

CITY OF ROCKY TOP COUNCIL MEETING
16th February 2023 at 6:00 PM

The City Council of the City of Rocky Top, Tennessee, met at City Hall at 6:00 p.m., on February 16, 2023 for the regular scheduled meeting, with Mayor Kerry Templin presiding. On the roll call the following answered present:

Mack Bunch Richard Dawson Jeff Gilliam Zack Green Kerry Templin

Invocation

Michael Foster, City Manager, opened the meeting with a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recognize Citizens, Guests and Visitors

Richard Hill of Mitchell, Emert and Hill was recognized. Mr. Hill presented the audit findings for year ending June 30, 2022. Mr. Hill briefly discussed the audit contents and each fund and their assets. Mr. Hill commended the City for their efforts in maintaining a no findings audit for the past four (4) years and no findings or recommendations for improvement.

Approval of Minutes

Councilman Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2023 Beer Board meeting with corrections, and Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Corrections to be made correcting the Mayor's name.

Councilman Zack Green made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2023 City Council meeting, and Councilman Richard Dawson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Templin discussed that a vacancy on the Tree Committee still exists, and it is open to citizens and non-citizens to serve. Michael Foster, City Manager, added that the City has participated in the Tree City USA and Arbor Society grant the past three (3) years. Yearly Arbor Day activities are held, and tree saplings are distributed to the children who attend the Arbor Day activities. The City's participation in the above grants provides access to funds to offset the costs of shrubbery and trees for downtown beautification projects for the City. The grant is a One Thousand Dollar (\$1,000.00) matching grant per year that benefits the City.

Mayor Templin discussed that a vacancy on the Recreation Committee still exists, and it is open to citizens and non-citizens.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

City Manager Severance Contract

Mayor Templin read aloud the Severance Contract for Michael Foster. Councilman Zack Green made a motion to accept the Severance Contract in its entirety, seconded by Councilman Richard Dawson. Mayor Templin called for roll call. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote 5-0. Mayor Templin and Councilman Jeff Gilliam commended Michael Foster for the great job he has done on the budget and wished things could have been different. Michael Foster expressed gratitude for his seven (7) years with the City and for his accomplishments and wished the City well in their future endeavors.

Council reviewed a request from Medford Fire Department for a roadblock. Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to approve the roadblock request, seconded by Councilman Richard Dawson. The roadblock shall be held on June 3, 2023. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Council reviewed a request from Rocky Top House of Prayer and Praise for a roadblock. Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to approve the roadblock request, seconded by Councilman Jeff Gilliam. The roadblock shall be held on April 22, 2023 with a rain date of May 8, 2023. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Mayor Templin discussed a Resolution supporting a large-scale, outdoor themed tourist resort in Anderson County. Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion for a resolution supporting a large-scale, outdoor themed tourist resort in Anderson County with spelling issues, seconded by Councilman Zack Green. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Typo correction to be made to the Resolution.

Citizen interaction voicing concern for noise ordinance enforcement due to ATV's being operated throughout the nighttime hours should the tourist resort materialize and locate in Rocky Top.

No action was taken by council in the Resolution Authorizing Mayor Templin to Locate an Interim City Manager. Mayor Templin advised that he has a resume from Michael Ellis to be reviewed and considered for the Interim City Manager position. A special called meeting was called to be held on March 2, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss and hire Michael Ellis as Interim City Manager.

General Government

Sewer Adjustments- \$1,091.08

Michael Foster advised some of these are carryovers from the cold months. Councilman Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve sewer adjustments, and Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Michael Foster added that garbage cans are out and we are making our way to 441 and the other side of the interstate. Target date to go live will be March 6, 2023. If you have not received your garbage can they are coming we just haven't gotten to your sector yet for delivery. Cans are tagged with serial numbers and those will be placed on the individual accounts. Interstate lighting is getting looked at and repairs are being made. Brush pickup was behind but that has been caught up.

Spring Clean Up will begin March 1st and will continue the entire month.

Review of Fire Department report.

Review Police Department report. Councilman Gilliam requested that overdose calls be added to the report.

Water Department report. Water department has been working and servicing the fire hydrants. Fire Department will service hydrants once the initial rehab work has been completed. GIS program will mark all hydrants on the system. Additionally, sewer and lift station repairs have been made.

Street Department report.

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Jeff Gilliam and seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch at 7:08 p.m.

Kerry Templin, Mayor

Peggy Watson, City Recorder