

Regular Meeting of the  
Board of Mayor and Council  
City of McKenzie  
McKenzie, TN 38201  
October 14, 2021

- A. Call to Order — Mayor Holland
- B. Prayer — Councilperson Townes
- C. Pledge of Allegiance — Councilperson Townes
- D. Roll Call
  - Mayor Holland - Present
  - Councilperson Batton - Absent
  - Councilperson Burns – Present
  - Councilperson Pruneau - Present
  - Vice Mayor Townes – Present
  - Councilperson Young - Present
- E. Mayor’s Welcome:  
Mayor Holland called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Holland extended a warm welcome to all.
- F. Approval of Minutes  
Motion made by Councilperson Young, seconded by Vice Mayor Townes, to approve the minutes dated September 9, 2021.  
  
Motion passes.
- G. Financial Matters:  
None presented
- H. Old Business:
  - a. Update on ordinance concerning Motel/Hotel occupancy

Mayor Holland informed the council because people were giving the McKenzie Lodging Motel as their home address, we needed to correct this problem. The zoning there is for hwy business, not as a boarding house. Our attorney Laura Keeton is working on this. Ms. Keeton had indicated that she had been unable to find any verbiage concerning how long a customer had to be away from the motel/hotel address before they could return. Another factor that comes into play is that if someone resides at the motel 30 days or more, then it also becomes an eviction issue.

Mayor Holland asked the council to consider no one could be there any more than 30 days out of 90 and no ore than fifteen (15) consecutive unless they applied for an exemption, which would come into play with a work situation where a company was doing a large job and their workers stayed during the length of time required to finish the job. (2) situation when a home had been destroyed by fire, flooding, tornado, etc.

Mayor Holland stated that we just needed to have clear rules so that the owner is aware. In the past we have experienced issues with drug sales and guns being fired.

Councilperson Young asked if we could change the ordinance to say whatever we wanted it to say and if the owner was willing to work with us.

Police Chief Moates advised to make sure it said 29 days NOT 30, as that created the eviction issue.

Councilperson Young asked if the motel could just turn people down and not rent to them.

Police Chief Moates replied that the owner had already been making a file of who the problem individuals were. He also indicated that he had been talked about a “ban” letter.

Vice Mayor Townes said that some people have nowhere to go. He suggested if they caused trouble, then strike 3 they would be out.

Mayor Holland stated that we would be allowing the violation of the zoning law if people stayed for long periods of time. Allowing this to happen also distorts the monies collected for the motel/hotel tax we collect. Also allows this type rooming can be a boarding source for people who have a drug habit.

Councilperson Pruneau asked why this motel and not the other one? He also asked if these individuals could qualify for Section 8 Housing?

Mayor Holland replied price was the biggest reason, there had been issues at the McKenzie Motel...but also said the ordinance would apply to all motels/hotels in McKenzie. In answer to Section 8 housing, if you have a criminal background check, you would not be allowed to reside in Section 8 Housing.

I. New Business:

a. Discussion/approval of ordinance 539 Parking Citations.

Mayor Holland said our ordinance had not been updated for about 30 years and suggested that we insert twenty (\$ 20.00) for the fine within ten (10) days and twenty-five (\$25.00) thereafter. Police Chief Moates also mentioned that the handicapped parking fine had been changed to \$ 200.00 and being seen in General Sessions Court, not city court.

Mayor Holland also mentioned that we had turned the city parking area next to JT’s on Cedar into a big truck & trailer parking in order to keep drivers from taking up 4-6 spaces on Waldren by parking horizontally.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Townes, second by Councilperson Burns

Roll call vote:

Councilperson Burns	Y	Vice Mayor Townes	Y
Councilperson Pruneau	Y	Councilperson Young	Y

Motion carries.

b. Discussion/approval of ordinance 540 Unclaimed Property

Mayor Holland felt that we needed a more feasible way of handling unclaimed property than having a public auction. She called on Police Chief Moates explain more. He said in the past that for example with all the bicycles we had in storage, that he would have to submit a letter and the State would send a letter advising them to give it to a 501C. With this, any property that remains unclaimed for a period of sixty (60) days could be disposed of in a timely fashion. He said that the State is only interested in bank accounts, pension funds, bonds, cash and checks that come under T.C.A. §§ 66-29-10, et seq.

Motion made by Councilperson Young, second by Councilperson Pruneau

Roll call vote:

Councilperson Burns	Y	Vice Mayor Townes	Y
Councilperson Pruneau	Y	Councilperson Young	Y

Motion carries.

J. Citizens Input:

K. Department Head Reports:

Fire Chief Tucker stated this month was Fire Prevention month and they had been to the elementary school talking about fire prevention handing out coloring books. He reported 22 incidents for the month of September. There were 7 EMS Assist calls, 7 aircraft stand bys, 3 commercial alarms, and various other calls.

Water Superintendent Billy Wood stated his department was doing their regular job of taking care of the city's water and fixing leaks.

Philip Morrissett for the Codes Department reported that there had been several houses that been condemned.

Police Chief Moates stated that our Charter book is outdated concerning the fine for handicapped parking. The Charter book states \$ 100.00, NOT \$ 200.00. He also informed the council that the calming devise had been ordered, but we had not received at this time. He reported for the month of September there had been a total of 1284 calls. He stated 520 calls for security check-Home/Business/Parks, 263 vehicle stops, 66 citizen assist, 64 Investigations 10-43, 45 traffic control, 44 medical, 43 suspicious person and various other calls

Johnny Mercer with Public Works was not in attendance, but had left his report. Public Works has been trimming trees, mowing right of ways, finished repairs on the leaf truck vacuum, and servicing vehicles. He mentioned his department would probably start picking up leaves at the end of October.

Mayor Holland complemented the new park director Billy Hollowell on getting started off with a bang. She said they had talked and she felt like he would take care of the parks like they were his. She informed the council that he and Jeremy Allen would be attending a Parks & Rec conference the week of Oct. 18-20<sup>th</sup>. Billy said he and the staff were trying to catch up on mowing and weed-eating. He said they were expecting a Glo Disk Golf tournament on Friday night 7-9:30 p.m. He said that he and the staff would do their best to get things back under

control, it would just time and patience.

L. Council Reports:

There were no council reports

- M. With no further business, a motion was made by Councilperson Young, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice Mayor Townes to adjourn at 6:47 p.m.

Motion carried.

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jill Holland, Mayor

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Waldrup, City Recorder-City Clerk