

Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2024

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater Tennessee met in a regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 6, 2024 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Doyle F. Lowe called the meeting to order with Commissioners present being: Lamar Hughes, Sam Moser, Alan Richeson, JoAnna Jinks, and James H. Stutts. City Attorney John W. Cleveland was present.

Mayor Lowe opened the meeting with an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Stutts moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of April 1, 2024 and the workshop of April 22, 2024. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

After the Recorder's report on distributions for the month of March 2024, Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the distributions. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

No one was present for public comment. A public hearing was opened to take comment on Ordinance No. 1036 to amend the Landscaping Ordinance. No written or oral comments were given. The public hearing was closed at 5:05 p.m.

In Old Business, Commissioner Moser moved to approve Ordinance No. 1036 to amend the Sweetwater Municipal Code, Title 14-Section 4040 (2) j- the Landscaping Ordinance on second and final reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, Jinks, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

In New Business, Commissioner Moser moved to appoint Angie Kyle to the Sweetwater Historic Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

The leaders of the 150th Celebration Committee including Larry Rotters and Tommy Millsaps were present to review the activities planned for 2025.

Four bids were received for turnout gear for the fire department to replace damaged gear from a recent fire. Nafeco provided a bid for 14 sets for \$53,136; Galls provided a bid for 7 sets for \$9,996.83; MES provided a bid for 14 sets for \$52,136 and Safe industries provided a bid for 7 sets for \$50,750. Commissioners Richeson moved to approve the bid with Nafeco who fully met the bid specifications and, in his opinion, provided the superior product. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

City Recorder Jessica Morgan provided a quarterly financial report.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve Budget Ordinance No. 1035 and tax levy on first reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, Jinks, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve the closure of an alley off Dode Street, splitting Lot 3. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, Jinks, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Stutts requested a clarification to the draft of the handbook on page 18 concerning other health benefits. The board agreed to remove the clause and revise the draft. Commissioner Stutts moved to approve the Resolution to adopt a new employee handbook. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Resolution to adopt an Employee Handbook Version May 2024

Whereas, the City of Sweetwater wishes to provide fair and comparable pay for comparable work to all its employees; and

Whereas, the Mayor and Board of Commissioners adopted an employee handbook to provide rules and regulations concerning the employees of the City of Sweetwater; and

Whereas, the handbook may be adopted by Resolution; and

Whereas, a public hearing has been held on this handbook on April 1, 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of The City of Sweetwater, that:

Section 1: The new draft of the employee handbook version May 2024 be adopted effective immediately.

Section 2: All previous versions of the handbook are hereby repealed and replaced with this version.

This resolution shall take effect upon adoption, the general welfare requiring it. The City Recorder shall transmit a copy of this resolution and handbook to all city employees for immediate implementation.

Dated this 6th day of May, 2024.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Mayor

Recorder

The meeting was adjourned and reconvened as Sweetwater Beer Board. The board reviewed an application from Welbur Enterprises LLC DBA Sweetwater Market at the Mill to be located at 800 N Main Street, Sweetwater. Several questions came up concerning the percentage of food sales versus alcohol sales, location of the eating and drinking area and how it would be regulated to ensure the alcohol was kept in the allowed area. The owner was not present. Commissioner Stutts moved to table the application. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The application was tabled.

Mayor Lowe invited everyone to attend the annual Arbor Day Celebration the following day and an open house at the Cora Veal Center on May 15, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

This the 6th day of May, 2024.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Mayor

Recorder