

Gatlinburg City Commission
April 22, 2025
Meeting Minutes

The Gatlinburg Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 5:00 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 led the Invocation.

Mayor Werner then called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of March 18, 2025. Commissioner Kirby Smith made a motion to approve the Minutes which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Horner and then unanimously adopted.

The City Manager reported and/or requested:

- (1) Stated that he wanted to announce that the Public Safety Building Addition Project construction began on April 21 and will create much-needed expanded office and training space for the Fire Department and the Police Department and that the City appreciates everyone's patience as the construction project continues; and,
- (2) Stated that he wanted to acknowledge that the City's Street Department began pressure washing of sidewalks each morning in the downtown area last week and that this will occur on weekdays through October; and,
- (3) Stated his appreciation for the Recreation Department for their efforts to make the Arbor Day Celebration, which is vital to Gatlinburg's Tree City USA designation, a success and that he wanted to congratulate former Assistant Recreation Director Randall Brien for having a tree planted in his honor on the campus of Pi Beta Phi Elementary School as part of the ceremony; and,
- (4) Stated that he wanted to announce that the Gatlinburg Emergency Services Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, May 9 at the Gatlinburg Golf Course and that proceeds from the tournament benefit Gatlinburg Community Police Programs (GCOPP) and the Gatlinburg Firefighters Association; and,
- (5) Announced that the Gatlinburg Law Enforcement Conference will be held May 6-8 at the Convention Center and that the event involves many law enforcement agencies from across the southeastern United States; and,
- (6) Announced that the Gatlinburg Farmers Market is scheduled to begin on Saturday, May 17 in the American Legion Parking Lot, adjacent to City Hall; and,
- (7) Stated that he wanted to congratulate Gatlinburg-Pittman High School senior basketball player Ty Glasper on his recent designation as TSSAA Mr. Basketball in Class AA.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2633 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE GATLINBURG ZONING ORDINANCE, BEING ORDINANCE NO. 830, AND FURTHER BEING AN ORDINANCE TO RECLASSIFY PARCEL 35, GROUP E, OF TAX MAP 126N LOCATED AT 111 W. HOLLY RIDGE ROAD IN THE CITY FROM R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) DISTRICT TO C-2 (GENERAL BUSINESS) DISTRICT, Second Reading (Passed First Reading 3/18/2025 and Planning Commission 2/27/2025).

Item A under Old Business was Ordinance Number 2633. An Ordinance to amend the Gatlinburg Zoning Ordinance, being Ordinance No. 830, and further being an Ordinance to reclassify Parcel 35, Group E of Tax Map 126N located at 111 W. Holly Ridge Road in the City from R-2 (Medium Density Residential) District to C-2 (General Business) District, Second Reading (Passed First Reading 3/18/2025 and Planning Commission 2/27/2025). Commissioner Smith made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on second reading which was seconded by Vice Mayor Mark McCown. The Interim City Planner explained that this parcel is contiguous to a C-2 parcel and is similar to other requests made by the parcel owner in the past. Following these comments, the motion to adopt the Ordinance on second reading was unanimously approved.

New Business:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 1026, A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY INTO THE CITY BY OWNER CONSENT AND APPROVING A PLAN OF SERVICES, SAID PROPERTY BEING 51.87 ACRES, TAX MAP 108, PARCELS 77 AND 77.01, LOCATED AT 4412 BIRDS CREEK ROAD (Passed Planning Commission 3/20/2025).

Item A under New Business was Resolution Number 1026, a Resolution calling for a Public Hearing on the proposed annexation of territory into the City by owner consent and approving a plan of services, said property being 51.87 acres, Tax Map 108, Parcels 77 and 77.01, located at 4412 Birds Creek Road (Passed Planning Commission 3/20/2025). Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to adopt the Resolution which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The Interim City Planner explained that included in the Agenda packets was this Resolution which sets a date for a May 20 Public Hearing, along with a plan of services for the proposed annexation. The Interim City Planner further explained that this parcel was not contiguous to a property inside the corporate limits of Gatlinburg, but it is in the City's urban growth boundary, which makes it allowable. Vice Mayor McCown asked if this was at the corner of the intersection of Birds Creek Road and Glades Road and the Interim City Planner replied it was near that intersection. The City Manager asked when the Public Hearing would be, and the Interim

City Planner replied that this Resolution establishes that the Public Hearing is scheduled for the next Board of Commissioners meeting on May 20, 2025. Following these comments, the motion to adopt the Resolution was unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN AUDIT CONTRACT WITH CROSSLIN, PLLC FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 2025.

Item B under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving an Audit Contract with Crosslin, PLLC for the Fiscal Year ending June 2025. Vice Mayor Mccown made a motion to approve the Contract which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Horner. The Finance Director explained that the City issued a Request for Proposal and that the RFPs were opened on April 14 and are for a three-year period, covering the fiscal years ending June 30, 2025, June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2027. The Finance Director further explained that the City received eight proposals in response to the request and that it is recommended that the City continue with Crosslin CPAs as the external auditors for the next three years, with an option of extending it for one additional year. Following these comments, the motion to approve the Contract was unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A SINGLE BID TO JOHNSON CONTROLS OF KNOXVILLE, TN FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF TWO SIMPLEX FIRE ALARM PANELS AT THE CONVENTION CENTER.

Item C under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a Single Bid to Johnson Controls of Knoxville, TN for the replacement of two Simplex Fire Alarm Panels at the Convention Center. Commissioner Chad Reagan made a motion to approve the Single Bid which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Mr. Scott Murphy, facility manager of the Gatlinburg Convention Center explained that this item was budgeted and that several candidates looked at the facility and the equipment, however it was proprietary equipment which is why only Johnson Controls responded. Following these comments, the motion to approve the Single Bid was unanimously adopted.

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS:

Commissioner Kirby Smith

- (1) Stated that he wanted to congratulate Ty Glasper on being named Mr. Basketball and that he has represented Gatlinburg well; and,
- (2) Stated that he has enjoyed watching the numerous City building projects near completion over the past year and thanked the City staff for their hard work to make these projects a success.

Commissioner Jay Horner

- (1) Stated that he has enjoyed working with the auditors from Crosslin, PLLC and that

they do a great job; and,

(2) Stated that he wanted to thank the City's Street Department for their work on numerous projects, along with their work on cleanup after flooding and wind events earlier this year; and,

(3) Stated that he wanted to congratulate Ty Glasper on his designation as Mr. Basketball.

Commissioner Chad Reagan

(1) Stated that he as well wanted to congratulate Ty Glasper on his Mr. Basketball honor and that he has heard was an incredible young man he is; and,

(2) Stated that he is glad to see the City's renovated Public Works Complex coming together and that citizens are noticing how good it looks.

Vice Mayor Mark McCown

(1) Stated that he is not running for re-election and that former Police Chief Randy Brackins will make a great Commissioner; and,

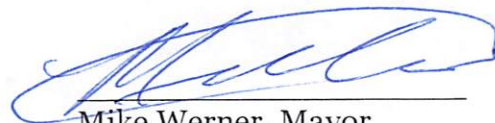
(2) Stated that because of scheduling that this may be his final meeting as a City Commissioner and that it has been an honor to serve and work with City Staff, the current City Manager Greg Patterson and former City Manager Cindy Ogle, as well as former Commissioners Jerry Hays, Sara Hays, Mike Helton, Don Smith and Ryan DeSear.

Mayor Mike Werner

(1) Stated that he appreciates Vice Mayor McCown and that he has been a great Vice Mayor and made a difference in the future of Gatlinburg.

(2) Stated that Ty Glasper's designation as Mr. Basketball is a very impressive honor and that he has heard many great things about him on and off of the basketball court.

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