

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN (BMA)**  
**MINUTES FOR**  
**May 9, 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, May 9, 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. Alderman Robin Dunn entered the meeting at 5:35.

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. Martin Nutter 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 recognized, Dr. Catherine Stephens, Tullahoma City Schools Superintendent and Mr. Jason Ray, Tullahoma City Schools Director of Business. They gave their annual budget presentation.

Mayor Ray Knowis recognized, Ms. Jennifer Moody, City Administrator, and she gave the annual Budget presentation for the FY 2022-2023.

**THE AGENDA WAS PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.**

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and was seconded by Alderman Blanks to accept the agenda as presented.

A discussion ensued.

An amendment was made by Alderman Amacher and was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to add an item under New Business, Agenda Item No. 22-70 to discuss increasing the Paving Budget for Cedar Lane.

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

An amendment was made by Alderman Amacher to remove an agenda item from tonight's meeting and post-pond the item for future consideration, the item was: Resolution No. 1898 – a Resolution adopting a spending plan for American Rescue Plan Act Funds for the fiscal years 2022 through 2026 for the City of Tullahoma, Tennessee. This amendment failed for a lack of a second.

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

On roll call all members present 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: - NONE -**

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

**ALDERMAN BLACKWELL** - Ms. Blackwell thanked the Tullahoma City Schools Superintendent, Dr. Catherine Stephens, for their budget presentation tonight. Alderman Blackwell said the Downtown Council is working on a request for proposals (RFP) for the landscaping project around the downtown area.

**ALDERMAN DUNN** - Ms. Dunn said she had no report.

**ALDERMAN AMACHER** - Ms. Amacher said the Tourism Council is still looking for another Board member. She stated the Coffee County Consolidated Communications Commission Board said they are still having a few issues with their phone system.

**ALDERMAN BERRY** - Mr. Berry stated he missed a Sports Council Board meeting but he did attend a South Jackson Civic Center Birthday Bash fund raising celebration. Alderman Berry said at the Tullahoma Area Economic Development Corporation meeting they finalized the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (P.I.L.O.T.) program for a local apartment complex, they will be investing over \$16 million.

**ALDERMAN MCGEE** - Ms. McGee said both of her assigned agencies (the Coffee County Industrial Development Board and the Tullahoma Housing Authority) will hold meetings next week.

**MAYOR PRO TEM BLANKS** - Dr. Blanks said congratulations to all upcoming graduates. He stated the Tullahoma High School seniors will be having their "Project Graduation" night next week. He said, "Shop Tullahoma".

**MAYOR RAY KNOWIS** - Mr. Knowis stated this Saturday, May 14 there is a "clean-up" day, it starts at 8:00am at the Public Works Department. He thanked the Recreation Department for putting on the Soap Box Derby this past Saturday. The City celebrated National Arbor Day on April 29, 2022, by naming the state's largest Oak Tree. Mayor Knowis attended the annual City employee service award luncheon. He attended a 2040 Comp. Plan Steering Committee meeting. Mayor Knowis explained the process that was followed for the City Administrator's (Ms. Jennifer Moody's) employee evaluation. He then handed out a sealed envelope to each of the aldermen.

**CITY ATTORNEY** - Mr. Stephen M. Worsham stated he had no report.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR** - Ms. Jennifer Moody reported the Wright Paving Company stated they would start the spring paving this week. Ms. Moody stated that last week, Police Chief Williams and herself met with Ms. Joyce Prusak, the executive director of the Coffee County Children's Advocacy Center.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEM NO. 22-65 – MINUTES OF THE APRIL 25, 2022, REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING.**

**ITEM NO. 22-66 – APPROVE THE ANNUAL TDOT MAINTENANCE CONTRACT.**

**ITEM NO. 22-67 – SET A PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING FOR MAY 23, 2022, ON A REQUEST TO REZONE A PARCEL IN THE 200 BLOCK OF LEDFORD MILL ROAD FROM GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (C-2) TO HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (R-3).**

**ITEM NO. 22-68 – SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MAY 23, 2022, ON A REQUEST FOR ANNEXATION AND PLAN OF SERVICE FOR 95 OVOCA LAKE ROAD.**

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

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

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**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 second and final reading.

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 31.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and was seconded by Alderman Blanks to adopt Ordinance No. 1575 as presented in the agenda on the second and final reading.

An Amendment was made by Alderman Amacher and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to add the words, " or current concrete, asphalt, or paving" to the last paragraph of the Exhibit A, on page 38 of the agenda, under section 8. Street Trees.

A discussion ensued.

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

On roll call all members voted as follows:

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

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

The Mayor then called the original motion as amended for a vote.

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.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ITEM NO. 22- 69– ACCEPT AND ADOPT BY-LAWS FOR THE ARTS COUNCIL TULLAHOMA AS PRESENTED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ARTS COUNCIL OF TULLAHOMA.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 22-69 and stated the background information can be found starting on page 40 of tonight's agenda packet.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and was seconded by Alderman Berry to accept and adopt the by Laws for the Art's Council as presented in the agenda.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 1898 – A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A SPENDING PLAN FOR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2022 THROUGH 2026 FOR THE CITY OF TULLAHOMA, TENNESSEE.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Resolution No. 1898 and stated the backup information can be found in tonight's agenda packet starting on page 46.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to approve Resolution No. 1898.

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

An amendment was made by Alderman Berry and was seconded by Alderman Amacher to delete item number 2a, the Street Sweeper in the amount of \$300,00, from the list in Exhibit A, on page 47 of the agenda.

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

Aye(s): Amacher, Berry, McGee

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

The results being three (3) Aye(s) and four (4) Nay(s), the motion failed. (thus, the street sweeper stays in the project list)

Another amendment was made by Alderman Berry and was seconded by Alderman Amacher to delete item number 9, the New Residential Garbage Truck (for a new route) in the amount of \$350,00, from the list in Exhibit A, on page 47 of the agenda.

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members voted as follows:

Aye(s): Amacher, Berry

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

The results being two (2) Aye(s) and five (5) Nay(s), the motion failed. (thus, the Garbage Truck stays in the project list)

Another amendment was made by Alderman Amacher to delete item number 4, Sidewalks and Greenway Improvements in the amount of \$535,000, from the list in Exhibit A, on page 47 of the agenda. Her amendment failed for a lack of a second.

The original motion was called for a vote.

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.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1899 – A RESOLUTION NAMING THE GREENWAY ALONG ROCK CREEK IN HONOR OF FORMER MAYOR AND FIRST LADY, LANE AND EVELYN CURLEE, IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR DISTINGUISHED YEARS OF SERVICE TO TULLAHOMA.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Resolution No. 1899.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanks and was seconded by Alderman Dunn to approve Resolution No. 1899.

Alderman Blanks read the Resolution.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 1900 – A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT A CDBG CHILD CARE EXPANSION GRANT PROGRAM.**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Resolution No. 1900 and said the whole resolution could be found starting on page 50 of the agenda.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and was seconded by Alderman Blanks to approve Resolution No. 1900.

Alderman Rupa Blackwell said she was going to abstain from voting because she sits on a Board for a childcare organization in Tullahoma

Alderman Sernobia McGee said she was going to abstain from voting because she sits on a Board for a childcare organization in Tullahoma

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Aye(s): Amacher, Berry, Blanks, Dunn, Knowis

Nay(s):

Abstained: Blackwell, McGee

The results being five (5) Ayes and zero (0) Nay(s) and two (2) abstained; the motion passed and was so ordered.

**ITEM NO. 22-70 – INCREASE PAVING BUDGET FOR CEDAR LANE**

Mayor Ray Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 22-70 and stated this item was added to the agenda earlier tonight.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and was seconded by Alderman McGee to approve Agenda Item No. 22-70.

Ms. Jennifer Moody, City Administrator, gave the background information and she recognized Mr. Robert “Butch” Taylor from the Public Works Department for any further questions.

A discussion ensued.

An amendment was made by Alderman Blanks and seconded by Alderman Berry to add an additional \$150,000 to this paving project so that all of Cedar Lane from Lincoln street to William Northern Boulevard could be paved at one time.

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

The original motion as amended was called for a vote.

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 7:27p.m.

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**CITY RECORDER**

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**MAYOR**