



City Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM

The Tom Hardin Room – 100 Public Square, Mount Pleasant, TN

1. Call to Order

Mayor White called the meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation

Commissioner Grandberry led the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner Johnston gave the invocation.

3. Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Bill White

Vice-Mayor Jacqueline Grandberry

Commissioner Pam Johnston

Commissioner Mike Davis

Commissioner Willie Alderson

4. Approval / Correction of Minutes from Prior Meetings

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston, Seconded by Commissioner Alderson.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Alderson, Vice Mayor Grandberry

A. Study Session - November 14, 2024

Mayor White asked for approval of the minutes for the Study Session on November 14, 2024 and the Regular Meeting on November 19, 2024.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve the minutes for the Study Session on November 14, 2024 and the Regular Meeting on November 19, 2024. Commissioner Alderson seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

B. Regular Session - November 19, 2024

Mayor White asked for approval of the minutes for the Study Session on November 14, 2024 and the Regular Meeting on November 19, 2024.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve the minutes for the Study Session on November 14, 2024 and the Regular Meeting on November 19, 2024. Commissioner Alderson seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

5. Awards/Presentations/Appointments

A. Oath of Office for new term City Commissioners

Mayor White asked Mrs. Loree Baker Knowles to come forward to be sworn in. Mrs. Cox read her the Oath of Office for City Commissioner.

Mayor White and Commissioner Willie Webster Alderson came forward to be sworn in. Mrs. Cox read them the Oath of Office for City Commissioner.

B. Nominate and appoint a new Mayor

Mrs. Jones stated in 2020 this Commission passed a resolution setting the procedure for appointing a new Mayor and Vice Mayor. She discussed this with them in detail.

Mayor White asked for nominations to appoint a new Mayor.

Commissioner Davis nominated Bill White.

There being no other nominations they had a roll call vote.

Vote for Bill White Mayor

Yea: Mayor Bill White, Commissioner Pam Johnston, Commissioner Mike Davis, Commissioner Willie Alderson, Commissioner Lorie Knowles. The vote was 5-0. Motion passed.

C. Nominate and appoint a new Vice-Mayor

Mayor White asked for nominations to appoint a new Vice Mayor.

Commissioner Johnston nominated Willie Alderson as Vice Mayor because she has proven to be an amazing and outstanding commissioner, and she received the most votes of anyone that ran. She is an amazing asset to this community.

Mayor White stated yes, she is.

There being no other nominations they had a roll call vote.

Vote for Willie Alderson Vice Mayor

Yea: Mayor Bill White, Commissioner Pam Johnston, Commissioner Mike Davis, Commissioner Willie Alderson, Commissioner Lorie Knowles. The vote was 5-0. Motion passed.

D. Recognize Vice Mayor Grandberry

Mayor White asked Mrs. Jacqueline Grandberry and the other Commissioners to come forward. He thanked Mrs. Grandberry for her service to this community. He stated it has been a pleasure to work with her and they didn't always see eye to eye but as he always says if they didn't, they probably had a bigger problem. He presented her with the photograph that has been here for all the years during her service. Best of luck and they look forward to seeing her.

6. Completion / Review of Unfinished Business from prior meeting

There was no unfinished business.

7. Monthly report from Mayor

Mayor White wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and as Pam said in her prayer, we have a lot to be thankful for. He stated he knows it is tough right now but wait until about March and they will see a wonderful downtown. They are making good progress. He noticed today they are already pouring the curb and gutter for this side of the street. They are moving right

along.

8. Monthly Financial / Budget report

Mrs. Cox presented the monthly financial and budget report.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Davis, Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Alderson, Commissioner Knowles

9. Monthly report from City Manager

Mr. Grooms stated on the TDOT Bridge Project they are doing a good job. The speed limit has not changed. He has talked to their head engineer Lee Rogers, and he said there is a process to change that speed limit down to 45 mph. He will keep them updated. The Downtown Project is ongoing. We are having additional signs made and the back entrance is open during business hours and if anyone needs accommodations we will go out and make sure we get them in. Even at the Museum he talked to Ms. Hardison and told her they would help them if they needed it. The Museum is a great asset, and it is a pretty cool place. The Connected Facilities Grant that we were awarded the \$2.2 million we do have a conceptual design back. He will be emailing them in the next couple of days so they can see that.

He stated we did get the ad out for the rebid of East Merchant Street today. Hopefully we are going to open it on the 15th, and it will be on the agenda next month for approval. He jumped ahead to next month and stated the Skid Filter System approved to go to market for a bond several months back. In the meantime, we have been talking to USDA, and we feel like we can get a 25% grant on that so we will have a resolution next month to apply for that. We still have that funding source there, but he thinks anytime we can try to get some grant money we should.

He stated the Police Department did receive their four new vehicles this week. They will be putting them into service soon. He wanted to recognize Sergeant Jesse Lovett who was promoted to sergeant and is assigned to the day shift. He has been with us for five years and over eighteen years of experience.

He stated the monthly report features an employee recognition and this month it was Firefighter Gilbert Marshall who is retiring after twenty-eight years of service for the City. Congratulations to him for that. He was one of the first people twenty-five years ago, when he walked into the fire station out there, that met him at the door. He remembers that like yesterday.

He stated he and Shiprah did complete their Certified Municipal Finance Office training, a yearlong process of eleven exams. He struggled and she never opened the book. They are invited Friday morning to the Community Center at 7:00 am for the City Christmas Breakfast. Lastly City Hall will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day as well as New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

10. Special reports from other City Departments or Committees if applicable

A. Wastewater Liaison Report - Barge Design Update

Mr. Grooms discussed the highlights of the Barge Design report.

B. Mount Pleasant Gas System Report

Mr. Grooms discussed the Mount Gas System Report.

11. New Business

(Comments from citizens may or may not be included, dependent on the issues.)

- A. Resolution 2024-42 - A Resolution of the City of Mount Pleasant, Tennessee to authorize the City to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Barge Design Solutions, Inc. for a Sewer System Analysis. Infrastructure Planning Grant

Mrs. Jones stated the City applied for and received award for a Fiscal Year 2024 Infrastructure Planning Grant (IPG). Staff proposes to use half of those grant funds to develop a sewer system analysis. The analysis will provide the City with a planning tool to determine rehabilitation needs in the inspected areas and budget for future construction improvements to the wastewater collection system. The City selected Barge Design Solutions to perform this work. The purpose of this resolution is to enter into a contract with Barge for the development of a sewer system analysis. The contract, which includes the scope of work will be in your packet. The project timeline five months, and the cost of the engineering is \$208,000.

Mr. Grooms stated the only thing he would add to that is this is part of the ongoing wastewater model that is completed, they only use this to help identify those projects moving forward.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to accept Resolution 2024-42 as presented, seconded by Commissioner Johnston. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles

- B. Resolution 2024-43- A Resolution updating the City of Mount Pleasant Cross Connection Plan

Mrs. Jones stated the purpose of this resolution is to adopt a revised Cross Connection Plan. This relates to the city's water system. A cross connection is a link with the public water system and a possible source of water contamination. State law, TDEC Rules, and your ordinances already prohibit cross connections. The Cross Connection Plan will adopt a course of action designed to control cross connections within the area served by the utilities. The City had previously adopted a Cross Connection Plan in 2019. This plan will replace the existing plan. The plan is an exhibit to the resolution and was in their packets. Dale Brown updated the plan and can answer any questions you may have about the updated plan in general and he can probably explain it better what a cross connection is.

Dale Brown came forward and discussed this resolution in further detail.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston to accept Resolution 2024-43 as presented, seconded by Vice Mayor Alderson. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles

- C. Resolution 2024-44- A Resolution of the City of Mount Pleasant to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Barge Design Inc. for Wastewater Treatment Plant Checklist.

Mrs. Jones stated the City's new wastewater plant includes modified and new treatment processes that the City's staff is not familiar with. Barge will provide the City with a maintenance checklist that will help City staff understand the maintenance requirements for the new equipment and treatment processes. Basically, Barge will teach the City how to

upkeep and maintain the new sewer plant. The purpose of this resolution is to enter into a contract with Barge for this service. The contract price is \$57,000. This is a document that they are going to produce that can evolve over time.

Dale discussed and explained this to the Commissioners.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to accept Resolution 2024-44 as presented, seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles

D. Accept or Deny CDBG Grant Water Meter Replacement Bid

Mr. Grooms stated this is a CDBG Grant and we recommend that they do approve it. We only had one bid. They are approving it for the minutes it is still pending State approval. This is for the replacement of all industrial water meters and some service lines as needed in there. The total bid is \$608,170. There is an up to 24% match that they approved in a resolution for that. Their recommendation is to move on to the next stage with the State for approval.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Davis to accept the CDBG Grant water meter replacement bid, seconded by Vice Mayor Alderson.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles

12. General comments from citizens (May be limited in time and/or number of comments.)

There were no citizens comments.

13. Board / Staff Comments / Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston, Seconded by Mayor White.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles