

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN (BMA)
MINUTES FOR
JUNE 14, 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, June 14, 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.

Susan B. Wilson, Interim City Administrator; Stephen M. Worsham, City Attorney and Rosemary Golden, City Recorder were present at the meeting.

Mayor Ray Knowis called the meeting to order.

COMMENDATIONS AND CERTIFICATES: - NONE -

PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Mayor Ray Knowis read a proclamation regarding the 70th Anniversary of the Arnold Engineering Development Complex (AEDC). He then presented it to Col. Jeffrey Geraghty. He encouraged all to attend the drive-through “Hap Arnold Day” 70th Anniversary Celebration that will take place at Arnold Air Force Base on June 26th from noon to 4:00pm

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Mayor Knowis stated there were two board seats openings on agencies / commissions that the BMA would vote on later in the agenda. Then Mayor then opened the floor for the applicants to speak.

Mr. Michael Leigh, 310 Marks Avenue, said he is interested in being appointed to the Airport Authority Board. He then gave a history of his accomplishments, qualifications, and associations.

Mayor Ray Knowis said he received an email from Mr. George W. Farr (Skip Farr) stating he was unable to attend tonight’s meeting however he asked the Mayor to read his prepared letter to the Board regarding his qualifications. Mr. Farr stated he is interested in being appointed to the Airport Authority Board.

Mr. Robert Van Patten, 100 Chadsworth Place, stated he is interested in being appointed to the Duck River Utility Commission. He gave a history of his qualifications and associations.

Mayor Ray Knowis read a letter he received from the Airport Authority Board Chairman, Mr. Paul Sirks, stating that he would support the appointment of Mr. Michael Leigh to the Tullahoma Airport Authority Board.

REPORTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

ALDERMAN AMACHER - Ms. Amacher said the Tree Board gave an award to the Tullahoma Parks and Recreation Department. She thanked JP Kraft for stepping up as “acting” director. She said the City had another lawsuit filed against it and the City needs to take steps to limit our liabilities. Ms. Amacher gave her small business shout out to Ms. Tonya Ross with Color Street Nails.

ALDERMAN BERRY - Mr. Berry thanked Susan Wilson the interim City Administrator for answering his financial/budgeting questions. He also thanked Police Chief Jason Williams for his help in trying to fill with a qualified applicant the Communication Center’s director’s position. Mr. Berry stated this weekend there was a one-day tournament that the Sports Council organized. There were 22 teams and over 800 visitors to our fields. He stated there are a lot of activities going on this weekend.

ALDERMAN MCGEE - Ms. McGee said Happy Belated Birthday to Mayor Knowis. She said she attended a Tullahoma Area Economic Development Corporation meeting. Ms. McGee has been asked to be a keynote speaker at two up coming events. She is trying to organize a “Day in the Park” event on August 28, 2021. Ms. McGee said there have been a lot of people/cars speeding on Rock Creek Road near the Evergreen Cemetery.

ALDERMAN BLACKWELL - Ms. Blackwell thanked JP Kraft for all his recent help. She also thanked Alderman Dunn for her “Go Green” movie night event. She is still working on organizing the “Body Project” and a COVID-19 panel discussion group meeting. Her recent “Coffee and Conversation” events were centered around the topics of littering/graffiti and keeping the street clean. Ms. Blackwell attended the recent Memorial / Veterans ceremony at History Park. There is a Juneteenth event happening in Winchester this weekend. She wished all the fathers a Happy Father’s Day coming up.

ALDERMAN DUNN - Ms. Dunn said the “Go Green” committee meets on the first Monday of the month at 5:00 in this board room. She thanked the South Jackson Civic Center for partnering with the “Go Green” committee for their recent movie night on the lawn. There will be two up-coming events “What is in our water?” One meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 28 and the other is scheduled for Tuesday, June 29th. Ms. Dunn is working on getting another grant for rain barrels to give away.

MAYOR PRO TEM BLANKS - Dr. Blanks stated he had attended both a Tullahoma Utility Authority meeting and a Duck River Utility Commission meeting. He said, "Shop Tullahoma".

MAYOR RAY KNOWIS - Mr. Knowis stated the Tullahoma City School system will have access to seven million dollars (COVID-19 grant money) however it comes with a lot of restrictions. He gave his City and Budget address (see attached copy).

CITY ATTORNEY - Mr. Stephen M. Worsham stated he is working on several items for the City including obtaining a parcel on South Jefferson Street and a parcel near Maplewood Cemetery. He said a building (Tullahoma Industries) was recently auctioned off and the City should be receiving some money owed for back taxes. He said he attended a Memorial Day event at History Park.

INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR - Ms. Susan Wilson thanked Mr. Jordan Wilkins for preparing the agenda tonight. She said she attended a meeting at the Tullahoma High School regarding the restrictions that are being placed on the \$7.5 million dollars available through the ESSER allocation COVID-19 funds. Ms. Wilson said the Budget was adjusted since last reading and the information (coversheet with details) can be found on page 94 of tonight's agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEM NO. 21-79- MINUTES OF THE MAY 24, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

**ITEM NO. 21-80- RENEW LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORPORATION
HARDWARE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT & SOFTWARE SUPPORT**

**ITEM NO. 21-81- APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF TWO SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATIONS TO THE TENNESSEE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING
ACADEMY**

**ITEM. NO 21-82- RATIFY APPROVAL OF THE 2021 TENNESSEE
AGRICULTURAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (TAEP) GRANT REQUESTING
APPROVAL OF \$10,000.00 GRANT TO PLANT TREES IN AREAS OF
JOHNSON LANE RECREATION AREA. TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE DIVISION OF FORESTRY PROVIDES 50-50 MATCHING
GRANT FUNDS**

ITEM NO. 21-83- APPROVE THE TULLAHOMA FARMERS MARKET REQUESTS TO DISPLAY SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT SIGNS FOR COFFEE COUNTY ONE DAY OF HOPE CHARITY EVENT AND WAIVE SIGN PERMIT FEE

ITEM NO. 21-84- REQUEST TO APPROVE MTAS MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT ACADEMY AGREEMENT. MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE (MTAS) OFFERS A MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAM TO ASSIST NEW AND EXPERIENCED MANAGERS IN THEIR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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. 1556 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA, TENNESSEE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TAX RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022, for passage on the second of three readings.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1556 and he gave the background information stating there was a Public Hearing on this Ordinance earlier this evening.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to adopt Ordinance No. 1556 on the second of three readings.

The first amendment was made by Alderman Berry and seconded by Alderman Blackwell to amend the ordinance by accepting the budget and attachments as presented (starting on page 94 of this agenda) to include the adjustments made by the Finance Director, Susan Wilson since our last meeting.

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

The second amendment was made by Alderman Amacher and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to decrease the budget line item for the Chamber of Commerce by 2% (of the Tourism and Cultural Funding Ordinance) and then increase the budget line item for the South Jackson Civic Center by 1% (of the Tourism and Cultural Funding Ordinance) and then to increase the budget line item for the Tullahoma Fine Arts Center by 1% (of the Tourism and Cultural Funding Ordinance).

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Aye(s): Amacher, Berry, and McGee

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

The vote being three (3) Ayes and four (4) nay(s); the amendment failed.

The third amendment was made by Alderman Berry and was seconded by Alderman Blanks to add four new Community Service Organizations to our list and to appropriate from our reserves a total of \$11,500 to these organizations as follows:

CASA Works Inc. \$3,000.00

Horseplay \$3,000.00

Imagination Library of Coffee County \$1,500.00

Tullahoma Community Pride Foundation \$3,000.00

A discussion ensued.

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

The fourth amendment was made by Alderman Blanks and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to increase the Sports Council's allocation to \$25,000 (this increase of \$11,200 is to come from reserves).

A discussion ensued.

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

The fifth amendment was made by Alderman Blanks and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to increase the funding for the City Street Paving line item by an additional \$100,000 and the money should come from the Capital Project Funds.

A discussion ensued.

Alderman Dunn asked that Public Works pay attention to dead end streets and non-through streets.

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

The original motion (for passage on the second of three readings) to approve Ordinance No. 1556 with the numerous amendments was called to vote.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE No. 1557 – 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 0.24 ACRES PARCELS LOCATED AT 109 AND 115 N. VINE STREET (COFFEE COUNTY TAX MAP 127B, GROUP A, PARCELS 016.00 AND 002.00) FROM R-1, LOW-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, TO C-2, GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, for passage on the first of two readings

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1557 and he stated we had a public hearing on this Ordinance earlier this evening.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to approve Ordinance No. 1557 for passage on the first of two readings.

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

ORDINANCE No. 1558 – 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 0.20 ACRES PARCEL LOCATED AT 609 CORNISH STREET (COFFEE COUNTY TAX MAP 124M, GROUP B, PARCEL 020.00) FROM R-2, MEDIUM-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, TO C-2, GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, for passage on the first of two readings.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1558 and he stated we had a public hearing on this Ordinance earlier this evening.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and it was seconded by Alderman McGee to approve Ordinance No. 1558 for passage on the first of two readings.

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

ORDINANCE No. 1559 – 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 7.50 ACRES PARCEL LOCATED AT 407 N. COLLEGE STREET (COFFEE COUNTY TAX MAP 124F, GROUP H, PARCEL 006.01) FROM R-2, MEDIUM-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, TO R-3, HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, for passage on the first of two readings.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1559 and he stated we had a public hearing on this Ordinance earlier this evening.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and it was seconded by Alderman Dunn to approve Ordinance No. 1559 for passage on the first of two readings.

Ms. Mary Samaniego, Senior Planner stated this request is being made to have the existing buildings be in compliance with our code.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 1860 A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING WEST HOGAN STREET AS JOE MOON WAY.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Resolution No. 1860 and then he read the whole resolution found on page 179 of tonight's agenda.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to adopt Resolution No. 1860.

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

ITEM NO. 21-85 – CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF A QUALIFIED APPLICANT TO THE TULLAHOMA AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD, FOR THE REMAINDER OF AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING ON FEBRUARY 27, 2023.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 21-85 and said, Mr. Jim George has resigned from this boards. The applicants were given the opportunity to speak earlier in the evening. Mayor Knowis then opened the floor for nominations.

Alderman Berry nominated Mr. Michael Leigh.

Alderman Blackwell nominated Mr. George Farr (Skip Farr).

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Michael Leigh: Amacher, Berry, Dunn, Knowis and McGee
George Farr: Blackwell and Blanks

The result being five (5) for Mr. Michael Leigh and Two (2) for Mr. George Farr; Mr. Michael Leigh will serve on the Tullahoma Airport Authority Board until the unexpired term ending on February 27, 2023.

ITEM NO. 21-86- CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF A QUALIFIED APPLICANT TO THE DUCK RIVER UTILITY COMMISSION, FOR A FULL THREE-YEAR TERM.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 21-86 and said, Mr. Duane Thorpe's term expires on June 30, 2021. The applicants were given the opportunity to speak earlier in the evening. Mayor Knowis then opened the floor for nominations.

Alderman Blanks nominated Mr. Robert Van Patten.

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 7:25 p.m.

CITY RECORDER

MAYOR