

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN (BMA)  
MINUTES FOR**

**SEPTEMBER 13, 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 rescheduled meeting on Monday, September 13, 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.

Jennifer Moody, 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.

City Recorder Rosemary Golden called the roll.

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

**COMMENDATIONS AND CERTIFICATES: - NONE -**

**PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

Mayor Ray Knowis designated September 2021 as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in Tullahoma. He then stated there is a fund raising (Suicide Prevention Walk) event scheduled for this Saturday in Manchester.

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:**

Ms. Erin McCullough, 121 Silver Street, stated the Imagination Library is having a fund raiser event. It will be held this weekend, in celebration of Tennessee Imagination Library Week. Ticket are being sold for a pancake breakfast at The Mercantile Café, 100 W. Fort St., on the square in Manchester.

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

**ALDERMAN AMACHER** - Ms. Amacher stated there will be a Tourism Council meeting this Thursday; a Coffee County Consolidated Communications Commission meeting this Wednesday; an Elected Officials Academy and the TML conference this weekend in Chattanooga. She said her “small business shout out” goes to Mr. Richard Brooks who owns the Templar Shooting Sports located at 1100 South Jackson Street.

**ALDERMAN BERRY** - Mr. Berry thanked JP Kraft for being proactive in looking for security cameras for the Parks and Recreation Department. He stated that he intends to attend both the Elected Officials Academy and the TML Conference this weekend in Chattanooga.

**ALDERMAN MCGEE** - Ms. McGee said she wanted to give a shout out to the First Responders, the Tullahoma High School R.O.T.C., and Fire Department for the 9/11 event that was held at the High School. There are several meetings that will happen this week, including the Tullahoma Housing Authority meeting and the Coffee County Industrial Board meeting. Ms. McGee said she attended a tail gate party. She said she intends to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Trunk or Treat event on October 30<sup>th</sup> at the Jefferson Street Park. Ms. McGee said she has a list of resource information for people who are having a hard time with finances.

**ALDERMAN BLACKWELL** - Ms. Blackwell thanked JP Kraft for his assistance with the Jefferson Street project and she said they hope to have a dedication ceremony on October 30<sup>th</sup> to the Holmes family. She said she recently sent an email to several business owners regarding a Downtown council meeting. She said the Tullahoma Board of Education will have their meeting next week. Ms. Blackwell is moving her “Coffee and Conversation” to the Starbucks Coffee Shop. She thanked the Mayor for declaring September as Suicide Prevention Awareness month in Tullahoma.

**ALDERMAN DUNN** - Ms. Dunn said at the last Tree Board meeting, it was announced that the City of Tullahoma has the largest living Willow Oak tree in the state of Tennessee. The tree is located at 204 East Lincoln Street. Ms. Dunn said the final rain barrel give away for this year will be at the Farmers Market on Monday, September 27, 2021.

**MAYOR PRO TEM BLANKS** - Dr. Blanks stated he had attended a Tullahoma Utility Authority meeting. There will be a Public Power week event on September 30 on the grounds of the TUA building on Jackson Street. The

Duck River Utility Commission will have a meeting this Wednesday. Dr. Blanks thanked the First Responders for the 9/11 ceremony.

**MAYOR RAY KNOWIS** - Mr. Knowis stated he had attended both the Fire Department's 9/11 ceremony at the Fire Hall and the stair climbing event at the Tullahoma High School Football stadium. Mayor Knowis said the COVID-19 numbers are still staggering and the Health Care Workers are hurting. He thanked them all for the work they have been doing over the last year. Mayor Knowis read a Proclamation stating that the week of September 12 to 18<sup>th</sup> was "National Assisted Living Week" in Tullahoma and he stated he had presented it earlier in the week to the Morning Pointe facility.

**CITY ATTORNEY** - Mr. Stephen M. Worsham stated he is working on several items for the City including: a sewer extension proposal near Ledford Mill Road area; reviewing a proposal for an apartment complex near the soccer field on South Franklin Street and trying to complete the Deeds and Easements necessary for the Ovoca Road sidewalks project.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR** - Ms. Jennifer Moody reported that she attended both the Friday "Stair Climb" at the Tullahoma High School Football stadium and the Saturday morning ceremony at the Fire Station. These events were in memory of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. She said the mural project is almost completed on the old Quilting Building located in the alley behind the square. Ms. Moody said Jordan Wilkins attended a City Administrator's seminar in Chattanooga. She said she attended both a Coffee County Joint Economic Community Council meeting and a Franklin County meeting. Ms. Moody said she met with Mr. Brian Skelton with the Tullahoma Utility Authority and they are looking into putting some electric car charging stations near the downtown area. She intends to go to a State Communications System seminar with Alderman Berry. Ms. Moody stated at the last Chamber meeting they announced they are accepting nominations for this year's Christmas Parade Grand Marshall. This will be the 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration of the Tullahoma Christmas Parade.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEM NO. 21-109- MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 9, 2021, REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING**

**ITEM NO. 21-115- MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 30, 2021, REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING.**

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

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and seconded by Alderman Blackwell 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: - NONE -**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ITEM NO. 21-116 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR MR. JAIE M. DAMRON AT A NEW RETAIL LIQUOR STORE LOCATED AT 622 WILSON AVE.**

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 21-116 and he gave the background information.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Amacher to approve the attached Certificate of Compliance Form for Mr. Jaie M. Damron.

A long discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Alderman Dunn and was seconded by Alderman McGee to post-pond this agenda item until the September 27<sup>th</sup> BMA meeting thus allowing the City Attorney Steve Worsham to contact the State of Tennessee Alcohol Beverage Commission's (ABC) attorney.

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

**ITEM NO. 21-117- CONSIDER APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GRIGGS AND MALONEY INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,500, AND ESTABLISH A TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET OF \$315,000 IN THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND WITH \$225,000 PROVIDED IN STATE GRANT REVENUE AND \$90,000 IN LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS, FOR THE 2021 CDBG PROJECT ON WAGGONER STREET.**

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 21-117.

Mr. Ryan Maloney from the Griggs and Maloney firm gave a brief explanation of what needs to be done for the Waggoner Street project.

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman Blackwell to approve the attached agenda item.

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

**ITEM NO. 21-118 – CONSIDER APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN A CONSULTING SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOUTH-CENTRAL TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,000, FOR THE 2021 CDBG PROJECT ON WAGGONER STREET.**

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 21-118.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Berry and it was seconded by Alderman McGee to approve the attached agenda item.

A discussion ensued.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Ayes: Berry, Blackwell, Blanks, Dunn, Knowis, McGee

Nays: Amacher

The vote was six (6) ayes and one (1) nay; therefore, the motion passed and was so ordered.

**ITEM NO. 21-119- CONSIDER APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND CITY ATTORNEY TO NEGOTIATE LEASE OR SALE OF THE FORMER ROCK-TENN BUILDING LOCATED AT 411 EAST CARROLL STREET.**

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 21-119.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to approve the attached agenda item.

A discussion ensued.

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

**ITEM NO. 21-120- CONSIDER APPROVAL TO CONVERT A PART-TIME POSITION TO FULL-TIME POSITION IN THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZE RELATED FY 2022 BUDGET AMENDMENT TO SUPPORT THE SAME.**

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 21-120 and he stated the background information could be found on page 68 of tonight's agenda.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to approve the attached agenda item.

A discussion ensued.

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

**ITEM NO. 21-121- CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A FULL-TIME POSITION TO SUPPORT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND CITY ADMINISTRATION AND AUTHORIZE RELATED FY 2022 BUDGET AMENDMENT TO SUPPORT THE SAME.**

Mayor Knowis read the caption for Agenda Item No. 21-121 and he stated the background information could be found on page 70 of tonight's agenda.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Blackwell and it was seconded by Alderman Berry to approve the attached agenda item.

A discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Alderman Amacher to post-pond voting on this agenda item until we have a job description for this position. The motion failed for a lack of obtaining a second.

The original motion was called to vote.

On roll call all members present voted as follows:

Ayes: Berry, Blackwell, Blanks, Dunn, Knowis, McGee

Nays: Amacher

The vote was six (6) ayes and one (1) nay; therefore, the motion passed and 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 6:46 p.m.

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**CITY RECORDER**

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**MAYOR**