The Gatlinburg Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 2022, 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. Finance Director Robert Holt gave the Invocation.

Mayor Werner then called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of June 21, 2022. Commissioner Chad Reagan made a motion to approve the Minutes which was seconded by Commissioner Ryan DeSear and then unanimously adopted.

Under Reports of Boards and Committees, Mayor Werner presented Tim Hughes of the Fire Department a Twenty-Five Year Service Award.

Also, regarding Reports of Boards and Committees was the Gatlinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau Second Quarter Report presentation by Vice President of Marketing, Chad Netherland. Mr. Netherland reported that during the second quarter, the CVB Staff met with the State Department of Tourism and Tennessee Hospitality Association to ensure the organization is updated on all State initiatives, including securing a $1.25 million American Rescue Plan Act funding grant from Commissioner of Tourism Mark Ezell. Mr. Netherland also reported that the CVB conducted a cooperative marketing campaign in the Washington, D.C. market with the Smoky Mountain Tourism Development Council and had that he had recently met with the President of Datafy and was a speaker at the IPW/eTourism National Conference in Orlando and at the Simpleview National Conference in Phoenix. Regarding visitation in the area, Mr. Netherland noted that visitation was slightly down at both the Aquarium and Spur Welcome Centers during the second quarter and that Gatlinburg.com sessions were up 36% compared to last year in the second quarter, with new users up 50% and that the Social Media reach during the first six months of the year was over 100,000,000 through all of the Visit Gatlinburg social media platforms. Mr. Netherland also noted that the Convention Center economic impact for the period of January through June 2022 was $47.5 million, which is up $22.3 million over 2021 figures. Mr. Scott Murphy, Convention Center Manager then explained that in 2021 the Convention Center had hosted 39 events and the total to date in 2022 is 60 events. Mr. Murphy also provided an update to the renovations ongoing at the Convention Center and reported that the Parkway set of escalators was set to be complete by the end of July and that the Airport Road escalators would be installed soon and that the indoor-outdoor reception area was scheduled to be a useable space by September.

Commissioner Reagan asked about the top 12 Cities responsible for Gatlinburg.com visitors and if the CVB does direct marketing in those areas. Mr. Netherland replied that the CVB directly markets in Atlanta and Nashville and does not in Chicago and Dallas. Commissioner DeSear asked if, in the third quarter report, the 2022 figures be compared to 2019 numbers due to the years of 2020 and 2021 being outliers because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Vice Mayor McCown asked if the traffic counter information can be included in the third quarter report and former Convention and Visitors Bureau President Mark Adams explained that those reports are compiled manually, and that this information can be in the next report. Mr. Netherland concluded his report by thanking Mr. Adams for his part in making the second quarter a success for the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The City Manager reported and/or requested:

(1) that she would like to advise that status updates of several Capital Projects and the Convention Center Renovation Project have been placed at the podium for review: and,

(2) that she would like to announce that the Community Center will be closed from August 1 until August 7 for annual maintenance and that the facility will reopen on August 8, 2022, at 8:00a.m.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2591, AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022, Second Reading. (Passed First Reading 6/21/2022).

Item A under Old Business was Ordinance Number 2591, Amending the Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, Second Reading (Passed First Reading 6/21/2022). Commissioner Reagan made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on second reading which was seconded by Commissioner DeSear. The motion to adopt the Ordinance on second reading was unanimously approved.

New Business:

ORDIANCE NUMBER 2592 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE, BEING ORDINANCE 830, AND FURTHER BEING AN ORDINANCE TO RECLASSIFY PARCELS 22, 23, AND 24 OF TAX MAP 126K, GROUP D, LOCATED AT 510 AND 610 RIVER ROAD FROM C-2 (GENERAL BUSINESS) DISTRICT TO C-1 (TOURIST COMMERCIAL) DISTRICT, FIRST READING (Passed Planning Commission 6/16/2022).

Item A under New Business was Ordinance Number 2592, an Ordinance to amend the Zoning, being Ordinance 830, and further being an Ordinance to reclassify Parcels 22, 23, and 24 of Tax Map 126K, Group D, located at 510 and 610 River Road from C-2 (General Business) District to C-1 (Tourist Commercial) District, First Reading (Passed Planning Commission 6/16/2022). Commissioner DeSear made the motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. Vice Mayor McCown asked where these parcels are and the Building and Planning Director replied that the parcels were the former Christus Gardens and Riverhouse Hotel properties. Following these comments, the motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading was unanimously approved.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2593, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE, BEING ORDINANCE 830, AND FURTHER BEING AN ORDINANCE TO RECLASSIFY PARCEL 16 OF TAX MAP 126L, GROUP E, LOCATED ON SILVERBELL HEIGHTS LANE FROM R-1 (LOW DENSITY)

DISTRICT TO C-1 (TOURIST COMMERICAL) DISTRICT, FIRST READING (Passed Planning Commission 6/16/2022).

Item B under New Business was Ordinance Number 2593, an Ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance, being Ordinance 830, and further being an Ordinance to reclassify Parcel 16 of Tax map 126L, Group E, Located on Silverbell Heights Lane from R-1 (Low Density) District to C-1 (Tourist Commercial) District, First Reading (Passed Planning Commission 6/16/2021). Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading which was seconded by Commissioner DeSear. Commissioner Reagan asked where these parcels were located and the Building and Planning Director replied they are at the top of Silverbell Heights Lane adjacent to the Anakeesta property. Vice Mayor McCown asked what the plans are for the parcels and the Building and Planning Director explained that they were near where Anakeesta's Lumina Walk is being constructed and it is for an area to provide access for drop off of patrons. Following these comments, the motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading was unanimously approved.

ORDIANCE NUMBER 2594, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE, BEING ORDINANCE 830, AND FURTHER BEING AN ORDINANCE TO RECLASSIFY PARCEL 17 OF TAX MAP 126M, GROUP E, LOCATED ON SILVERBELL HEIGHTS LANE FROM R-1 (LOW RESIDENTIAL) DISTRICT TO C-1 (TOURIST COMMERCAIL) DISTRICT, FIRST READING (Passed Planning Commission 6/16/2022).

Item C under New Business was Ordinance Number 2594, an Ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance, being Ordinance 830, and further being an Ordinance to reclassify Parcel 17 to Tax Map 126M, Group E, located on Silverbell Heights Lane from R-1 (Low Residential) District to C-1 (Tourist Commercial) District, First Reading (Passed Planning Commission 6/16/2022). Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading which was seconded by Commissioner Kirby Smith. The motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM AT&T FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF CERTAIN STREET LIGHT POLES ON PARKWAY AND THE PLACEMENT OF A POLE ON HISTORIC NATURE TRAIL/AIRPORT ROAD.

Item D under New Business was discussion and consideration of a request from AT&T for the replacement of certain street light poles on Parkway and the Placement of a pole on Historic Nature Trail/Airport Road. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to approve the request which was seconded by Commissioner DeSear. The Public Works Director explained that there was a Workshop Meeting on May 17 and that this is a request from AT&T to replace six of the City green poles and to place an additional pole on Historic Nature Trail/Airport Road in front of the Convention Center. Vice Mayor McCown asked if this would increase cellular phone coverage in the area and Mr. Alan Hill with AT&T explained that it would provide increased throughput for voice and data services for AT&T customers. After these comments, the motion to approve the request was unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A CHANGE ORDER TO THE WHALEY CONSTRUCTION, LLC CONTRACT RELATED TO THE MYNATT PARK PAVILION AND RESTROOM REMODEL PROJECT.

Item E under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a change order to the Whaley Construction, LLC Contract related to the Mynatt Park Pavilion and Restroom Remodel Project. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the Change Order which was seconded by Commissioner Reagan. The City Manager explained that the Change Order is in the amount of $5,100 and is needed to upgrade the bathroom dividers from a satin finish specified in the bid documents to a diamond finish, which is more durable and less susceptible to vandalism. Commissioner DeSear asked if these would be included in other future restroom renovations and the City Manager confirmed it would. Following these comments, the motion to approve the Change Order was unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A CHANGE ORDER TO THE UTILITY SERVICE COMPANY, INC., CONTRACT RELATED TO THE WILEY OAKLEY WATER TANK REPAINTING PROJECT.

Item F under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a change order to the Utility Service Company, Inc., Contract related to the Wiley Oakley Water Tank Repainting Project. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to approve the Change Order which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. The City Manager explained that this was a Change Order which is necessary to finalize the closing out of the Contract. The Utilities Manager explained that this was a deduct change in the amount of $11,200 off of the Contract total of $125,300 and that the Project is complete. Following these comments, the motion to approve the Change Order was unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH SRA ARCHITECT, INC., RELATED TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMPLEX PROJECT.

Item G under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving an amendment to the Contract with SRA Architect, Inc., relate to the Public Works Complex. Commissioner DeSear made a motion to amend the contract which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The Public Works Director explained that it has been determined that the scope of the Project needed to change for the Utility Maintenance and Service Center Buildings, including interior modifications related to the electrical, HVAC, and plumbing. Mr. Henderson further explained that this increases the SRA Contract by an additional $41,775, bringing the total fee for the Professional Services Agreement to $147,775. The City Manager noted that there are sufficient funds available in the Project Account for this expenditure. Following these comments, the motion to approve the amended Contract was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 995, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO

PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC ENTITY PARTNERS (PEP) "SAFETY PARTNERS" LOSS CONTROL MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM.

Item H under New Business was Resolution Number 995, A Resolution authorizing the City to Participate in the Public Entity Partners (PEP) "Safety Partners" Loss Control matching Grant Program. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to adopt the Resolution which was seconded by Commissioner Reagan. The City Manager explained that this is a Grant program with Public Entity Partners, which is the former Tennessee Municipal League insurance company, and that the $3,000 will be used to offset the costs of turnout gear for firefighters. Following these comments, the motion to adopt the Resolution was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 996, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF GATLINBURG FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023-2027.

Item I under New Business was Resolution Number 996, a Resolution adopting a Capital Improvements Program for the City of Gatlinburg for Fiscal Years 2023-2027. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to adopt the Resolution which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. The City Manager explained that this Resolution acknowledges the update of the Capital Improvements Program for the City and that specific funding for the Projects is part of the Budget progress and that this does not appropriate money for those Projects. Following these comments, the motion to adopt the Resolution was unanimously approved.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2595, AN ORDINANCE MAKING AND FIXING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2023, AND TO CARRY FORWARD APPROPRIATIONS FOR PRIOR YEAR ENCUMBRANCES, First Reading.

Item J under New Business was Ordinance Number 2595, an Ordinance making and fixing the annual appropriation for the several Departments of the City for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023, and to carry forward appropriations for prior year encumbrances, First Reading. Commissioner DeSear made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The City Manager explained that this is the first reading of the Budget Ordinance and that it was presented to Commissioners on Monday, July 19. Following these comments, the motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading was unanimously approved.

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS:

Commissioner Ryan DeSear

(1) Stated that he wanted to offer his thanks to the City Administration for their work on the FY 2022-23 Budget and that it was not an easy task to prepare the Budget in

comparison to the record business year of 2021; and,

(2) Stated that he was on a conference call with the Finance Director and Verizon Wireless earlier in the day and that the company confirmed it was going to send out engineers to determine the issues with phone reception in the area. He also noted that Verizon had made a small upgrade on July 14 which has helped some in the U.S. Highway 321 corridor and that the City and Verizon are trying to work together to resolve the issue.

Commissioner Kirby Smith

(1) Stated that he wanted to offer his thanks to the City staff for their work on the FY 2022-23 Budget and appreciated their hard work.

Commissioner Chad Reagan

(1) Stated that he wanted to thank Tim Hughes for his 25 Years of Service to the City; and,

(2) Stated that he wanted to thank the City Administration for their work on the FY 2022-23 Budget and that he wanted everyone to know that the City Administration is taking care of City employees with this Budget.

Vice Mayor Mark McCown

(1) Stated that he too wanted to congratulate Tim Hughes for his 25 Years of Service; and,

(2) Stated he wanted to thank the City Manager, the Assistant City Manager, and the Finance Director for putting together the FY 2022-23 Budget and that they did a fine job in the Budget Presentation; and,

(3) Stated that he wanted to wish Mark Adams and Laurence Evans a Happy Birthday.

Mayor Mike Werner

(1) Stated that he wanted to congratulate Tim Hughes for his 25 Years of Service and that his work is commendable; and,

(2) Stated that Monday's Budget Presentation was a very positive meeting and offered his thanks to the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, and Finance Director for their work on the Budget and stated that taking care of City employees is a good thing to do; and,

(3) Stated that he wanted to thank Commissioner DeSear and the Finance Director for

participating on the conference call with Verizon Wireless; and,

(4) Stated that it was good to see Jim Downs at tonight's meeting and thanked him for his work with Rocky Top Sports World; and,

(5) Stated that he wanted to wish Mark Adams and Laurence Evans and Happy Birthday; and,

(6) Stated that he wanted to thank Gatlinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau Staff Chad Netherland and Scott Murphy for their report at the meeting.

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.

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Mike Werner, Mayor

Cindy C. Ogle

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Cindy Cameron Ogle, City Recorder
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