



## BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN WORK SESSION MINUTES

Monday, November 04, 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. Dental School Update** - UTHSC Representatives

Dr. Ken Tilashalski, Dean for the College of Dentistry of the UT Health Science Center, had his colleagues introduce themselves and then gave a presentation highlighting the vision and mission of the academic health center. He discussed the future of the dental clinic and the partnership with Kingsport, providing details of progress and needs. He provided information on the timeline over the next five years including curriculum, housing of students and accreditation. Dr. Tilashalski pointed out the goal was to have full time students in the program by 2029. There was discussion throughout as he answered questions from the board.

**2. Salvation Army Update** - Capt. Crystal Radi

Captain Radi shared the mission of the Salvation Army and provided information on the local emergency shelter that services men, women and families. She also gave details on the Salvation Army store as well as their youth outreach program. She stated the Christmas season is approaching and there are 975 angels on the local angel trees which is up from 700 last year. There are 930 children and 45 seniors, and the Kettle program has 16 locations with the proceeds supporting.

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### 3. **Hope Haven Update** - Joel Trigg

Mr. Trigg provided information on the history of this ministry stating a businessman, pastor and attorney started the organization in 1973. He discussed their mission, vision and values noting their main goal is to help the homeless help themselves. He provided further details on the expectations of residents and their current programs. Lastly, Mr. Trigg provided statistics on the results of this ministry over the last ten years. Some discussion followed as he answered questions.

### 4. **Grace House Update** - Alanna Leonberg

Ms. Leonberg stated she has been the Executive Director for the last four months but is no stranger to housing. She provided information on the history of the organization and the services they provide to the homeless, both during the day and at night. She stated the renovations are almost complete and they should be able to open the doors very soon. She discussed the organizational challenges and how they are being addressed and additional ways to support their mission. Some discussion ensued as she answered questions.

### 5. **Projects Status Report**

The City Manager stated the work session packet on the website is where this report can be found, noting there is a tremendous amount of activity.

## IV. **REVIEW OF BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

City staff gave a summary for each item on the November 5, 2024 proposed agenda. No items were discussed at greater length or received specific questions of concerns.

City Manager McCartt stated he has had a conversation with Budget Director John Morris on providing an analysis of inflation and the impact it has had on the budget, especially with fleet purchases. He noted there will be a presentation forthcoming after the first of the year. Mr. Morris answered questions and provided further information. There was some discussion.

Alderman Baker commented Deputy City Manager Ryan McReynolds did a good job with last minute notice at the State of the City. He also talked about the need for new elementary schools.

Alderman Mayes mentioned he is the Healthy Kingsport BMA designate and provided information on the "blue zones" and the advantages they provide.

Alderman Cooper reminded everyone they had a tree to decorate in the park, noting they will go up just before Thanksgiving.

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Alderman Phillips stated there is a new large decoration downtown this year and the locations of the others will be shifted from where they were last year.

Mayor Montgomery thanked Mr. McReynolds for stepping in on Friday.

**V. ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**1. Sales Tax Report**

**VI. ADJOURN**

Seeing no other business for consideration, Mayor Montgomery adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

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ANGELA MARSHALL  
Deputy City Recorder

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PAUL W. MONTGOMERY  
Mayor