

The Gatlinburg Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 8, 2014, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Room. All members were present with the exception of Commissioner Mark McCown. Mayor Mike Helton called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Finance Director Robert Holt gave the Invocation.

Mayor Helton then called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of June 17, 2014. Commissioner Don Smith made a motion to approve the Minutes which was seconded by Vice Mayor Mike Werner and then unanimously adopted.

Regarding Petitions and Communications from the Public, Mayor Helton recognized Logan Coykendall who stated that he was in attendance to discuss the developments along Airport Road. Mr. Coykendall then distributed information to the City Commission and stated that over the next twelve to twenty-four months there will be three large lodging accommodations built on Airport Road. Mr. Coykendall further stated that these developments will represent \$40 million in private investment and that the developments are projected to result in an increase of 180,000 guests annually and over \$600,000 in the local tax base. Mr. Coykendall then stated that planned improvements to Airport Road, especially the undergrounding of utilities, would improve the aesthetics and be a positive impact for that area of town. The City Manager then stated that she would need to get updated cost estimates for undergrounding utilities on Airport Road and asked Mr. Coykendall if there was a particular section of Airport Road where he would like to see the improvements. Mr. Coykendall stated that he would like to see the improvements for the entire road as the new developments would extend all the way up to the Glenstone Lodge and that the nice facades of the new buildings will be blocked by power lines and further stated that he appreciated consideration of the undergrounding of utilities on Airport Road. Vice Mayor Werner then stated that the undergrounding of utilities would certainly enhance that area of town.

Regarding Item A under Reports of Boards and Committees, Mayor Helton presented Twenty Year Service Awards to Ed Jackson of the Convention Center and Jeff Justus of the Police Department and then thanked them for their service to the City.

Concerning the next item under Reports of Boards and Committees, the City Manager presented Employee Recognition Board Awards for Units of the Second Quarter to Mr. Gary Rogers, Mr. Don Varadi, Mr. Daniel Mather and Mr. Lee Hickam of the Mass Transit Department and to Mr. Scott Murphy, Mr. Randy Cates, Mr. Johnnie Cress and Mr. Clint McCarter of the Convention Center and Mr. Randall Brien, Mr. Trevor Phillips, Mr. Bill Owenby, Mr. Pleas Proffitt, Mr. John Porr and Mr. Josh Gibson of the Recreation Department.

Under the last Item regarding Reports of Boards and Committees, Mayor Helton recognized Ms. Vicki Simms, Executive Director of the Gatlinburg Convention and

Visitors Bureau (GCVB), to give the Second Quarter Report. Ms. Simms then distributed copies of the report and proceeded to review the highlights of the second quarter. Ms. Simms stated that the Wine, Dine, and Art Crawl was a great success and that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Winefest had over 900 people in attendance and that most of those in attendance were from out of state and that this is a niche market that has great potential for growth. Ms. Simms then stated that the GCVB hosted the Gatlinburg Beans and Cornbread Blast sponsored by Bush Brothers Company and stated that there may be some tweaks made to the event in the future. She then stated that on May 29 – June 2 the GCVB participated in a joint advertising promotion in Chicago, Illinois with the Smoky Mountain Tourism Development Council which included a media blitz and a street fair event that promoted the Smoky Mountains. Ms. Simms then stated that the Tunes and Tales performances are now on a seven days a week schedule and will continue on that schedule through August 9<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Simms further stated that the GCVB recently held its 2015 Marketing Planning Sessions with all of its marketing partners and that the GCVB's Budget and Marketing Plan will be presented to the City Commission in October and then she introduced the GCVB's new Special Events Director, Mr. Jim Downs. Ms. Simms then stated that on June 25<sup>th</sup> the GCVB Board accepted and took action on the Auditor's three recommendations which were the separation of Finance Committee minutes by entity, the annual signing of the Ethics and Related Parties policies by GCVB Board Members, and the addition of a Fund for "Construction in Process." Ms. Simms further stated that the Gatlinburg Historic Museum will open in the Aquarium Welcome Center at 3:30 P.M. on Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, and then she thanked all of the City Departments who provided the GCVB with assistance for the Fourth of July events. Ms. Simms then introduced World Classic Miss Tennessee Tourism, Stacie Anderson, who stated that she was born and raised in Gatlinburg and that her grandparents operated two motels in the City for many years and that she hopes to represent the town well at the upcoming Miss Tennessee Tourism pageant. Mayor Helton then asked Ms. Simms if the Tunes and Tales performances have been added to the North end of town and Ms. Simms stated that there are performances on the North end on the last Friday of each month to coincide with the Walk on the North Side. Mayor Helton then thanked Mrs. Simms for the report.

The City Manager reported and/or requested:

- (1) that she wanted to announce that three of the free parkway trolleys are now wrapped with the Rocky Top Sports World logo and full color pictures of athletes playing different sports and stated that they look great; and,
- (2) that she wanted to announce that the Gatlinburg Fourth of July Midnight Parade has been recognized by Livability.com as one of the "Five Best Fourth of July Celebrations in Smaller Cities;" and,
- (3) that she also wanted to remind everyone that the Gatlinburg Farmers Market is held every Saturday through September 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 A.M. – 11:30 P.M. in

the parking lot at The Covered Bridge and stated that attendance has been good at the new location.

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 2475, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-14 BUDGET ORDINANCE, Second Reading, as Amended (Passed First Reading 06/17/14).**

Item A under Old Business was Ordinance Number 2475, an Ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget Ordinance, Second Reading, as Amended (Passed First Reading 06/17/14). Commissioner Jerry Hays made a motion to approve the Ordinance which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The City Manager then stated that the Ordinance is being presented, as amended, due to the fact that three changes were made to the Ordinance since it was first presented to the City Commission. The City Manager then asked Finance Director Robert Holt to further explain and Mr. Holt stated that two of the changes are removing requests that are no longer necessary and the third change is the transfer of \$40,000 to the Parking/Mass Transit Fund to cover a projected decrease in revenue from State grants. After these comments, the motion to approve the Ordinance on Second Reading, as amended, was unanimously adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE USAGE OF THE AQUARIUM PARKING GARAGE ON AUGUST 8, 2014, REQUESTED BY THE GATLINBURG CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU.**

The first Item under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving the usage of the Aquarium Parking Garage on August 8, 2014, requested by the Gatlinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the usage which was seconded by Commissioner Hays and then unanimously adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE USAGE OF THE MCMAHAN/PARKWAY PARKING GARAGE BY THE GATLINBURG FINE ARTS FESTIVAL OCTOBER 2 – 5, 2014.**

Item B under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving the usage of the McMahan/Parkway Parking Garage by the Gatlinburg Fine Arts Festival October 2 – 5, 2014. Commissioner Hays made a motion to approve the usage which was seconded by Commissioner Smith and then unanimously adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO THE GATLINBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

The next Item under New Business was discussion and consideration of making

appointments to the Gatlinburg Board of Education. Commissioner Smith made a motion to reappoint Mr. Mitch McCarter and to appoint Ms. Ann Watson to fill out the remainder of Mr. Marlin Watson's term. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Werner and then unanimously approved.

**DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A 5311 RURAL TRANSPORTATION GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT.**

Item D under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving a 5311 Rural Transportation Grant Contract with the Tennessee Department of Transportation for the Mass Transit Department. Vice Mayor Werner made a motion to approve the Contract which was seconded by Commissioner Hays. The City Manager then stated that the total amount of the Contract is \$37,074.00 and that it requires the City to provide \$9,268.00 in matching funds and further stated that the Contract can be used to provide either capital or operating assistance to the Mass Transit Department. After these comments, the motion to approve the Contract was unanimously adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1-R WITH MORGAN CONTRACTING, INC., RELATED TO THE CHEROKEE ORCHARD ROAD SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT.**

The next Item under New Business was discussion and consideration of approving Change Order No. 1-R with Morgan Contracting, Inc., related to the Cherokee Orchard Road Sewer Rehabilitation Project. Vice Mayor Werner made a motion to approve the Change Order which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The City Manager then asked Utilities Manager Dale Phelps to give an overview and Mr. Phelps stated that the Change Order results in a net decrease of \$4,816.50 in the original price of the Contract and that the sewer rehabilitation work replaced approximately 1,400 linear feet of sewer lines and rehabilitated twenty-four manholes without digging up much of the road. Mayor Helton then asked when Cherokee Orchard Road would be repaved and Interim Public Works Director Larry Henderson stated that the road is scheduled to be milled and repaved the week before the first day of school in August. After discussion, the motion to approve the Change Order was unanimously adopted.

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 910, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (TML) RISK MANAGEMENT POOL "SAFETY PARTNERS" LOSS CONTROL MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM.**

The final Item under New Business was Resolution Number 910, a Resolution authorizing the City to participate in the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) Risk Management Pool "Safety Partners" Loss Control Matching Grant Program. Vice Mayor Werner made a motion to approve the Resolution which was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The City Manager then stated that TML has offered this grant program for years and that it provides the City assistance in purchasing safety equipment for employees. The City Manager further stated that the grant provides a fifty percent match up to \$2,000 and that the application will be to offset costs of turnout gear for members of the Fire Department. After these comments, the motion to approve Resolution Number 910 was unanimously adopted.

**UNSCHEDULED ITEMS:**

**Commissioner Jerry Hays:**

- (1) Mentioned the passing of Mr. Jack Reagan and stated that he was a super guy and that he will be greatly missed and then thanked Mr. Reagan's family for the former Mayor's service to the City.

**Commissioner Don Smith:**

- (1) Thanked Mr. Ed Jackson and Mr. Jeff Justus for their Twenty Years of Service to the City; and,
- (2) Commended the recipients of the Employee Recognition Board Awards for their great work.

**Vice Mayor Mike Werner:**

- (1) Echoed the above regarding the passing of Mr. Jack Reagan and the thanks to the City employees; and,
- (2) Stated that he hopes it will be a good and prosperous Summer and that it seems to be going well thus far.

**Mayor Mike Helton:**

- (1) Echoed the above regarding the passing of Mr. Jack Reagan and the thanks to the City employees; and,

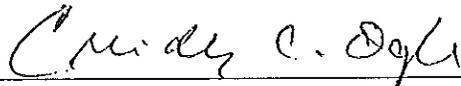
- (2) Thanked Mr. Buddy Parton for all his work in obtaining grants for the Mass Transit Department.

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



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Mike Helton, Mayor



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Cindy Cameron Ogle, City Recorder

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