

**City of Etowah, TN**

**Commission Meeting**

**Monday, April 26, 2021 – 6:30 PM**

- 1) Call to Order: Mayor Burke Garwood called the meeting to order.
- 2) Roll Call: Mayor Burke Garwood as well as Commissioners Diana Elrod, Jim Swayne, John James and Misty Webb were present. Also present was Interim City Manager Eva Valentine and Finance Director Alison Bull.
- 3) Prayer: Commissioner Swayne gave the invocation.
- 4) Pledge of Allegiance
- 5) Approval of the Minutes
  - Regular March 22, 2021:  
*Commissioner Swayne made a motion to approve. Commissioner James seconded. All Ayes.*
  - Special Called April 7, 2021:  
*Commissioner Swayne made a motion to approve. Mayor Garwood seconded. All Ayes.*

**6) New Business**

- a. Presentation of 2019-2020 Audit by Brown, Jake and McDaniel
  - Frank McDaniel with Brown Jake and McDaniel presented the 2019-2020 audit. Commissioners accepted presentation of audit report by unanimous consensus.
- b. Little League Uniform Cost Approval as Previously Approved by Consensus

*Commissioner Swayne made a motion to approve the purchase of uniforms. Commissioner James seconded. All Ayes.*
- c. Discussion of Mold Elimination Plan for Library
  - Etowah Library Director, Lara Crockett, presented to the board an issue of mold at the library. She said that she would need to get a mold hygienist/specialist in to do mold testing to see what type of mold it is and how to manage it. Mayor Garwood suggested getting with Harold from EUB about mold testing. She said that she is currently using a dehumidifier and air purifier to help with the issue. Commissioner James said that he would like to get it addressed now.

*Commissioner Swayne made a motion to get testing done and a quote for repairs, not to exceed \$2,000. Commissioner James seconded. All Ayes.*
- d. Consideration and Seeking approval for Additional Vehicles at PD
  - Police Chief Daniel Hampton approached the board and discussed that they were down to one backup vehicle – 2008 Impala. He said that Tellico reached out to him and they

have three chargers going to auction and they would like to make an offer to purchase the vehicles. The bluebook is \$15,000 each without police equipment. Hampton said it'd be about \$2,006 to stripe all three vehicles, \$1,500 for new tires and about \$8,500 car to purchase. Hampton explained the issues he has with the other backup vehicles they have. Commissioner Elrod asked what the plan was for the old vehicles. Hampton said if they got these new chargers, they would put the older vehicles on GovDeals.

Commissioner Swayne asked Hampton if he had driven them. Hampton said that he had driven all of them and they were good. Commissioner James asked how we usually get new vehicles. Mayor Garwood said that we usually lease them. Commissioner James said that he believes this is a good option. Mayor Garwood asked why they were so affordable. Hampton said he has a good relationship with the Mayor and Police Chief. He said it'd be \$25,500 for all three.

Hampton believes this would give them another two years before they would need to buy additional vehicles.

*Mayor Garwood made a motion to enter into the Tellico purchase of the police vehicles and go through the process of striping. Commissioner Elrod seconded. All Ayes.*

e. Consideration of McGill Representative to Monitor Pool Site Weekly

- Ms. Valentine said they agreed one day a week and that the time spent at the site could vary weekly. Valentine said it would be about \$95 per hour plus mileage and travel time. It would be about \$2,500/month for them to oversee what's going on. It could be modified based on what the board wanted to do. Valentine said we could talk to Jamie more if the commission was serious about it. She said they will talk to Mr. McConkey with Athens to discuss contracting out with them and also that Mr. Jon Troutt, former Etowah building inspector, has agreed to come and help part time in the evenings/weekends whenever we need him. Mayor Garwood said that we need sometime supervising the project. Ms. Valentine said they would be meeting with Mr. McConkey the day after this meeting and we would have a better idea after that meeting. Mayor Garwood said we would put this on the side until we get more information and then Eva would contact the commissioners for a consensus.

f. Change Orders for Pool

- *Mayor Garwood made a motion to approve. Commissioner Swayne seconded and clarified that this isn't a change of cost just a change within that has already been approved. Valentine said these are just approvals that need to happen in order for us to be able to pay the contractor. All Ayes.*

g. Consideration and Passage of Resolution 1261:

**A Resolution Authorizing a Grant Extension for a 2018 Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Local Parks and Recreation Fund Grant**



- Mayor Garwood said this resolution is for us getting behind from COVID and other. Valentine said they gave us a six-month extension and that we probably wouldn't need to whole time. She said if we don't finish in time, they can pull the funds back.

*Commissioner Swayne made a motion to approve. Commissioner Elrod seconded. All Ayes.*

## 7) Old Business

- a. Vote to Clarify Stephens' Excavation Bid to Demo 312 Athens Pike. Motion was made and second but vote not taken in March Meeting.

*Garwood made a motion to accept the bid to demo 312 Athens Pike. Commissioner Elrod Seconded. All Ayes.*

- b. Clarification of Mr. Tallent as a MTAS consultant during City Manager's absence, Valentine said that she needed to clarify that Mr. Mike Tallent is not filling in as interim city manager. He is just a consultant from MTAS for the City.

*Mayor Garwood made a motion to put Mr. Tallent as MTAS Consultant. Commissioner Elrod seconded. All Ayes.*

- c. Clarification of Out of Rank Pay for Acting City Manager

- Mayor Garwood said that Ms. Valentine is working out of rank and wants to do this for clarification. Ms. Valentine said that per our employee handbook, this can be done for up to six months.

*Commissioner Swayne made a motion to approve out of rank pay for Eva Valentine while she's acting as the city manager. Commissioner Elrod seconded. All Ayes.*

## 8) City Manager's Report

- Ms. Eva Valentine presented.
  - i. Public Works director, Gary Hicks, came up to discuss different projects and streets that would be shut down for said projects. He said that cleanup week was a success with a little over fifteen tons picked up.
  - ii. Previous COVID Cases discussed
  - iii. Codes Enforcement ad expanded into different newspapers, etc.

## 9) Citizens Comments: There were None

## 10) Unscheduled Items

- Commissioner Elrod asked if the old backhoe was on GovDeals. Public Works Director Gary Hicks said that Ms. Tina Tuggle would have had all that information but that he would work on getting it again. Eva said she would look for it the following day.

11) Adjournment

Mayor Garwood made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Swayne seconded. All Ayes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Burke Garwood", written over a horizontal line.

Burke Garwood, Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alison Bull", written over a horizontal line.

Alison Bull, Recording Secretary