

Meeting Minutes  
May 6, 2019

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater met in a regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 6, 2019 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Lowe called the meeting to order with Commissioners present being: Lamar Hughes, Sam Moser, Billy G. West, and Bill W. Stockton. City Commissioner Edward Lee was absent due to illness, for which the Mayor stated would be considered excused. City Attorney John Cleveland was present.

Mayor Lowe opened the meeting with the Lord's Prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by City Planner Chuck Whited.

Commissioner Stockton moved to approve the minutes from the meetings of April 1, 2019 and April 8, 2019 and April 22, 2019 and April 24, 2019. Commissioner Moser seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

After the Recorder's report, Commissioner Stockton moved to approve the distributions for the month of April, 2019. Commissioner West seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

There was no old business on the agenda. In New Business, Commissioner Moser requested an amendment to the draft of the budget in the Emergency Operations line item to add \$2,000 for equipment for training to be used by all departments. Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the amendment with Commissioner West seconding the motion. Commissioner Moser moved to approve Ordinance No. 972 entitled An Ordinance to adopt the annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 and the tax rate as amended on first reading. Commissioner Stockton seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, West, and Stockton. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Hughes moved to authorize the Mayor to execute the purchase contract of the Sweetwater Utilities Board parking lot. Commissioner Stockton seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve the TCRS rate at 7.10%, with Commissioner Hughes seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve Ordinance No. 973 entitled An Ordinance amending the zoning map of the City of Sweetwater, Tennessee from C-3 to R-1 on first reading. Commissioner Stockton seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioner Hughes, Moser, West, and Stockton. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Mayor Lowe opened the single bid received on the Street Department truck from Jacky Jones Ford totaling \$24,500 with an \$8,000 trade-in allowance, leaving a balance of

\$16,500. Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the bid, with Commissioner West seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve the bids and contracts from Merit Construction and Great Southern Recreation for the Engleman Park project and authorize the Mayor to execute the contracts. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Mayor Lowe announced the Interstate overpass was approved to be named Clinton Riddle Bridge and is awaiting a signature on the Governor's desk. He also noted the Ride for the Wall to honor veterans would be going under Sweetwater's overpass on May 22 around 9 am.

Mayor Lowe read the following statement and requested its insertion in the minutes and distribution to the newspapers:

As Mayor of Sweetwater I believe it is my duty to protect the integrity of these proceedings and the staff and board members of the city. The city has received calls and contacts from several concerned citizens and representatives of both McMinn and Monroe Counties. I would like to go on record as stating that myself, the members of this board, the city recorder, city attorney, and the department heads of the City of Sweetwater are the only authorized representatives of the City of Sweetwater. We have several cases where a particular citizen is contacting both Monroe and McMinn County and trying to undermine projects, employment opportunities, and negotiations involving the City of Sweetwater. It is appalling to think that an individual would actively involve themselves for the purpose of undermining our local government and the city's opportunities to the detriment of citizens. I want to be very clear that any contact from anyone other than myself, our board members, the city recorder, the city attorney, or the department heads is not authorized by the city. Anyone outside these named officials is not representing the city in any way. They have no authority, no influence, and no official capacity to speak or question anything on behalf of the city.

No further action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

This the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019.

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

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RECORDER