



## BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN WORK SESSION MINUTES

Monday, December 02, 2024 at 4:30 PM

City Hall, 415 Broad Street, Montgomery - Watterson Boardroom

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### Board of Mayor and Aldermen

Mayor Paul W. Montgomery, Presiding

Vice Mayor Darrell Duncan

Alderman Morris Baker

Alderman Betsy Cooper

Alderman Colette George

Alderman Gary Mayes

Alderman James Phillips

I. **CALL TO ORDER** 4:30 pm by Mayor Montgomery.

II. **ROLL CALL** by City Recorder/Treasurer Lisa Winkle.

### III. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### 1. **Municipal Election** - Jason Booher

Mayor Montgomery stated he has heard a lot of complaints wanting to go back to a local election for city government. He stated this presentation will inform the board of the options available for any future changes. Mr. Booher with the Sullivan County Election Commission then provided information on the history that allows local governments to change the election date without a private act. He discussed the changes made in Kingsport since 2020 and provided statistics for election costs as well as voter participation. He commented if the board wanted to consider changing, he would recommend moving it to November and listed the advantages to doing so. Discussion followed as he answered questions from the board.

#### 2. **Utilities Update** - Ryan McReynolds & Niki Ensor

Deputy City Manager Ryan McReynolds began the presentation and stated utility rates support the budget, the budget supports operations which are supported by master plans drive capital. He remarked there are three utilities - drinking water, wastewater and stormwater which are all heavy capital intense programs. These utilities share one mission, noting the goal is to be effective, efficient, reliable and resilient.

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Mr. McReynolds gave an overview of the utilities, providing statistics for each one. He discussed aging infrastructure and how to address this issue as well as how to maintain assets in the city.

Utilities Director Niki Ensor then presented information on the value of master plans, noting there are multiple plans across the utilities. She stated these plans ensure regulatory compliance and provide reliable service with minimal interruptions and cost-effective as well as flexible planning.

There was some discussion throughout this presentation.

**IV. REVIEW OF BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

City staff gave a summary for each item on the December 3, 2024 proposed agenda. No items were discussed at greater length or received specific questions of concerns.

**V. ITEMS OF INTEREST**

- 1. Sales Tax Report**
- 2. Projects Status Report**

**VI. ADJOURN**

Seeing no other business for consideration, Mayor Montgomery adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

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ANGELA MARSHALL  
Deputy City Recorder

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PAUL W. MONTGOMERY  
Mayor