

The Gatlinburg Board of Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 17, 2019, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Room. All members were present. Mayor Werner called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance and Finance Director Robert Holt gave the Invocation.

Mayor Werner then called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of November 19, 2019. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Minutes which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown and then unanimously adopted.

There were no Petitions or Communications from the Public.

Regarding Reports and Boards of the Committees, Mayor Werner presented two Twenty Year Service Award to Michael Hinkle of the Finance Department and Brian Parton of the Sanitation Department.

The City Manager reported and/or requested:

(1) that she would like to announce that the New Year's Eve Fireworks Show and Ball Drop will be held on December 31, 2019, and stated that this year there will be a live concert beginning at 10:30P.M. by the band Departure, the Ultimate Journey Cover Band and that the event is family friendly and will be held adjacent to the Convention Center and across for the Space Needle; and

(2) that she would like to remind everyone that the City Offices will be closed on December 24 and 25 and New Year's Day and that the Community Center will close at 4:00P.M. on Tuesday December 31, 2019, and will remain closed through New Year's Day.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019.

Item A under New Business was Discussion and Consideration of accepting the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2019. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to accept the Report which was seconded by Commissioner DeSear. Mayor Werner referenced the City Commission workshop in which the Report was reviewed with representatives from Pugh CPAs. The City Manager stated that this is a preliminary draft Audit Report for the previous Fiscal Year and that the Commission is acknowledging that they have seen the Report and accepts the Report so it can be sent to the State before the end of the calendar year as required. After these comments, the motion to approve the Report was unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN ENGINEERING CONTRACT WITH ROBERT J. CAMPBELL AND ASSOCIATES FOR THE WILDFIRES MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE PROJECT.

Item B under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving an Engineering Contract with Robert J. Campbell and Associates for the Wildfires Memorial and Tribute Project. Commissioner DeSear made a motion to approve the Engineering Contract which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The City Manager stated that this was the Engineering Agreement for the Wildfires Memorial and Tribute Project and is in the amount of \$161,700 and that the Project is being funded with a Tennessee Department of Transportation Grant and that the Engineering Agreement is the next step to proceed with this Project. After these comments, the motion to approve the Contract was unanimously approved.

ORDINANCE Number 2544, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE GATLINBURG ZONING ORDINANCE BY RECLASSIFYING A PORTION OF PARCEL 34 OF TAX MAP 127H, GROUP A, LOCATED AT 116 WEST OGLE DRIVE FROM R-1 (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) DISTRICT TO C-2 (GENERAL BUSINESS) DISTRICT, FIRST READING (Passed Planning Commission, 11/21/19).

Item C under New Business was Ordinance 2544, an Ordinance amending the Gatlinburg Zoning Ordinance by reclassifying a portion of Parcel 34, of Tax Map 127H, Group A, located at 116 West Ogle Drive from R-1 (Low Density Residential) District to C-2 (General Business) District, First Reading (Passed Planning Commission, 11/21/19). Commissioner Smith made a motion to pass the Ordinance which was seconded by Commissioner DeSear. The City Manager asked Mr. Joe Barrett with East Tennessee Development District (ETDD) to give an overview of the request and Mr. Barrett stated that the property is located directly behind Little House of Pancakes on West Ogle Drive and is zoned R-1 and that Little House of Pancakes property is already C-2 and the reason for the request for rezoning from R-1 to C-2 is to be able to expand the Little House of Pancakes parking area. After these comments, the motion to approve the Ordinance was unanimously approved on First Reading.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE GATLINBURG PITTMAN HIGH AND PI BETA PHI SCHOOLS.

Item D under New Business was discussion and consideration of authorizing additional appropriations for the Gatlinburg Pittman High and Pi Beta Phi Schools. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the additional appropriations which was seconded by Commissioner DeSear. The City Manager stated that, in the Agenda packages, there is an outline of the request and the Pi Beta Phi request is solely for renovations of the Library and is in the amount of \$54,276 and those monies can come from the School

Fund, Fund Balance. The City Manager further stated that the larger request is for the Junior and Senior High Schools and it is a list of different items to make improvement to the existing High School Buildings and the amount requested for that portion is \$447,000 and would need to be taken from the General Fund, Fund Balance. Vice Mayor McCown asked what the line item in Dr. Parton's letter was referring to that states Board of Education funds/labor for \$50,000 and Commissioner DeSear stated that Superintendent Parton's team would do the actual work on the library renovation once they had the money to perform the work and that is the labor that Dr. Parton is referring to in the letter. Commissioner DeSear further stated that the way the BEP funding from the State is handled for Sevier County is an absolute tragedy and that it is ridiculous the amount of tax money the City provides the State and that Sevier County gets less money per student than any other County in the State and that the problem is the City will have to contribute money to keep the Schools functioning at the level they should function. He further stated that the City should not have to do this but the City absolutely will to keep the Schools in Gatlinburg as good as they are for our children. Commissioner DeSear also stated that the City needed to ask Dr. Parton if there will be other needs in the future that might need to be discussed at Mid-Year Review. Commissioner Reagan stated that with the \$447,000 monies request that the City should fund this as each invoice is turned into the City since there is a possibility the Project could be a different amount. After these comments, the motion to approve the additional appropriations was unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE USE OF THE GATLINBURG COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE SEVIER COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM FUN AND FITNESS DAY ON MAY 8, 2020.

Item E under New Business was Discussion and Consideration of Approving the use of the Gatlinburg Community Center for the Sevier County School System Fun and Fitness Day on May 8, 2020. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the request which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown and then vote was unanimously approved.

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS:

Commission Ryan DeSear:

- (1) That he would like to ask the Public Works Director for an update on the Baskins Creek Road Project and he responded that the road was closed this week and the equipment is on site and the Project is a one hundred and twenty day project and should be complete by the end of March; and,
- (2) Stated that looking at tax receipts that the City's Gross Receipts are up 13% which is really good and that the Winter months are looking to be great also; and,
- (3) Wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

Commissioner Don Smith:

- (1) Stated he wanted to thank Mike Hinkle and Brian Parton for their twenty years of service to the City; and
- (2) Wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

Commissioner Reagan:

- (1) Wanted to recognize the passing of Artist Jim Gray who was very involved in the Arts and Crafts Community and extend condolences and prayers to his family; and,
- (2) Wanted to wish everyone in the community a Merry Christmas.

Vice Mayor McCown:

- (1) Stated he would like to congratulate Mike Hinkle and Brian Parton for their many years of service to the City; and,
- (2) Wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mayor Mike Werner:

- (1) Stated he would like to echo the congratulations to Mr. Hinkle and Mr. Parton and that Gatlinburg has great employees; and,
- (2) Commented that the Christmas Parade was the highest attended parade he had ever seen and was glad of that; and,
- (3) Wanted to mention the passing of Mr. Jim Gray and Mrs. Jean Conner, two great people who had a great influence on our community and to keep their families in your prayers; and,
- (4) Also, wanted to say that the fact this year's gross receipts has surpassed those of 2016, which was the best year the City had ever had, is incredible and the recovery of Gatlinburg after the tragedy that we had is remarkable and that it is a testimony to the people who live in this area and then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, Commissioner DeSear made a motion to adjourn. Vice Mayor McCown seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.



Mike Werner, Mayor



Cindy Cameron Ogle, City Recorder
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