

Gatlinburg City Commission
September 17, 2024
Meeting Minutes

The Gatlinburg Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Room. All the members were present. Mayor Mike Werner called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Finance Director Robert Holt gave the Invocation.

Mayor Werner then called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of August 20, 2024. Commissioner Chad Reagan made a motion to approve the Minutes which was seconded by Vice Mayor Mark McCown and then unanimously adopted.

The City Manager reported and/or requested:

- (1) that he would like to advise that the status update of the ongoing Capital Projects have been placed at their seats for review; and,
- (2) that he wanted to announce that the Gatlinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau was holding its 5th annual Gatlinburger Week this week through September 21 and that 19 restaurants are participating with hand crafted special burgers; and,
- (3) that he wanted to thank everyone who came to support the Mountain Hope Good Shepherd Clinic grand opening, those who donated to the Clinic, and the Reagan family for the donation of the property.

New Business:

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE BIRDS CREEK SEWER LINE CONNECTIONS PROJECT.

Item A under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving the guideline and application process for the Birds Creek Sewer Line Connections Project. Commissioner Jay Horner made a motion to approve the guideline and application process which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. The City Manager explained that enclosed in their agenda packages were a memorandum from the Utilities Manager, which outlines the guidelines for connections, the application instructions for connections, and a map of eligible properties. The City Manager also stated that this was reviewed with the Commissioners at a June 24 Workshop Meeting and at the July 11 Budget Presentation. The Utilities Manager explained that the sewer system was installed in 2021 to serve Caton's Chapel School and that capacity was identified to accommodate more connections to the system in this area. The Utilities Manager also reiterated that the application and instructions were available for review in the agenda packages and has been reviewed by City staff and the City Attorney. Commissioner Smith inquired about the Reagan Drive Sewer Rehabilitation Project and the timeline for completion and the Utilities Manager replied that the Project should be completed by the end of September. The City Manager stated that once the crews have completed the sewer rehabilitation project, that the City will resurface Reagan Drive. Following these comments, the motion to approve the guidelines and application process was unanimously adopted.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2622, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE BY REPLACING TITLE 11, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 11-204 TITLED “PUBLIC DRUNKENNESS” AND AMENDING TITLE 11, CHAPTER 4, SECTION 11-401 TITLED “DISTURBING THE PEACE”, FIRST READING.

Item B under New Business was Ordinance 2622, an Ordinance to amend the Municipal Code by replacing Title 11, Chapter 2, Section 11-204 titled “Public Drunkenness” and amending Title 11, Chapter 4, Section 11-401 titled “Disturbing the Peace”, First Reading. Commissioner Horner made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading which was seconded by Commissioner Reagan. The City Manager explained that this Ordinance, repeals Title 11, Chapter 2, Section 11-204 of the Municipal Code and amends Title 11, Chapter 4, Section 11-401 titled “Disturbing the Peace” and that City Attorney Adrienne Waters Ogle advised amending the wording by adding the definition of Public Intoxication into the City Ordinance for disturbing the peace, because State Law states that no City shall adopt local laws rendering public intoxication or drunkenness in and of itself. The City Manager further explained that Ms. Ogle interpreted this as that City Court can not adjudicate or hear its own public intoxication Ordinance in Municipal Court. Following these comments, the motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF DECLARING CERTAIN CITY ITEMS AS SURPLUS.

Item C under New Business was discussion and consideration of declaring certain City items as surplus. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to declare the items as surplus which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. The City Manager explained that enclosed in the Commissioners’ agenda packages is a memorandum from the Finance Director regarding the declaration of surplus property, which involves the components of the present playground equipment at Mynatt Park, except the shade structures and that the City is in the process of replacing all the equipment at this playground, which was approved by the Commission during the FY 2024-25 Budget process. Following these comments, the motion to declare the items as surplus was unanimously approved.

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS:

Commissioner Jay Horner

- (1) Stated that he wanted to thank everyone for attending the Mountain Hope Good Shepherd Clinic grand opening; and,
- (2) Wanted to thank members of the Aesthetic’s Committee and City Staff for attending a downtown walkthrough on August 2 and the diligent work City staff has been doing to remedy issues that were seen; and,
- (3) Stated that he wanted to congratulate Justin Brown on his recent appointment as Assistant Police Chief; and,
- (4) Stated that he wanted to congratulate Maureen Parton and Fire Chief Charlie Cole on the upcoming birth of their grandchild.

Commissioner Chad Reagan

- (1) Stated that he wanted to issue congratulations to Justin Brown on becoming the Assistant Police Chief; and,
- (2) Stated that he wanted to thank recently retired Assistant Police Chief Gary Waldroup and Public Works Director Larry Henderson for their work and service to the City.

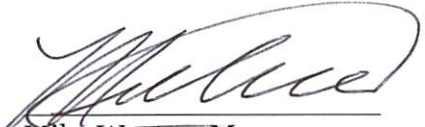
Vice Mayor Mark McCown

- (1) Stated that he also wanted to congratulate Justin Brown on his appointment as Assistant Police Chief.

Mayor Mike Werner

- (1) Stated that he wanted to congratulate Justin Brown on being named Assistant Police Chief; and,
- (2) Stated that he wanted everyone to keep Charlie and Ola Moore in their prayers; and,
- (3) Stated that he wanted to thank the Reagan family for their donation of property to the Mountain Hope Good Shepherd Clinic.

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


Mike Werner, Mayor

Greg Patterson, City Recorder
/sb