



BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN WORK SESSION MINUTES

Monday, November 18, 2024 at 4:30 PM

City Hall, 415 Broad Street, Montgomery - Watterson Boardroom

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 by Mayor Montgomery.

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

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Petworks Update - Michelle Watts

John Campbell gave a presentation on this item due to the absence of Ms. Watts. Mr. Campbell discussed the mission of the shelter and provided statistics over the last year. He also provided details on the budget by highlighting significant revenues, expenditures and fundraising efforts. Discussion ensued throughout as he answered questions from the board.

The City Manager provided further details on the related agenda item and how to move forward. He also presented budgetary information and how the specifics of this item have changed. Budget Director John Morris provided further information and answered questions.

2. Roads & Paving Update - Michael Thompson

Public Works Director Michael Thompson presented this item and provided an overview of transportation. He defined the mission and gave details on the data driven process utilized. He highlighted the ongoing projects and provided details on grants, answering questions during the presentation. Lastly, Mr. Thompson discussed future projects that will be presented to the board. There was some discussion throughout.

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Deputy City Manager Ryan McReynolds then gave an update on paving, discussing the Pave Kingsport initiative and its sustainability. He pointed out the program goal is to manage a data driven and defensible resurfacing effort. He presented statistical data that provides a guide to indicate where the work needs to be done. Mr. McReynolds stated staff is pursuing options to maintain the effort and funding needs.

IV. REVIEW OF BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

City staff gave a summary for each item on the November 19, 2024 proposed agenda. The following items were discussed at greater length or received specific questions of concerns.

IX.1 Consideration of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 Article V Division 4 Public Art Committee (AF-295-2024) Assistant City Manager Michael Borders provided details on this item, discussing how the management structure has changed in the cultural arts office. He stated in conjunction with Engage Kingsport the identity and mission of cultural arts was redefined and revamped with the existing public art committee to better encompass their overview. This ordinance is a result which changes the name, the representatives and the responsibility. It depicts the broadened scope to anything related to public art in Kingsport by adding a new definition.

V. ITEMS OF INTEREST

1. Projects Status Report

Alderman George expressed disappointment with the housing data received from KHRA. She stated there is a need to make changes in how they market and prioritize to people outside the area. She commented the Lee property is completely out of our hands and stating we are going down the wrong path and need to fix the problem.

Alderman Phillips agreed provided statistics on the housing vouchers. Additionally, he mentioned the Housing Authority statistics show there is an issue at KHRA, and he would like staff to come back with a plan. He also discussed how some of the Christmas decorations area outside was totally trashed and pointed out there's a difference between homelessness and vagrancy.

Alderman Baker also agreed remarking we need ordinances and a judicial system that will back them up. He commented on the PETWORKS item, asking staff to do more research on the loan and possibly deferring the vote tomorrow night. The City Manager recommended to vote as is, but that it could defer action. The City Attorney stated he will correct the resolution to reflect this.

Vice Mayor Duncan and Alderman Cooper agreed with the previous comments.

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The Mayor asked Mr. McCartt to look at KHRA's structure and to provide options to the board. He also pointed out a meeting is being coordinated regarding the homeless.

VI. ADJOURN

Seeing no other business for consideration, Mayor Montgomery adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

ANGELA MARSHALL

Deputy City Recorder

PAUL W. MONTGOMERY

Mayor