

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN (BMA)
MINUTES FOR
March 27, 2023**

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 27, 2023, 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, Kurt Glick, Jerry Mathis, Derick Mann and Bobbie Wilson. All Board Members were present.

Mr. Kenney Pearson, Interim City Administrator; Mr. Stephen M. Worsham, City Attorney and Lori Ashley, City Recorder were present at the meeting.

Mayor Ray Knowis called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was said by Rev. Emily Plunk and she led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Recorder Lori Ashley advised all members are present.

COMMENDATIONS AND CERTIFICATES:

Mayor Knowis recognized Ms. Lynda Welty, Tullahoma Community Pride Foundation Chairman, and then he presented her with a certificate.

PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Mayor Knowis proclaimed April 28, 2023, as Arbor Day in the City of Tullahoma, and urged all citizens to support the efforts to care for our trees and woodlands and to support our city's community forestry program. A proclamation was presented to Lyle Russell and Ralph Graham.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Fred Yells, 108 Fairways Blvd, is concerned for the safety of the children, said he would like to see a crosswalk for the children at the high school on Jackson Street. Possibly a stop light and crosswalk.

Mary Samaniego, Planning Director, introduced the new Senior Planner, Charles Rush to the BOMA. She stated that he comes to Tullahoma from Auburn Alabama with a dual masters in urban planning and public administration. Charles has been with us for two weeks and has already been a great asset.

Amy Johnson, as a former member of the school board she feels that she has the training needed, she is very accessible as her other obligations are flexible, she has a wealth of schoolboard knowledge under her belt, and she

has the experience. Would not need the cushion of time that a new board member would need to operate. She is here for the precious students.

Beth Harrison, moved to Tullahoma eight years ago and found that the school system is excellent, her children are receiving a solid education and offered many great educational opportunities. Has two daughters that receive special education services through Tullahoma City Schools, she has been blown away by the support of teachers, administrators, specialist, and therapist. "I would be delighted to work collaboratively with the board to ensure quality education for all TCS students, I would be sure to always put the student's interest above all else. I would be honored to have your vote tonight."

Misty Damron, 110 Creekwood Lane, interested in the open school board position. She has two passions in Tullahoma, her city and the kids. Her background is in process improvement, analytics, and data. The children are our future, and we have to support the administration as well as the children. We have to give the kids the tools and resources they need to succeed. "I would love the opportunity to support the staff, to support that administration and also be a part of the support that impact the lives of the children so that we can give them a future so they can fill your seats one day."

Scott VanVelsor, Fairways Blvd, he thinks about the board a lot and how disconnected it feels the board is from the community. He has been a collector of people's thoughts and feelings about the board and wanted to share. We are all shareholders in Tullahoma, he doesn't feel that the board has the city's best interest in mind. There is very little engagement with the board and citizens. "I write about this on IloveTullahoma.com and would love to discuss with anyone interested.

Ralph Graham, 205 Lakewood Drive, it has been his honor to serve as the Chairman of the tree board since 2011. He thanked the Mayor for the "Arbor Day Proclamation" today. He believes with it being televised it will reach more people and they will have a bigger turnout. Mr. Graham invited everyone to attend on April 28, 2023, at the Arboretum behind East Middle School.

Mayor Knowis said he had two citizens comments that were brought to him to be read into the record.

A motion was made by Alderman Amacher and was seconded by Alderman Glick to overrule the chair and not read the citizens comments sent to be read into record.

On roll call all board members present voted as follows:
Aye(s): Amacher, Berry, Glick, Mann
Nay(s): Berry, Knowis
Recused:

On roll call the motion passed by 2/3 majority vote and it was so ordered that the citizens comments would not be read into record.

THE AGENDA WAS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL

A motion was made by Alderman Glick and was seconded by Alderman Mann to approve the agenda.

Alderman Berry asked that Item No. 23-51 be removed from the consent agenda.

Alderman Glick asked that Item No. 23-50 be removed from the consent agenda.

Mayor Knowis stated the sponsor of Item No. 23-62 would like it removed from the consent agenda.

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

REPORTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

ALDERMAN WILSON – Ms. Bobbie Wilson stated that she was sure everyone knew what happened in our Nashville school today and she pleads that Tullahoma do whatever they can to get SRO in every school.

ALDERMAN MANN - Mr. Mann announced that there is a vacancy on the TAEDC board and asked that any citizen interested complete the “Citizens Participation Application”. He attended the TML conference and found it beneficial and informative. Wanted to mention what a wonderful job the Interim City Administrator is doing, our new City Recorder Lori has done a great job getting this new voting system going, and to both of them for putting this agenda together. Thanked Robin Morrison for staying on and helping out, we are very fortunate to have them and the rest of the team at City Hall.

ALDERMAN AMACHER - Ms. Amacher said she had been contacted by two SROs from surrounding counties that expressed the need for SROs in middle and elementary schools. She feels this needs to be discussed with the school board and make it a reality in the 2023/2024 school year. She attended the TML conference and found that sales tax is up from 2020 all across the state as well as in Tullahoma. Businesses are thriving and there are record highs of new business. She has had several complaints on the Police Department, she would like for the City Administrator or the Mayor to advise the board of any complaints so they are not the last to know. She announced that she is not going anywhere, she is here to stay and would appreciate everyone’s willingness to work together. She is a resident and plans to stay a resident. God Bless Tullahoma.

ALDERMAN BERRY - Mr. Berry stated he attended the School Board meeting and that is always encouraging, there are a lot of exciting things going on. He attended the Planning Commission meeting and would like to address Mr. Yells that spoke about the crosswalk on Jackson Street. The city has money from the ARPA money to put a safe pedestrian crosswalk in place. Jackson

Street is a state highway so Tullahoma is limited to what the state will allow us to do. He sat down and spoke with Kenny; he is doing a great job. Talked with Chief Williams, about SRO's, the Chief has been working hard on this to come up with a preliminary cost.

ALDERMAN GLICK - Mr. Glick agreed with all the comments on the SRO's. He would prefer to have the SRO's sooner than later. He stated that the cell phone service in Tullahoma is terrible. He has been in contact with Verizon and would like the City Staff to prepare a letter to ask Verizon to install another tower in Tullahoma.

MAYOR PRO TEM MATHIS - Mr. Mathis stated that in reference to the SRO's he believes one should be put in every school at the same time. He attended Rosemary's retirement party, Lori is doing a great job, and at City Hall he asked in general how things were going and he was told "Daylight and Dark since Pearson has been in charge".

MAYOR RAY KNOWIS - Mr. Knowis stated he had attended the Planning Commission Meeting. He attended an Airport Authority meeting; the Complete Flight School in Smyrna is planning to move their entire operation to Tullahoma. He also attended the Rural Development Conference in Murfreesboro.

CITY ATTORNEY - Mr. Stephen M. Worsham stated he attended the TMAA Conference and learned the state is changing annexation laws and planning to do away with the Urban Growth Plan. Was able to get the TDOT contract signed and an additional \$10,000.00 from TDOT, this may be earmarked for the trees that will be damaged. The 2021 Delinquent Taxes have been filed.

INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR - Mr. Kenny Pearson reported that he attended the TML Conference and it was a very good experience. TDOT Wilson Avenue contract is signed. The lighting system preferred was sent into TDOT for Wilson Avenue and Cedar Lane, and Wilson Avenue and Jackson Street. He attended the Taste of Tullahoma today and encouraged everyone to go. Currently beginning the budget process, department reports are due on March 31, 2023, so we will be putting the budget together after that, looking at the avenues to take to make our schools safer. You have a copy of the financial report in your packets.

Mr. Kenney Pearson recognized, Mr. Lyle Russell, Interim Parks and Recreation Director. Lyle Russell gave the Parks and Recreation Department's annual report (a copy is attached).

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEM NO. 23-48 - MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2023, REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING.

ITEM NO. 23-49 - ANNOUNCE A VACANCY ON THE TULLAHOMA AREA ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (TAEDC) AND TO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FROM INTERESTED CITIZENS TO SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING ON JULY 26, 2026.

Mayor Knowis read the caption(s) for the Consent Agenda item(s).

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Glick to approve the item(s) on the Consent Agenda as amended.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 1589- 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 AN APPROXIMATELY 2.14 ACRES PARCELS LOCATED AT THE 100 BLOCK OF OAK PARK DRIVE (A PORTION OF COFFEE COUNTY TAX MAP 127G, MAP D, PARCEL 002.00) FROM C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT TO R-1 LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT, for passage on second and final reading.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1589 and stated the details could be found starting on page 47 on tonight's agenda.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Amacher to adopt Ordinance No. 1589.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1590- 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 AN APPROXIMATELY 17.80 ACRES PARCEL LOCATED AT THE 1200 BLOCK OF CEDAR LANE (COFFEE COUNTY TAX MAP 124, PARCEL 006.05) FROM C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT TO C-3 NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT, for passage on second and final reading.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1590 and stated the details could be found starting on page 59 on tonight's agenda.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Glick to adopt Ordinance No. 1590.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

ITEM NO. 23-51 – CREATE AN EXEMPTION FOR SETBACK REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO STRUCTURES ON PROPERTY OWNED/ACTIVELY USED BY CHURCHES AND/OR RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 23-51. There are no details in your packet.

Alderman Amacher passed out a sample resolution to the members of the board, the Interim City Administrator, and the City Attorney.

Mr. Worsham asked to address the issue prior to the vote. He stated this is a provision in our zoning ordinance, and the only way an ordinance that has been enacted can be amended is by another ordinance. The vote tonight would be to direct staff to prepare an ordinance to amend if that is your vote.

Alderman Amacher stated that she is not proposing to change the ordinance or our set back regulations. Alderman Amacher read the sample resolution in its entirety. (attached) She stated that the resolution is what we need to adopt rather than an ordinance change.

Mr. Worsham believes the effect of this is to change our ordinance and he doesn't believe it is valid.

Alderman Berry stated that the sample resolution would need to be added to the agenda to vote on it.

Mary Samaniego, Planning Director, stated that in her professional opinion 100% this needs an ordinance change. You have to follow the exact process which requires one public hearing before the Planning Commission and a public hearing and two readings before the Board of Mayor and Alderman.

A discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Alderman Mathis and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to Postpone the Resolution until the City Attorney has had time to investigate this resolution.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Aye(s): Berry, Knowis, Mathis
Nay(s): Amacher, Glick, Mann, Wilson

The vote being three (3) aye(s) and four (4) nay(s); failed to postpone.

Alderman Amacher called the question.

A motion was made by Alderman Glick and seconded by Alderman Amacher to approve Item No. 23-51.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Aye(s): Amacher, Glick, Mann, Mathis, Wilson
Nay(s): Berry, Knowis

The vote being five (5) aye(s) and two (2) nay(s); Item No. 23-51 passed and is so ordered.

ITEM NO. 23-50 – REQUEST TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF SOFTBALL EQUIPMENT AND THE PORTABLE MOUND, A DONATION TOTALING \$10,848.86 FROM THE TULLAHOMA SPORTS COUNCIL.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 23-50 and he stated the details can be found on page 43 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Glick stated that he would like to highlight what the Tullahoma Sports Council is doing for the softball leagues.

A motion was made by Alderman Mathis and it was seconded by Alderman Glick to approve Item No. 23-50

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1591 – 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 1.72 ACRES PARCEL LOCATED AT 1406 OLD ESTILL SPRINGS ROAD (FRANKLIN COUNTY TAX MAP 002, PARCEL 045.00 AND 053.00) FROM R-1 LOW-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT AND I-1 RESTRICTED MANUFACTURING AND WAREHOUSING DISTRICT TO R-2 MEDIUM DENSITY ZONING DISTRICT, for passage on first of two readings.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1591 and stated there was a public hearing on this issue earlier tonight and the details can be found on page 72 of tonight's agenda.

Ordinance No. 1591 failed for lack of a motion.

ORDINANCE NO. 1592- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA, TENNESSEE, WHICH IS ORDINANCE NO. 1392, BY AMENDING ARTICLE V GENERAL PROVISIONS – SECTION 502 FENCE HEIGHTS REQUIREMENTS AND SECTION 404.A. INDOOR RECREATION USE IN CENTRAL COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT, for passage on first of two readings.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1592 and stated there had been a public hearing on this issue earlier in the evening, and details can be found on page 84 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Alderman Glick to approve Ordinance No. 1592.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 1935 – A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN TO APPROVE A UDAG LOAN APPLICATION.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Resolution No. 1935 and stated the details could be found on page 90 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Alderman Mann to approve Resolution No. 1935.

Sue Wilson, Finance Director, stated that the company applying for the UDAG loan is a corporation out of Brentwood and they would like to relocate their operations to Tullahoma.

Paul Kapu, Owner, and CEO of Vigil Corporation spoke and stated since 2018 it has been his mission to end active shooter violence in schools. They have created a truly unique system that addresses this exact issue. They have some orders from schools that they are looking to fill as soon as they relocate to Tullahoma.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 1936 – A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA ADOPTING A RECORDS MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Resolution No. 1936 and stated the details could be found on page 164 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Glick to approve Resolution No. 1936.

Kenny Pearson, Interim City Administrator, stated that by state law we are required to follow a document retention plan. The MTAS document retention plan was adopted prior to 1992, it has been followed since that time, yet never adopted by resolution. This is the time to pass the plan by resolution, as MTAS has instructed.

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

ITEM NO. 23-52 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A REQUEST FOR THE CITY TO DESIGNATE AS SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY TO SALE, AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 8' WIDE AND 175' IN LENGTH (1,400 SQUARE FEET) INSIDE AN IMPROVED RIGHT-OF-WAY ADJACENT TO 700 WILLIAM NORTHERN BOULEVARD.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Item No. 23-52 and stated the details could be found on page 92 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Mann to approve Item No. 23-52.

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

ITEM NO. 23-53 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AWARDDING THE PAVING BID TO ROGERS GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$650,000 AND THE ATTACHED LIST OF RANKED CITY STREETS FOR THE 2023 SPRING AND SUMMER PAVING AND STRIPING.

A discussion ensued.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Item No. 23-53 and stated the details could be found on page 98 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Mathis to approve Item No. 23-53, paving bid to Rogers Group in the amount of \$650,000.

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

ITEM NO. 23-54 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A 2023 F-250 4X4 TRUCK FROM FORD OF MURFREESBORO FOR THE STATE PRICE OF \$45,237 FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Item No. 23-54 and stated the details could be found on page 104 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Mann to approve Item No. 23-54.

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

ITEM NO. 23-55 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A 2023 DODGE DURANGO FROM CHRYSLER, DODGE, JEEP, RAM OF COLUMBIA FOR THE STATE CONTRACT PRICE OF \$49,910.90 FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Item No. 23-55 and stated the details could be found on page 112 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Wilson to approve Item No. 23-55.

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

ITEM NO. 23-56 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A 2023 FORD EXPLORER FROM FORD OF MURFREESBORO FOR THE STATE CONTRACT PRICE OF \$34,729 FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Item No. 23-56 and stated the details could be found on page 115 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Mann to approve Item No. 23-56.

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

ITEM NO. 23-57 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN EVENT SUPPORT PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,737 WITH MYERS CONCERT PRODUCTIONS FOR THE TULLAHOMA INDEPENDENCE DAY REGIONAL CELEBRATION CONCERT.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Item No. 23-57 and stated the details could be found on page 123 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Wilson to approve Item No. 23-57.

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

ITEM NO. 23-58 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A MUSICAL PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,500 WITH VINYL RADIO FOR THE TULLAHOMA INDEPENDENCE DAY REGIONAL CELEBRATION CONCERT.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Item No. 23-58 and stated the details could be found on page 133 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Mann to approve Item No. 23-58.

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

ITEM NO. 23-59 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH PEPSI TO PROVIDE BEVERAGE SERVICE FOR ALL PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES, TO INCLUDE SPLASH ISLAND AND OUR REMOTE BALLPARK CONCESSION STANDS.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Item No. 23-59 and stated the details could be found on page 136 of tonight's agenda.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Mathis to approve Item No. 23-59.

A discussion ensued.

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

ITEM NO. 23-60 – CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR THE CITIZES EVALUATION COMMITTEE, AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE HIRING OF A CITY ADMINISTRATOR. THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER

NOMINATIONS FOR THE MAYORAL APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE AT THE APRIL 10, 2023, BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN MEETING.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Item No. 23-60. Mayor Knowis said that each board member will present a candidate to sit on that board at the April 10, 2023 meeting.

Alderman Berry made a motion and it was seconded by Wilson to approve Item No. 23-60.

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

ITEM NO. 23-61 – CONSIDER NOMINATIONS AND AN APPOINT AN APPLICANT TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE TULLAHOMA BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE REMAINDER OF AN UNEXPIRED TERM, ENDING UPON THE ELECTION OF A QUALIFIED SUCCESSOR IN THE AUGUST 2024 ELECTION.

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Item No. 23-61 and stated that the details could be found on page 140 of tonight’s agenda.

Alderman Berry nominated Amy Johnson for the vacancy.

Alderman Mann nominated Beth Harrison for the vacancy.

Alderman Mathis nominated Misty Damron for the vacancy.

Tallying of the votes resulted in Beth Harrison receiving five (5) votes, Amy Johnson receiving one (1) vote, and Misty Damron receiving one (1) vote.

And it was so ordered that Beth Harrison will fill the vacancy of the unexpired term.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Mayor and Alderman at this time, the Board Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

CITY RECORDER

MAYOR