The Gatlinburg Board of Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday July 20, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Room. All members were present. Mayor Mike Werner called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Building and Planning Director David Ball gave the Invocation.

Mayor Werner then called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of July 6, 2021. Commissioner Chad Reagan made a motion to approve the Minutes which was seconded by Commissioner Don Smith and then unanimously adopted.

Regarding Reports of Boards and Committees was the Gatlinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau Second Quarter Report presentation by Mr. Mark Adams, President/CEO. Mr. Adams reported that the first six months of 2021 have been very busy for their organization and thanked Commissioners for allocating funds to continue to market the City. Mr. Adams reported that the Gatlinburg Visitors Centers and Welcome Center have welcomed over 120,000 visitors in the first half of the year, with the states of Florida, Indiana and Illinois comprising the most visitors. Mr. Adams also reported that the GCVB is preparing for its 2022 Operating Budget and that the organization has hired five new employees during the second quarter, bringing the total to 33 full-time employees and five part-time employees. Mr. Adams also explained that visitors to the Gatlinburg.com website are up 100,000 from a year ago. Mrs. Marci Claude, Public Relations Manager, reported that Gatlinburg has been mentioned in many publications this year, including being named the Number One Trending Destination in America by TripAdvisor and the Number One Mountain Town to Visit by US News and World Report. Mrs. Claude also explained that the GCVB's Public Relations team has hosted travel writers over the course of the year and that the organization recently completed its shoot for its 2022 television commercials. Mr. Scott Murphy, Manager of the Convention Center, noted that there are 74 events booked for the future at the Convention Center and 27 of those are new events to Gatlinburg and that no event has cancelled in the Second Quarter. Mr. Murphy also provided updates on the renovations ongoing at the Convention Center.

The City Manager reported and/or requested:

(1) that she would like to report on the status of various Capital Projects and the Convention Center Renovation Project and stated that copies of the reports were placed at the podium and that these Projects include Glades Road Water and Sewer Extension, Mynatt Park ADA Accessibility Project, Dog Park at Mills Park, Winterfest Lights Warehouse Construction, and the Convention Center Renovations Project; and,

(2) that she would like to announce the annual closing of the Community Center for the week of August 8, 2021, for annual maintenance and that the facility will reopen on August 9, 2021.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2575, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 15-705 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE AND TO ADOPT A NEW SECOND PARAGRAPH OF SAID SECTION TO INCREASE THE CHARGE FOR ILLEGAL PARKING ON PUBLIC PROPERTY FROM $10.00 TO $50.00 PER VIOLATION, Second Reading (Passed First Reading 7/6/2021).

Item A under Old Business was Ordinance Number 2575, an Ordinance to amend Section 15-705 of the Municipal Code and to adopt a new second paragraph of said section to increase the charge for illegal parking on public property from $10.00 to $50,00 per violation, Second Reading (Passed First Reading 7/6/2021). Commissioner Ryan DeSear made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on second reading which was seconded by Vice Mayor Mark McCown. Commissioner DeSear remarked that the City Commission does not like to increase fines and that this Ordinance is necessary due to the charge for illegal parking being less than the cost of parking legally. After these comments, the motion to adopt the Ordinance on second reading was unanimously approved.

New Business:

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN AGREEMENT RELATED TO THE BOYD FOUNDATION DOG PARK DASH GRANT PROGRAM.

Item A under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving an Agreement related to the Boyd Foundation Dog Park Dash Grant Program. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the agreement which was seconded by Commissioner Reagan. The City Manager noted that this official Agreement is needed to secure the $25,000 Boyd Foundation Grant for the City's Dog Park. The Public Information Officer invited the City Commission to the official check presentation that will be held on Wednesday, July 28 at 3:30 p.m. at City Hall. After these comments, the motion to approve the Agreement was unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH C2RL, INC. RELATED TO THE WEST PRONG FORCE MAIN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

Item B under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving Amendment No. 2 to the Engineering Services Agreement with C2RL, INC. related to the West Prong Force Main Improvement Project. Commissioner DeSear made a motion to approve the Amendment which was seconded by Commissioner Reagan. The City Manager explained that the Amendment was in the amount of $31,500.00 and needed for construction, observation and administrative services related to the West Prong Force Main

Improvement Project. The Utilities Manager also noted that the contract for the Project is for 120 days and that the Contractor has mobilized at Herbert Holt Park near the Trout Farm area. He further explained that the Project will have an impact on Herbert Holt Park with some sections of parking restricted for public access. Vice Mayor McCown asked how the construction would impact the river and the Utilities Manager explained that the sewer pipe would cross the river two times and be buried under the riverbed which would require that the river be diverted two places during construction and that the proper permits had been acquired from the State and the National Park Service. After these comments, the motion to approve the Amendment was unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AMENDMENT No. 1 TO THE ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH FOXPE, LLC, RELATED TO THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION PROJECT.

Item C under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving Amendment No. 1 to the Engineering Services Agreement with FOXPE, LLC, related to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Amendment which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. The City Manager explained that the Amendment is in the amount of $25,000.00 and is for the bidding and award phases of the Sewer Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project. She also noted that the Project is scheduled to be advertised in early August with the bid opening target date of September 23, 2021, and that it is scheduled to bring a recommended contract to the City Commission in October. After these comments, the motion to approve the Amendment was unanimously adopted.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2577, AN ORDINANCE MAKING AND FIXING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022, AND TO CARRY FORWARD APPROPRIATIONS FOR PRIOR YEAR ENCUMBRANCES, First Reading.

Item D under New Business was Ordinance Number 2577, an Ordinance making and fixing the annual appropriation for the several Departments of the City for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022, and to carry forward appropriations for the prior year encumbrances, First Reading. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. Mayor Werner commented that the Budget Presentation was excellent and he was thankful for a great economic recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic and a successful year for the City. After these comments, the motion to adopt the Ordinance was unanimously approved on first reading.

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS:

Commissioner Don Smith

(1) Stated that he would like to thank the City Manager, the Finance Director and City staff for their work preparing the Budget and that it was one of the best Budgets that has ever been presented.

Vice Mayor Mark McCown

(1) Stated that he would like to praise the City Manager and City staff for their work preparing the Budget and that it is fabulous that it includes $126,000,000 of total appropriations.

Mayor Mike Werner

(1) Stated that he would like to thank the City Manager and City Staff for their hard work preparing the Budget.

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

Mike Werner, Mayor

Cindy C. Ogle

Cindy Cameron Ogle, City Recorder

/mp