

**MINUTES OF
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2021, 5:30 P.M.
CITY HALL, PIGEON FORGE, TENNESSEE**

Mayor Wear called the meeting to order with the following in attendance: Vice Mayor McClure, Commissioner Maples, Commissioner Ogle, Commissioner Watts, City Manager Teaster, Assistant City Manager Brackins, City Recorder Clabo, City Attorney Rowell, and interested citizens.

Mayor Wear opened the meeting and Vice Mayor McClure led in the pledge of allegiance.

Prior to the meeting, Randy Brackins was in attendance on behalf of the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police to recognize the Pigeon Forge Police Department for completing the Tennessee Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.

PUBLIC HEARING 1

A public hearing to receive comment regarding amending the zoning map of Pigeon Forge, Tennessee by rezoning a portion of parcel 57 of tax map 84 at 1217 McCarter Hollow Road from the R-1 (low density residential) district to R-2 (high density residential) district.

There being no comments received, the public hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING 2

A public hearing to receive comment regarding replacing section 408 (“signs”) and remove sections 709.6, 709.7, 711.4, 712.13, 407.3.6, 317(a), 330 and 331 of the Pigeon Forge Zoning Ordinance, relative to signs and advertisement.

There being no comments received, the public hearing was closed.

REGULAR MEETING

The minutes were unanimously approved following motion by Vice Mayor McClure and second to motion by Commissioner Ogle.

Mayor Wear asked if there were any comments from citizens.

Eric Lambert asked council to postpone the signage ordinance until concerns could be resolved regarding sign size of 350 square feet in C-4 zone. He asked council to not rush decision.

Jeff Ayers asked something to be done about traffic issue at Waldens Creek and Goose Gap Road. He noted that traffic backed up all the time and it needed to be addressed.

Steve Schmidt stated he was a member of Waldens Creek Fire Department and he echoed what had been stated by Jeff Ayers regarding traffic issues and noted that it delayed fire response due to traffic.

Rebecca Koester stated she had the same issues with traffic and asked for something to be done.

Eldon Denney stated he had the same traffic concerns as others and wanted something to be done.

No other comments were received.

The authorization for the payment of bills was presented for approval. On a motion by Commissioner Maples, second by Commissioner Watts, it was unanimously approved to accept the bills as presented.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 1106 to amend the zoning map of Pigeon Forge, Tennessee by rezoning a portion of parcel 57 of tax map 84 at 1217 McCarter Hollow Road from the R-1 (low density residential) district to R-2 (high density residential) district was presented on the second reading. Community Development Director Taylor presented. On a motion by Vice Mayor McClure, second by Commissioner Watts, and with all voting “aye” the motion was approved on the second reading.

Ordinance No. 1107 to replace section 408 (“signs”) and remove sections 709.6, 709.7, 711.4, 712.13, 407.3.6, 317(a), 330 and 331 of the Pigeon Forge Zoning Ordinance, relative to signs and advertisement was presented on the second reading. Community Development Director Taylor presented. He noted that there were two version and many changes had been proposed in both documents but a few differences existed based on discussion at previous work session. Following lengthy discussion, Commissioner Maples made a motion to delay consideration until another work session could be held. It was noted that the moratorium would expire prior to a new ordinance taking effect if waiting to next council meeting. Commissioner Maples withdrew his motion and made a new motion to extend moratorium 30 days. Motion failed for lack of a second. Commissioner Maples made motion to approve alternate A version. Motion failed due to lack of a second. Commissioner Ogle had several comments and made motion to accept version one but make following amendments: in section 408.9.3.2, replace 10% with 15%; in section 408.9.1.2, wall signs shall not exceed 40% of front facade; wanted graphics section from existing ordinance to become a part of this ordinance; asked to include comments from Mayor Wear as part of motion including 408.9.4.1 should have read 100 square feet instead of 100 feet as written; and section 408.5.8.1 says one flag pole is permitted and wanted to change to allow three flag poles on commercial properties, which was seconded by Vice Mayor McClure. The motion was approved on the second reading. Commissioner Maples voted no.

New Business

Discussion and consideration of an audit contract with Pugh CPAs for the City of Pigeon Forge’s annual audit was presented for approval. Travis Lowe with Pugh CPAs was

in attendance and discussed the three-year agreement. Year one audit of financial statements would not exceed \$104,000. Other costs outside the scope of the contract including single audit, any additional procedures, accounting assistance, etc. would be billed separately. On a motion by Commissioner Maples, second by Vice Mayor McClure, it was unanimously approved to accept the agreement as presented.

Discussion and consideration to approve the purchase of several capital items for the various city departments was presented for approval. Finance Director Clabo presented and stated that the recommendation would be to amend the budget by \$2,111,079. In addition, the following capital items would be authorized to be purchased that have been properly bid. They include: five police vehicles and equipment; knuckle boom for sanitation; mini excavator, trailer for excavator, dump truck, $\frac{3}{4}$ ton flatbed truck, utility vehicle, and parking lot sweeper for street; maintenance van; two cardiac monitors, ResQPod, cutter, spreader, ram and extension, batteries for extrication equipment, utility vehicle, SCBA bottles, autopulse, and stair climber for fire department. The remaining items will be brought back for consideration once they have been properly bid or quoted. On a motion by Commissioner Maples, second by Vice Mayor McClure, it was unanimously approved to accept the capital purchases as presented.

Discussion and consideration of the purchase and repair of a condenser unit for the LeConte Center was presented for approval. LeConte Center Manager Campbell presented and recommended the purchase in the amount of \$38,587. On a motion by Commissioner Watts, second by Commissioner Maples, it was unanimously approved to accept the purchase as presented.

Discussion and consideration of an outdoor festival food concessions provider contract with Southern Specialties/Jimmy's Concessions for the LeConte Center was presented for approval. LeConte Center Manager Campbell presented and stated that the contract would be for two years. On a motion by Commissioner Ogle, second by Vice Mayor McClure, it was unanimously approved to accept the contract as presented.

Discussion and consideration of a supplemental agreement with Smoky Clean for cleaning service for the LeConte Center was presented for approval. LeConte Center Manager Campbell presented. On a motion by Commissioner Maples, second by Commissioner Ogle, it was unanimously approved to accept the agreement as presented.

Discussion and consideration of an amendment to the Ripken agreement to extend the time frame for productivity bonus was presented for approval. Ripken Manager Bounds presented and stated that due to the pandemic and related travel restrictions, they were unable to meet productivity target in 2020 and would like to extend the fee for one additional year. On a motion by Commissioner Watts, second by Commissioner Maples, it was unanimously approved to accept the agreement as presented.

Discussion and consideration of a maintenance agreement with TDOT for the parkway was presented for approval. City Manager Teaster presented and stated that the contract was in the amount of \$92,302.05. On a motion by Commissioner Watts, second by Vice Mayor McClure, it was unanimously approved to accept the request as presented.

Discussion and consideration to approve paving three city streets using State Street Aid Fund was presented for approval. City Manager Teaster presented and stated that the following streets or portions thereof would be paved: Rena Street, Town Overlook, and Vickwood Lane. It was noted that the paving would be in the amount of \$109,821 with an additional \$5,179 in striping. On a motion by Vice Mayor McClure, second by Commissioner Maples, it was unanimously approved to accept the request as presented.

Discussion and consideration to approve meters, yokes, vaults and lids for utility automatic flusher was presented for approval. City Manager Teaster presented and stated that the cost was in the amount of \$39,840. On a motion by Commissioner Maples, second by Vice Mayor McClure, it was unanimously approved to accept the request as presented.

Discussion and consideration to accept Southern Software maintenance agreement for police department’s public safety software was presented for approval. Police Chief Catlett presented and recommended the purchase in the amount of \$31,491. On a motion by Commissioner Maples, second by Commissioner Watts, it was unanimously approved to accept the request as presented.

Manager’s report included the following:

1. The Planning Commission will meet Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. in the council room at city hall.
2. The Beer Board will meet on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. in the council room at city hall.

Mayor Wear asked for comments from the board.

Vice Mayor McClure thanked board members for their conversation and debate regarding the sign ordinance.

Having no other comments received, the meeting was duly adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
CITY RECORDER