

The Gatlinburg Board of Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Room. All members were present except for Commissioner DeSear. Mayor Werner called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Planning and Building Director David Ball gave the Invocation.

Mayor Werner then called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of January 21, 2020. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Minutes which was seconded by Commissioner Reagan and then unanimously adopted.

There were no Petitions or Communications from the Public.

There were no Reports of Boards or Committees.

The City Manager reported and/or requested:

(1) that she would like to announce that the Tennessee Song Writers Week is February 24-28, 2020, and as an expansion of Songwriters week, singer/songwriter Jonathan Cain will be in Concert on Friday, February 28 at Mills Auditorium and that tickets are available online at Gatlinburg.com/events/cain; and,

(2) that she would like to announce the 9th Annual Fire Department's Fit for Duty 5K and 10K event will be held on March 28, 2020, with a start time of 9:00A.M. at the Fire Hall Headquarters and that all proceeds help fund the Gatlinburg Firefighter Association Programs and to register please visit the Gatlinburg Firefighters Association webpage.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN REVIEW BOARD (DEFERRED 1/21/2020).

Item A under Old Business was Discussion and Consideration of making appointments to the Environmental Design Review Board (Deferred 1/21/2020). Vice Mayor Mark McCown made a motion to appoint Mr. Randy Watson and Mr. Andy Taylor to the Environmental Design Review Board. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A CERTIFICATE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER FOR NEEL PATEL, 321 PROPERTIES LLC, D/B/A CLARION POINTE, 200 EAST PARKWAY.

Item A under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a Certificate of Good Moral Character for Neel Patel, 321 Properties LLC, D/B/A Clarion Pointe, 200 East Parkway. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the Certificate of Good

Moral Character which was seconded by Commissioner Smith and then unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH SRA, INC., FOR RENOVATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE GATLINBURG CONVENTION CENTER.

Item B under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving an Agreement with SRA, Inc., for Renovations and Additions to the Gatlinburg Convention Center. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to approve the Agreement which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. The City Manager stated that there was a productive Workshop meeting which included explanation of the proposed Projects and how to proceed with the additions and renovations at the Gatlinburg Convention Center, which have been discussed for quite some time. The City Manager stated that this is a significant step in proceeding with the renovations and additions at the Gatlinburg Convention Center. After these comments, the Agreement was unanimously adopted.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH CHARLES BLALOCK AND SONS, INC., FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO INTERSECTIONS AT HIGHWAY 321 AND PARKWAY AND RIVER ROAD AND PARKWAY.

Item C under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a Contract with Charles Blalock and Sons, Inc., for improvements to intersections at Highway 321 and Parkway and River Road and Parkway. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Contract which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. The City Manager explained that this Project has been discussed previously and is designed to help traffic issues at both intersections and stated that the bid of \$581,000 from Blalock and Sons, Inc. was the low bid on the Project. Engineer Jeff Mize told the Commission that the crosswalk at the intersection of Highway 321 and Parkway would be completed by May 21, 2020, and that the Project at the intersection of River Road and Parkway would be a lengthy Project and the Contract allows Blalock and Sons, Inc. until February 2021 to complete work. The Police Chief stated that work would be scheduled around heavy traffic times in the City, with construction coordinated to miss Spring break, Summer months and the Christmas holiday season. The City Manager clarified that the main scheduling issues with the River Road and Parkway intersection is due to a six month delay on receiving the traffic signalization device. Vice Mayor McCown questioned if the traffic signal is included in the price, to which the City Manager affirmed it is. The City Manager stated there had been internal discussion on separating the projects, due to the lengthy timeline of the River Road and Parkway intersection Project, and that doing both concurrently would allow the City to secure pricing at current levels. After these comments, the Contract was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 974, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$4,400,000, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES; MAKING PROVISION FOR THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND PAYMENT OF SAID BONDS, ESTABLISHING THE TERMS THEREOF AND THE DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS THEREFROM; PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS; AND RATIFYING A PRIOR RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS.

Item D under New Business was Resolution Number 974, a Resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds of the City, in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$4, 400, 000, in one or more series; making provision for the issuance, sale and payment of said Bonds, establishing the term thereof and the disposition of proceeds therefrom; providing for the levy of taxes for the payment of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds; and ratifying a prior Resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to approve the Resolution which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The City Manager told Commission that the Final Bond Resolution is for \$4,400,000 of Water and Sewer debt and is in the Budget to be funded by Water and Sewer revenues. The City Manager said the Bonds are for the extension of water and sewer on Glades Road to Buckhorn Road, new water meter reading equipment and for generators that are installed and active at the City's Water Plant and Wastewater Treatment station. After these comments, the Resolution was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 975, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS OF THE CITY, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$25,375,000, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES; MAKING PROVISION FOR THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND PAYMENT OF SAID BONDS, ESTABLISHING THE TERMS THEREOF AND THE DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS THEREFROM.

Item E under New Business was Resolution Number 975, a Resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the City, in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$25, 375,000, in one or more series; making provision for the issuance, sale and payment of said Bonds, establishing the terms thereof and the disposition of proceeds therefrom. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to approve the Resolution which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown. The Finance Director explained that this Resolution was a refunding of present debt, which Mr. Holt said would enable the City to take advantage of lower interest rates. Mr. Holt stated that this would save approximately \$2,500,000 over the remaining term of the debt which is seventeen years. Commissioner Reagan asked if this had been put to bid, which the Mr. Holt said it had not and would be with approval this evening. After these comments, the Resolution was unanimously approved.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2545, AN ORDINANCE TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL CHAPTER TO TITLE 10 OF THE GATLINBURG MUNICIPAL CODE AND FURTHER BEING AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR PRESCRIBED GRAZING FOR KUDZU ERADICATION, FIRST READING.

Item F under New Business was Ordinance Number 2545, an Ordinance to add an additional chapter to Title 10 of the Gatlinburg Municipal Code and further being an Ordinance to provide for prescribed grazing for kudzu eradication, First Reading. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the Ordinance on first reading which was seconded by Commissioner Reagan. The Planning and Building Director told Commission that the Ordinance would allow for prescribed grazing by sheep and goats to help with kudzu eradication, which Mr. Ball said has become problematic since the 2016 Wildfires, and explained that permits could be issued for 30 consecutive days, 3 times a year, per lot. Mr. Ball explained that the Ordinance also provides for animals to be enclosed and controlled. Vice Mayor McCown questioned if kudzu is on steep banks, how could those animals be contained. Mr. Ball responded that steep terrain is more advantageous for goats and sheep. Commissioner Reagan asked if there are other options for kudzu eradication besides animals, to which Mr. Ball stated the other option is herbicide. The City Manager noted that it is expected that kudzu will be worse in the Spring and Summer of 2020 because of additional fallen timber and that the recent meeting held by Keep Sevier Beautiful had encouraged the City to establish this Ordinance. The City Manager also noted that at the Keep Sevier Beautiful meeting that several vendors were set up and this is the City's way of helping provide another opportunity to property owners to help eradicate kudzu. Mr. Ball stated that some companies are trying to rent animals for several days at a time to make the eradication method more affordable. Mayor Werner said he is glad that the City is being proactive in tackling kudzu, since it could change the entire backdrop of the City if it is not controlled. After these comments, the Ordinance was unanimously adopted, on first reading.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH MIKE SMITH PUMP SERVICE, LLC., FOR THE GLADES ROAD TO BUCKHORN ROAD WATER AND SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT.

Item G under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving an Agreement with Mike Smith Pump Service, LLC., for the Glades Road to Buckhorn Road Water and Sewer Extension Project. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve the Agreement which was seconded by Commissioner Smith and then unanimously approved. The City Manager stated that the next six items on the Agenda were related to Utilities Projects and were three different Projects. The first Project involves the sewer and water extension construction on Glades Road to Buckhorn Road, for a cost of \$1,386,190. She noted that the next item on the agenda is the Engineering Agreement for the onsite inspection during construction. The City Manager stated that the next two items on the Agenda were the Construction Agreements and onsite inspection of the

Wastewater Pump Station Renovation at the Post Office. The City Manager said the remaining two items were related to the repainting of the water tanks on Savage Gardens Road and Water Tower Road and were necessary under Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation regulations which require such periodic maintenance on water storage facilities. After these comments, the Mike Smith Pump Service Agreement was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ROBERT G. CAMPBELL AND ASSOCIATES, L.P. FOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE GLADES ROAD TO BUCKHORN ROAD WATER AND SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT.

Item H under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a Professional Services Agreement with Robert G. Campbell and Associates, L.P. for services related to the Glades Road to Buckhorn Road Water and Sewer Extension Project. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Professional Services Agreement which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown and then unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHERN CONSTRUCTORS, INC., FOR THE POST OFFICE WASTEWATER PUMP STATION RENOVATION PROJECT.

Item I under New Business was discussion and consideration of an Agreement with Southern Constructors, Inc., for the Post Office Wastewater Pump Station Renovation Project. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to approve the Agreement which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown and then unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AMENDMENT No. 1 TO THE C2RL, INC., ENGINEERING AGREEMENT RELATED TO THE POST OFFICE WASTEWATER PUMP STATION PROJECT.

Item J under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving Amendment No. 1 to the C2RL, Inc., Engineering Agreement related to the Post Office Wastewater Pump Station Project. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to approve Amendment No. 1 to C2RL, Inc., Engineering Agreement which was seconded by Commissioner Smith and then unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH HUFFMAN TANK & TOWER, INC., RELATED TO THE WATER STORAGE TANK REPAINTING PROJECT.

Item K under New Business is discussion and consideration of approving an Agreement with Huffman Tank & Tower, Inc., related to the Water Storage Tank Repainting Project. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to approve the Agreement which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown and then unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE C2RL, INC., ENGINEERING AGREEMENT RELATED TO THE WATER STORAGE TANK REPAINTING PROJECT.

Item L under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving Amendment No. 1 to the C2RL, Inc., Engineering Agreement related to the Water Storage Tank Repainting Project. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve Amendment No. 1 to C2RL, Inc., Engineering Agreement which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown and then unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF THE HUMANA MEDICAL INSURANCE PLAN.

Item M under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving the renewal of the Humana Medical Insurance Plan. Commissioner Reagan made a motion to approve the renewal of the Humana Medical Insurance Plan which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The City Manager advised that Humana had offered to renew its 12 month medical insurance plan with the City at a 5.5 percent increase effective June 1, 2020. After these comments, the Renewal was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF THE BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD DENTAL INSURANCE PLAN.

Item N under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving the renewal of the BlueCross BlueShield Dental Insurance Plan. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the renewal of the BlueCross BlueShield Dental Insurance which was seconded by Vice Mayor McCown and then unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO THE GATLINBURG TREE BOARD.

Item O under New Business was discussion and consideration of making appointments to the Gatlinburg Tree Board. Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to reappoint Mr. Heath Soehn, Ms. Jan Lapides and Mr. Dennis Reagan. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion which was unanimously adopted.

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS:

Commission Chad Reagan:

(1) Stated that his aunt, Karen Seaton, passed away recently and is thankful for the prayers for his family during this time.

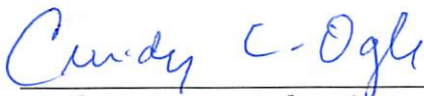
Vice Mayor McCown:

(1) Asked the City Manager to review emergency spending list by the City since 2016. The City Manager said that an approximate \$2,000,000 were spent during the 2016 Wildfires, \$46,000 was spent during a May 2017 wind event, while another approximate \$2,000,000 was spent as a result of the February 23, 2019, flooding event. She also stated that a series of 13 emergency slope repairs cost the City \$750,234 in damages, while early estimates of the February 6, 2020, flooding event is an estimated \$1,500,000. The City Manager stated that this adds up to a total of \$6,783,889. Vice Mayor McCown said he requested that the City Manager go over those costs because it was important to know that while the City has funds in reserve, fiscal management is key, and having reserve funds meant that the City did not have to borrow money for these emergency expenditures.

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, Vice Mayor McCown made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.



Mike Werner, Mayor



Cindy Cameron Ogle, City Recorder
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