pro-Tem. Dr. Blanks gave a brief speech. He thanked the citizens for allowing him to serve.

**THE AGENDA WAS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL**

Mayor Knowis stated if there were no objections, we will accept the agenda as presented.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Dunn to add an item to reconsider the vote on the postponement of the consideration of the 2040 Plan.

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Aye(s): Berry, Blackwell, Blanks, Dunn, Knowis, McGee

Nay(s): Amacher

The vote being six (6) aye(s) and one (1) nay(s) passed and was so adopted to put the item on the agenda.

The vote to accept the agenda as amended was taken.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Aye(s): Berry, Blackwell, Blanks, Dunn, Knowis, McGee

Nay(s): Amacher

The vote being six (6) aye(s) and one (1) nay(s) passed and was so ordered.

#### **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:**

Ms. Maureen Burke, 107 Breckenridge Road, stated she is very distressed that the 2040 Comprehensive plan is back on the agenda tonight. She said the city needs to get the citizens comments.

Ms. Linda Johnson, 703 Davis Street, said she did not think it was proper to add something to the agenda without advertising it first.

Mr. Jim Woodard, 2011 North Jackson Street, said "Thank You" to Alderman Jimmy Blanks. We appreciate your service, dedication, and hard work.

Mr. Clint Wolf, 811 Twelve Oaks Road, he stated he came here tonight with the "spirit" of collaboration but the BMA seems to be disingenuous as to what they voted on last meeting. The BMA is not in the "spirit" of what happened two weeks ago. Why is the study session that was planned for tonight cancelled and why is the Ordinance being brought back to the agenda tonight?

Robert Barnes, 102 Blantonwood Drive, stated he just planned on coming tonight to listen but he is surprised / confused as to why the Ordinance is being put back on the agenda tonight.

Ms. Bobbie Wilson, 408 Albemarle Drive, stated she was concerned that the BMA is not going to do as they promised at the last BMA meeting. She stated it appears the citizens are passionate about having a voice in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Greg Gressel, 316 Oak Park Drive, stated we should all be on the same side, the side of Tullahoma. He stated he cannot image any of the Alderman passing the 2040 Plan tonight as it stands. He hopes the BMA will send it back to the Planning Commission.

A motion was made by Alderman Dunn and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to move the agenda item (Ordinance No. 1582 - to adopt the Think Tullahoma 2040 Comprehensive Plan) to under the first item under New Business.

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

Mayor Knowis asked if there were any candidates in the audience that had submitted a citizen Participation form (to apply for the position on the Tullahoma Utilities Board) that would like to speak.

Dr. Jimmy Blanks, 104 Chandelle Drive, gave a brief history of his background and qualifications. He stated he wants to continue serve as a citizen on the TUA Board.

Ms. Patricia Deen, 419 Albemarle Drive, was unable to attend tonight's meeting however she sent the Board of Mayor and Aldermen a letter (attached in the agenda) giving a brief history of her background and qualifications. She stated she would like to serve on the TUA Board. The City Recorder, Rosemary Golden, was asked to read her email in its entirety.

## **REPORTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN**

**ALDERMAN BLACKWELL** - Ms. Blackwell said she would like to have an Alderman volunteer to be on the council for the American Society for Suicide Prevention. There is a fund-raising event happening soon and she will assist in forming a team.

**ALDERMAN DUNN** - Ms. Dunn said she has collected 30 more rain barrels. They will be given out at an up-coming Farmers Market event soon.

**ALDERMAN AMACHER** - Ms. Amacher thanked Dr. Jimmy Blanks for his service on the BMA. She said she attended a Tullahoma Housing Authority meeting. She reminded the BMA that we work for the citizens.

**ALDERMAN BERRY** - Mr. Berry stated he had nothing.

**ALDERMAN MCGEE** - Ms. McGee said she attended a Tullahoma Housing Authority meeting and they will be changing their hours of operation. Alderman McGee made a statement about her time on the BMA. She said, “A true leader brings people together”.

**MAYOR PRO TEM BLANKS** - Dr. Blanks stated he had attended both a Duck River Utility Commission meeting and a Tullahoma Utility Authority meeting. He stated this will be his last “voting” meeting. Alderman Blanks said, “Shop Tullahoma”.

**MAYOR RAY KNOWIS** - Mr. Knowis stated he had no report.

**ACTING CITY ATTORNEY** - Mr. Michael Giffin stated he had no report.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR** – Ms. Jennifer Moody thanked those of you who attended our Employee Swim party and a special thanks to the Parks and Recreation Department for their help in preparing for that evening. Ms. Moody said there is a Grand Opening scheduled for the new Marshalls retail store on Thursday, August 11 at 10:00am. She said there is another reception scheduled for August 22 at 5:00pm for the outgoing and in-coming Aldermen. Ms. Moody said the Blood Assurance establishment has two special blood drives scheduled, a competition between the Fire Department and Police Department to see who can get the most blood donated. Ms. Moody wants everyone to mark their calendars for Thursday, September 8, 2022. This is the day a lot of people will be visiting Tullahoma because of the “Defense Community recognition” will be officially awarded to the city. Show your red, white, and blue colors.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEM NO. 22-115– MINUTES OF THE JULY 25, 2022, REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING.**

**ITEM NO. 22-116– SET A PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING FOR AUGUST 22, 2022, ON A REQUEST TO REZONE THE PROPERTY AT 1900 BLOCK OF NORTH WASHINGTON ST AND VETERANS BLVD FROM THE GENERAL COMMERCIAL (C-2) ZONING DISTRICT AND THE MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (R-2) ZONING DISTRICT TO THE HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (R-3) ZONING DISTRICT**

**ITEM NO. 22-117– SET A PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING FOR AUGUST 22, 2022, ON A REQUEST TO REZONE THE PROPERTY AT 208 & 210 W. WARREN STREET FROM THE CENTRAL COMMERCIAL (C-1) ZONING DISTRICT TO THE HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (R-3) ZONING DISTRICT.**

**ITEM NO. 22-118– SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR AUGUST 22, 2022, ON A REQUEST FOR THE CITY TO DESIGNATE AS SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY TO SALE, 923 925 MAPLEWOOD AVENUE.**

**ITEM NO. 22-119– SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR AUGUST 22, 2022, ON A REQUEST FOR THE CITY TO DESIGNATE AS SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY TO SALE, AN AREA 50' WIDE AND 120' IN LENGTH (6,000 SQUARE FEET) INSIDE AN UNIMPROVED RIGHT-OF-WAY ADJACENT TO 324 AND 326 DRUID LANE.**

**ITEM NO. 22-120– ANNOUNCE A VACANCY ON THE TULLAHOMA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AND CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FROM INTERESTED CITIZENS TO SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING OCTOBER 26, 2024.**

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

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

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Aye(s): Berry, Blackwell, Blanks, Dunn, Knowis, McGee

Nay(s): Amacher

The vote being six (6) aye(s) and one (1) nay(s) passed and was so ordered.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 1579 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA, TENNESSEE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 1540 ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TAX RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022, for passage on the third and final readings.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1579 and stated this is last year's budget and we have already passed it on first reading and second readings.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to approve the FY2022 amended budget on the third and final reading.

An amendment was made by Alderman Blackwell and it was seconded by Alderman McGee to amend this Ordinance by accepting the budget and attachments as presented on third reading.

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

Then the original motion as amended was called for a vote.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 1580 - 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 REZONE AN APPROXIMATELY 2.30 ACRES PARCEL LOCATED AT 95 OVOCA LAKE ROAD (COFFEE COUNTY TAX MAP 106, PARCEL 039.01) FROM RS-1, LOW-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (COFFEE COUNTY) TO R-1, LOW-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, for passage on second and final reading.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1580 and stated we have already had a Public Hearing and we have already passed this on first reading.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to approve Ordinance No. 1580 on second and final reading.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 1581 - 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 REZONE AN APPROXIMATELY 0.50 ACRES PARCELS LOCATED AT 701 E. GRIZZARD STREET AND 406 N. COLLEGE STREET (COFFEE COUNTY TAX MAP 124F, GROUP C, PARCEL 018.00 AND 018.03) FROM R-2, MEDIUM-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-3, HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, for passage on second and final reading.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1581 and stated we have already had a Public Hearing and we have already passed this on first reading.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to approve Ordinance No. 1581 on second and final reading.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 1583 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA, TENNESSEE BY AMENDING TITLE 1 (GENERAL ADMINISTRATION), CHAPTER 1 (GENERAL PROVISIONS), SECTION 1-111 (ELECTIONS; VOTING PRECINCTS) BY DELETING IT IN ITS ENTIRETY AND SUBSTITUTING A NEW SECTION 1-111,** for passage on second and final reading.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1583 and stated we have already had a Public Hearing and we have already passed this on first reading. He said the backup information can be found starting on page 93 of tonight's agenda.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to approve Ordinance No. 1583 on second and final reading.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 1584 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA, TENNESSEE BY AMENDING TITLE 1 (GENERAL ADMINISTRATION), CHAPTER 2 (BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN), SECTION 1-207 (SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER), BY SUBSTITUTING A NEW SECTION 1-207 THAT REFLECTS THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN HAVE ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION 1895 SPECIAL RULES AND PROCEDURES** for passage on second and final reading.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1584 and stated we have already had a Public Hearing and we have already passed this on first reading.

A motion was made by Alderman Dunn and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to approve Ordinance No. 1584 on second and final reading.

Alderman Amacher made a motion and it was seconded by Alderman McGee to postpone voting on this until the new Board can vote on it.

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Aye(s): Amacher, McGee

Nay(s): Berry, Blackwell, Blanks, Dunn, Knowis

The vote being two (2) aye(s) and five (5) nay(s) failed.

The original motion was called for a vote.

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

**ITEM NO. 22-113 – CONSIDER APPROVAL TO DESIGNATE AS SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY FOR SALE, 411 E. CARROLL STREET.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 22-113 and he stated we have already had a Public Hearing on this item last meeting. He stated it was pulled from the last meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to approve Agenda Item No. 22-113.

City Administrator, Ms. Jennifer Moody, gave some background information.

A discussion ensued.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 1582 - AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE THINK TULLAHOMA 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**, for passage on the first of two readings.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1582 and stated we added this back to the agenda tonight by a majority vote.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman McGee to reconsider the vote to postpone consideration of this Ordinance.

A long discussion ensued.

The motion was called for a vote.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Aye(s): Berry, Blackwell, Blanks, Dunn, Knowis, McGee

Nay(s): Amacher

The vote being six (6) aye(s) and one (1) nay(s) passed and was so ordered.

A second motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Blanks to approve Ordinance No. 1582 on first of two reading.

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members present voted nay and the motion failed. (The plan will revert back to the Planning Commission for further review.)

Ms. Mary Samaniego, Director of Planning and Codes, shared her thought process for suggesting the Study session be cancelled for tonight.



Ms. Jennifer Moody, City Administrator, stated the Chairman of the Planning Commission and BMA members will have a joint meeting to discuss this plan in further details.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 1924 - A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN IN SUPPORT OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PLACEMAKERS PIVOT AND RECOVER GRANT PROGRAM.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Resolutions No. 1924.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and it was seconded by Alderman Dunn to approve Resolution No. 1924 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the Tennessee Placemakers Pivot and Recover grant contract.

Ms. Jennifer Moody, City Administrator, gave the background information. She stated this is a grant award for \$75,000 with no required local matching funds.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 1925- A RESOLUTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 1895 ESTABLISHING RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Resolutions No. 1925.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Dunn to approve Resolution No. 1925.

Mayor Ray Knowis recognized Mr. Jordan Wilkins, Assistant to the City Administrator, to give the background information.

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

**@ 7:33pm**

A motion was made By Alderman Berry and seconded by Alderman McGee to extend the current meeting until all the agenda items are covered.

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

**ITEM NO. 22- 121 – CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF A QUALIFIED APPLICANT TO THE TULLAHOMA UTILITY AUTHORITY BOARD TO SERVE A NEW, FIVE-YEAR TERM ENDING ON AUGUST 31, 2027.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 22-121 and he stated we have heard from two candidates. He opened the floor for nominations.

Alderman Berry nominated Dr. Jimmy Blanks.

Alderman Amacher nominated Ms. Patricia Deen.

Alderman Amacher made a motion to postpone voting on this item until after the new board is in place. Her motion failed for a lack of a second

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Blanks: Berry, Blackwell, Dunn, Knowis, McGee

Deen: Amacher

Please note: Alderman Blanks abstained from voting on this matter.

The vote being five (5) for Dr. Jimmy Blanks and one (1) for Ms. Patricia Deen; Dr. Jimmy Blanks has been appointed to a five (5) year term ending on August 31, 2027.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Blanks to add an item to the agenda (Agenda Item No. 22-122, Regarding the 2040 Think Tullahoma Comprehensive Plan) To instruct the City Administrator to put together no less than one joint meeting with the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and the Planning Commission and the Walker Collaborative in an open session allowing citizen questions with no less than four separate smaller work session.

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

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 22-122 TULLAHOMA 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW SCHEDULE**

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to instruct the City Administrator to put together no less than one joint meeting with the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and the Planning Commission and the Walker Collaborative in an open session allowing citizen questions with no less than four separate smaller work session.

On roll call all members present voted aye and it 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 7:42p.m.

---

**CITY RECORDER**

---

**MAYOR**

F:\Minutes by Rosie\Board Meeting 08 08 2022.docx

/rgolden\_tullahomatn\_gov/Documents/Documents/Minutes by Rosie/Board Meeting 08 08 2022.docx