

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN (BMA)
MINUTES FOR
APRIL 25, 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 rescheduled meeting on Monday, April 25, 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; Stephen M. Worsham, 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. Tom Murdock and he led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Recorder, Rosemary Golden, called the roll.

COMMENDATIONS AND CERTIFICATES: - NONE -

PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Mayor Ray Knowis read a proclamation regarding National Drinking Water Week. He proclaimed May 1-7, 2022, as Drinking Water Week in Tullahoma. Mayor Knowis then gave the proclamation to Mr. Scott Young with the Tullahoma Utility Authority. Mr. Young said there will be a "TACO about Water" celebration event at the TUA grounds on May 5, 2022.

Mayor Ray Knowis recognized, Mr. Jon Glass, Director of the Tullahoma Airport Authority (TAA). He gave his annual report.

Mayor Ray Knowis recognized, Mr. Winston Brook, Director of the Tullahoma Area Economic Development Corporation (TAEDC). He gave their annual report.

Mayor Ray Knowis recognized, Ms. Linda Bean, Housholder and Artman, PLLC. She presented the BMA audit.

THE AGENDA WAS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and Seconded by Alderman McGee to accept the agenda as presented.

A discussion ensued.

An amendment was made by Alderman Dunn and was seconded by Alderman Berry to add an item under New Business to discuss a disciplinary action for Alderman Amacher's behavior, words and actions during the Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting on April 11, 2022, and at the executive session held on February 28, 2022.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

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

The results being six (6) Ayes and one (1) Nay(s); passed and was so ordered.

A second amendment was made by Alderman Dunn and was seconded by Alderman Blanks to add an item under New Business to invoke an investigation (under Title 1, Chapter 2, Section 210 of the City's Charter) regarding Alderman Amacher.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

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

The results being five (5) Ayes and two (2) Nay(s); passed and was so ordered.

The Mayor then called the original motion to accept the agenda as presented with the two amendments.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

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

The results being six (6) Ayes and one (1) Nay(s), the motion passed and was so ordered.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Mr. Royce Massengill, 109 Gentry Street, said he had a public service announcement (PSA) regarding an event to take place on this up-coming June 18, 2022. It will be the first time that Juneteenth will be considered a Federal Holiday and there will be a free celebration at the CD Stamps facility.

Mayor Knowis stated that there were applicants for the board seat(s) on the Tullahoma Arts Council in the audience. There is an open position on that Board and there is an item on the agenda tonight that pertains to filling that position. He asked if any of the applicants wanted to speak.

Mr. Alan Mayes, 219 Lakewood Drive, gave a brief explanation of his qualifications. He asked the BMA to consider him for the open position on the Tullahoma Arts Council.

REPORTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

ALDERMAN MCGEE - Ms. McGee said the Tullahoma Housing Authority meeting had been cancelled. She thanked the Recreation Department for their recent pancake breakfast and said the Egg Hunt at the South Jackson Civic Center was a huge success. Alderman McGee said the personal agenda are hindering this board from doing City Business.

ALDERMAN BERRY - Mr. Berry stated he recently attended an outdoor event at the South Jackson Civic center.

ALDERMAN AMACHER - Ms. Amacher said she recently attended a Coffee County Consolidated Communications Commission meeting where they stated they were having phone issues. She said the recent Tourism Council meeting was cancelled.

ALDERMAN BLACKWELL - Ms. Blackwell thanked the Recreation Director, Mr. Dave Anderson, for his help with the Jefferson Street project. She said the Downtown Council should start meeting again the second week of June.

ALDERMAN DUNN - Ms. Dunn said the “Earth Day” celebration last week was a success. She said the Tree Board will have an event on April 29, 2022, at 10:00am to name the large Oak Tree that is located behind the Painted House Art Studio on East Lincoln Street.

MAYOR PRO TEM BLANKS - Dr. Blanks said, “Shop Tullahoma.”

MAYOR RAY KNOWIS - Mr. Knowis stated he had attended several meetings and events including: an Airport Authority meeting; he gave a tour of City Hall to young homeschooler; he gave a proclamation to the Campus Care Group; he attended a Duck River Board meeting and he attended a Planning Commission meeting. Mayor Knowis stated several members of the Farmers Market called him stating they would like to see a Pavilion provided on the grounds of the Civic Center. He stated there would be a “Spring Cleaning” that will happen on May 14, 2022, starting at the Public Works Building at 8:00 am.

CITY ATTORNEY - Mr. Stephen M. Worsham stated he is working on several items for the City including speaking to MTAS risk management regarding ethics and moral principles.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR – Ms. Jennifer Moody reported the downtown signal project should start the week of July 11, 2022. She stated she will be speaking this Thursday morning at a TAMCAR seminar in Murfreesboro.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEM NO. 22-54 – MINUTES OF THE APRIL 11, 2022, REGULAR MEETING.

ITEM NO. 22-55 – MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT

ITEM NO. 22-56 – ACCEPT DELIVERY OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 AUDIT REPORTS.

ITEM NO. 22-57 – APPROVE THE ONE-YEAR RENEWAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH HOUSHOLDER ARTMAN, PLLC TO PERFORM AUDIT SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA, TULLAHOMA CITY SCHOOLS, TULLAHOMA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD, TULLAHOMA AIRPORT AUTHORITY, AND TULLAHOMA AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$46,250, FOR FY 2022.

ITEM NO. 22-58 – APPROVE A PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT WITH VINYL RADIO FOR A CONCERT TO BE HELD AT THE ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION.

ITEM NO. 22-59 – APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH PYRO SHOWS FOR A PROFESSIONAL FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT THE ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION.

ITEM NO. 22-60 – APPROVE A LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR THE 22ND ANNUAL ALL-AMERICAN SOAP BOX DERBY EVENT FOR SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022.

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

Alderman Amacher asked to remove Item No. 22-59 from the consent agenda and put it under the New Business section of this agenda.

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: - NONE -

NEW BUSINESS:

ITEM NO. 22-61 – CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF CITIZEN APPLICANTS TO FILL VACANCIES ON THE ARTS COUNCIL OF TULLAHOMA TO SERVE FOR NEW THREE-YEAR TERMS ENDING ON AUGUST 12, 2024.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 22-61 and stated the applicants had an opportunity to speak earlier in the evening at the Comments from Citizens portion of the meeting. He stated these vacancies on the Arts Council of Tullahoma will be to serve for the remaining of a three-year term which ends on August 12, 2024. He said the details could be found on page 52 of tonight's agenda.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and was seconded by Alderman Blanks to appoint all three (3) of tonight's applicants to the Arts Council.

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

ITEM NO. 22-62 – CONSIDER RE-APPOINTMENTS AS PRESENTED ON THE TULLAHOMA HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HOUSING FACILITIES BOARD.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 22-62 and stated the background information can be found starting on page 69 of tonight's agenda.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and was seconded by Alderman Berry to make these re-appointments as presented in the agenda to the Health, Education and Housing Facilities Board.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 1896 – A RESOLUTION TO REPEAL RESOLUTION NO. 1701 WHICH AUTHORIZED CLOSURE OF A PORTION OF WALL STREET ALLEY.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Resolution No. 1896 and stated the backup information can be found in tonight’s agenda packet starting on page 71.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and was seconded by Alderman Amacher to approve Resolution No. 1896.

A discussion ensued. A suggestion was made to make some new signs to be placed in the alley for traffic flow.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1575 – 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 505 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS, on the first of two readings required for approval.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Ordinance No. 1575 and stated the backup information can be found in tonight’s agenda packet starting on page 75.

A motion was made by Alderman McGee and was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to adopt Ordinance No. 1575 on the first of two readings.

A discussion ensued.

City Administrator, Ms. Jennifer Moody, recognized Ms. Mary Samaniego, Senior Planner, for questions from the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

An amendment was made by Alderman Dunn and was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to change the requirement of planting one tree per seventy-five (75) linear feet to one tree per fifty (50) linear feet.

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

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

The results being one (1) Aye(s) and six (6) Nay(s), the motion failed.

The second amendment was made by Alderman Berry and seconded by Alderman Amacher to strike several words (on page 79 of the agenda) from the section 505 D under “Applicability” (see attached handout).

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

Aye(s): Amacher, Berry , Blanks, McGee

Nay(s): Blackwell, Dunn, Knowis

The results being four (4) Aye(s) and three (3) Nay(s), the motion passed and was so ordered.

The third amendment was made by Alderman Amacher and seconded by Alderman Berry to create an exemption for hardships for those businesses that would net less than \$70,000 per year.

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

Aye(s): Amacher

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

The results being one (1) Aye(s) and six (6) Nay(s), the motion failed.

The fourth amendment was made by Alderman Berry and seconded by Alderman Amacher to strike several words (on page 80 of the agenda) from the section 505 D 2 under “Maintenance” (see attached handout).

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

Aye(s): Amacher, Berry , Blanks, McGee

Nay(s): Blackwell, Dunn, Knowis

The results being four (4) Aye(s) and three (3) Nay(s), the motion passed and was so ordered.

The original motion as amended by the two passed amendments was called for a vote.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

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

The results being five (5) Aye(s) and two (2) Nay(s), the motion passed and was so ordered.

At 7:40 pm a motion to continue the BMA meeting was made by Alderman Blackwell and it was seconded by Alderman Berry.

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

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

The results being six (6) Ayes and one (1) Nay(s), the motion passed and was so ordered.

ITEM NO. 22-59 – APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH PYRO SHOWS FOR A PROFESSIONAL FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT THE ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION.

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 22-59 and he stated this item was removed from consent agenda by Alderman Amacher so they could discuss the item in detail.

Alderman Blackwell made a motion and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to approve Agenda Item No. 22-59.

A discussion ensued.

An amendment was made by Alderman Amacher to have a shorter Pyro Show but with larger bangs. This failed for a lack of a second.

Both Ms. Jennifer Moody, City Administrator and Mr. David Anderson, Director of Parks and Recreation spoke.

The original motion was called for a vote.

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

ITEM NO. 22-63 – TO DISCUSS DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS FOR ALDERMAN AMACHER’S WORDS AND ACTIONS DURING THE APRIL 11, 2022, BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN MEETING AS WELL AS THE FEBRUARY 28, 2022, EXECUTIVE SESSION.

City Recorder, Rosemary Golden, read the caption for the added agenda item.

A motion was made by Alderman Dunn and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to open the floor for discussion.

A long discussion ensued but no Board action was taken.

ITEM NO. 22-64 – TO INVOKE AN INVESTIGATION (UNDER TITLE 1, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 210 OF THE CITY’S CHARTER) REGARDING ALDERMAN AMACHER.

City Recorder, Rosemary Golden, read the caption for the added agenda item.

Alderman Amacher called, “point of order” and stated this was not proper procedure for a sitting board member and asked the Mayor to proceed carefully.

Mayor Knowis recognized the City Attorney, Mr. Stephen M. Worsham. He was asked his opinion regarding this issue / this process. Mr. Worsham said he did not believe this section of our charter would apply to this case.

Therefore, the motion was not in order, so the discussion and motion ended.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Mayor and Aldermen at this time, the Board Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

CITY RECORDER

MAYOR

