

Regular Meeting of the
Board of Mayor and Council
City of McKenzie
McKenzie, TN 38201
July 17, 2023

A. Call to Order – Mayor Griffin

B. Prayer – Vice Mayor Townes

C. Pledge of Allegiance – Vice Mayor Townes

D. Roll Call

Mayor Griffin -	Present
Vice Mayor Townes -	Present
Councilperson Alexander -	Present
Councilperson Arm Priest -	Present
Councilperson Batton -	Absent
Councilperson Pruneau -	Present
Councilperson Young -	Present

E. Mayor's Welcome:

Mayor Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Griffin extended a warm welcome to all.

F. Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Councilperson Arm Priest, seconded by Vice Mayor Townes to approve the June 8, 2023 minutes.

Motion carries.

G. Financial Matters:

None

H Old Business:

None

I New Business:

a. Discussion/ Approval to enter into lease agreement with Enterprise for three (3) SRO Vehicles.

Motion to discuss by Councilperson Pruneau, 2nd by Councilperson Alexander

Discussion: Councilperson Alexander asked if Enterprise kept up the repairs on vehicles. Chief White replied they would, and spoke about spending \$ 20,000.00 in vehicle repairs this past year. Some of ours are so old, we can't get parts for them now. Chief White said he felt like the \$ 225,000.00 we received for SRO employment, we would have around \$ 50,000.00 left to help with vehicles and other accessories needed for the

officers. Chief White stated he thought we would spend around 28,800.00 for vehicles like Fire leased, if we did a lease on F150 trucks, it would be \$43,200.00.

Councilperson Armpriest asked why the SRO's needed additional vehicles. Mayor Griffin explained they work school ball games and events in order to get comp time in order to have their tie off.

Vice Mayor Townes said he felt the 3year plan sounded good to him due to the Governors' initiative.

Chief White explained the SRO's will be utilized, besides running school traffic, etc. We have two (2) who are certified, and we will provide help until we get the third SRO hired. They can work roads if they need additional paychecks. They will be able to transition into the department as well. The City doesn't pay overtime- it is a comp time pay out.

Motion to enter into lease for \$ 800.00 – 1200.00 for a three (3) year contract.

Councilperson Armpriest, 2nd by Vice-Mayor Townes

Roll Call Vote:

Councilperson Alexander	<u>Y</u>	Vice-Mayor Townes	<u>Y</u>
Councilperson Armpriest	<u>Y</u>	Councilperson Young	<u>Y</u>
Councilperson Pruneau	<u>Y</u>		

- b. Discussion/Approval to purchase two (2) vehicles through VCIF (approval upon getting funds from the Violent Crime Grant)

Motion to discuss by Councilperson Young, 2nd by Councilperson Armpriest

Discussion: Chief White explained we would be getting approximately \$ 80,00.00 sometime in September for the purchase. This would be zero funds coming out of the City. These will be ordered through the state fleet contract, which is with Lonnie Cobb. Some of the money for equipment will come from Safestreet. The last time Police ordered new vehicles was 2012. Chief White said he felt like the department was in really good shape.

Councilperson Pruneau questioned if Lonnie Cobb would service the vehicles. Chief White answered that they would do the warranty work. Oil changes can be done locally. He said we would like to purchase locally, but we get the best deals when we purchase through the State contract.

Motion to approve purchases from Councilperson Armpriest, 2nd by Vice Mayor Townes.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilperson Alexander	<u>Y</u>	Vice-Mayor Townes	<u>Y</u>
Councilperson Arm Priest	<u>Y</u>	Councilperson Young	<u>Y</u>
Councilperson Pruneau	<u>Y</u>		

Motion passes

- c. Discussion/Approval to take recommendation from MTAS to change the purchase bid limit to \$ 25,000.00.

Motion to discuss: Councilperson Young, 2nd by Vice Mayor Townes.

Discussion: Mayor Griffin told the council, this had been brought to the city from Dana Deem with MTAS. The feeling is that cities can continue to carry on with every Day functions without having to wait for approval of a purchase.

Councilperson Young said he would still like it if the council could be notified for large purchases over \$5,000.00

Motion to change the purchase limit to \$ 25,000.00 before going through bid process by Councilperson Pruneau, 2nd by Councilperson Arm Priest.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilperson Alexander	<u>Y</u>	Vice-Mayor Townes	<u>Y</u>
Councilperson Arm Priest	<u>Y</u>	Councilperson Young	<u>Y</u>
Councilperson Pruneau	<u>Y</u>		

Motion passes

- d. Discussion/Approval to update the water policy

Discussion: Motion by Vice-Mayor Townes, 2nd by Councilperson Young to discuss.

Mayor Griffin explained even through we had a new policy adopted in 2021, there were Still a few areas where grace was given. This is a black and white issue. Customers should be aware that they cannot use an extension time every month. Changing it to only four (4) times per year. When paying their bill, they should not have more than a \$ 10.00 balance left on the account. Mayor Griffin advised that he had checked how different facilities operated. The Natural Gas only allows due to hospitalization or death. Most only allowed a \$ 10.00 carry over. Mayor Griffin also stated if approved, beginning tomorrow, new customers would have to sign the service contract when opening an account.

Councilperson Arm Priest asked if this letter would be given to everyone on city water. Mayor Griffin replied yes.

Motion to approve by Councilperson Pruneau, 2nd by Vice Mayor Townes.

- e. Discussion/Approval to purchase self-contained breathing apparatus using State Grant funds and city funds

Motion to discuss by Councilperson Pruneau, 2nd by Councilperson Alexander

Discussion: Chief Tucker reported that this was a State Fire Fighter grant and was solicited for bids. They only received one from Safe Industries for \$ 37,532 for 4 air packs and 8 bottles. The items cannot be mixed and mingled. He said there is only one vendor for our area. We would be able to receive \$ 30,000.00 through the State Grant and the remainder of the \$ 7,532.00 would be paid from our budget, which we already had built in. Chief Tucker said most of their equipment was 30 years old and the lifetime use was 5-10 years, They can no longer get parts. The plans is that next year, they will be able to start a \$ 20,000.00 rotation.

Councilperson Pruneau asked where they would be kept and was told by Chief Tucker in the trucks.

Motion to purchase apparatus made by Councilperson Arm Priest, 2nd by Vice-Mayor Townes.

Motion passes

- f. 1st reading to approve Ordinance 554 to amend official zoning map from R4 to R3

Discussion/approve on 1st reading Ordinance 554 made by Councilperson Arm Priest, 2nd by Councilperson Young.

Mayor Griffin announced this was presented to us from the Planning Commission and it proposes to change 3 parcels to R-3. Owners of the park informed the council that the residents at the trailer park have been told what is happening. Their cost to move to the trailer park on Hwy 79 will be paid for by the trailer park owners. Only about 5% of the trailers are owned by individuals and many of the trailers are inhabitable. The building of the townhouses will be in stages.

Councilperson Arm Priest asked if they would be in the medium price change and who would benefit from them. She was told by the owner they would be 2-4 bedrooms, might be good for student housing.

Mayor Griffin said after approval, they will be sent back to planning to meet the requirements.

Motion to approve to amend the zoning map from R4 to R3 made by Councilperson Young, 2nd by Councilperson Arm Priest.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilperson Alexander	<u>Y</u>	Vice-Mayor Townes	<u>Y</u>
Councilperson Arm Priest	<u>Y</u>	Councilperson Young	<u>Y</u>
Councilperson Pruneau	<u>Y</u>		

Motion passes

- g. Discussion/Approval to appoint Jeremy Bigler to Parks & Recreation Committee

Motion to discuss: Councilperson Arm Priest, 2nd by Councilperson Young.

Mayor Griffin stated Mr. Bigler came as a recommendation from the Parks & Recreation Committee. Mr. Bigler is the Assistant Soccer Coach in the school system.

Motion to approve Mr. Bigler made by Councilperson Young, 2nd by Councilperson Arm Priest.

Motion passes.

- h. Discussion/Approval to appoint Peggy Kee for one year term to Planning Commission and Carol Nanne and Sandy Roditis for 3 year terms.

Motion to discuss: Councilperson Arm Priest, 2nd by Vice Mayor Townes.

No Discussion

Motion to approve: Councilperson Arm Priest, 2nd by Councilperson Young

Motion passes

- i. Discussion/Approval to appoint Paton Lamonte and Connie McCain for five year terms to Historic Commission, Letha Basford for one year term

Motion to discuss: Councilperson Arm Priest, 2nd by Councilperson Young

Mayor Griffin explained that all these individuals lived in the historic district, so they would be interested in helping to preserve the district.

Motion to approve made by Councilperson Young, 2nd by Councilperson Arm Priest.

Motion passes.

- j. Discussion/Approval to appoint Steven Morton, Denise Sam, Joe Neumaire, Ashley Bell and Courtney Kee to Main Street committee.

Motion to discuss by Councilperson Pruneau, 2nd by Vice Mayor Townes.

Mayor Griffin told the council that he wanted to try a different approach with hoping to make a “buy in” to the downtown area by creating a sense of purpose and destination. He also talked about how Mr. Morton had beautified his building and now had purchased the burned out building, with the idea of retail in front and creating an apartment in the rear and hopefully two apartments upstairs.

Motion to approve: Councilperson Armpriest, 2nd by Councilperson Young

Motion passes.

J. Citizens Input:

None

K. Department Head Reports:

Fire Chief Brian Tucker stated they will be selling the older fire truck when the new one is received in August. The First Responder program is still working on their logistics for the sign up. He also reported it had been a slow month with 21 incidents, most of which had been alarm system activations. They had had 6 commercial alarms, 4 aircraft standbys, and 3 each of medical calls, MVA-no injuries, 3 cancelled enroute.

Water Superintendent Billy Wood gave his normal report they were busy fixing leaks and tearing up streets. He stated that he was expecting Roger’s Repair Service from Atwood to come and repair the water hydrant on Magnolia Ave.

Police Chief White stated that his department had answered 1,423 calls for the month of June. 734 of these were security checks for homes/business/parks, 193 vehicle stops, 93 10-43 investigations, 78 citizen assist, 52 medical and 273 various assist. He also took the time to thank the Public Works Dept. for their help in putting our cones for the July 4th fireworks event in the park.

Superintendent Johnny Mercer with Public Works stated his department was busy the last week with their household good. They had also taken time to cut some tree limbs getting things ready for school bus pickups.

Parks Director Billy Hollowell stated how much he appreciated all the help he received from all the departments. They had just finished creating a 2 mile cross country trail through the park. Pickleball was still staying busy. Director Hollowell said he was still looking at options to do some pavilions. They were still busy with mowing and trying to do equipment maintenance.

Councilperson Armpriest asked if there would be restrooms at some point and was told yes by Director Hollowell. Mayor Griffin stated there was a local person could be a potential donor for providing concrete at cost or cost + 10%.

Concrete for the pavilions

Jim Seaton said he had nine (9) properties in different stages of demolition. 3 are now gone, 1 of the properties has been demolished and the quarantined property will be done the first part of August. He also reported that of the 34 violation door hangers have been resolved.

L. Council Reports:

Councilperson Young: Just wanted to take the time to thank all the department heads for their work.

Councilperson Armpriest: She said she only had positive reviews for the department heads and the great job they were doing.

Councilperson Alexander: Thanked to thank all the department heads for their great work.

Councilperson Pruneau: Thanked to compliment the fire & police departments for doing a great job. He said he also noticed the street sweeper was out, and streets looked very well.

M. With no further business, a motion was made by Councilperson Armpriest, 2nd by Vice-Mayor Townes to adjourn at 7:07 P.M.

Motion carried.

APPROVED: _____
Ryan Griffin, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Jennifer Waldrup, City Recorder-City Clerk