

CITY OF ROCKY TOP COUNCIL MEETING
March 16, 2023 at 6:00 PM

The City Council of the City of Rocky Top, Tennessee, met at City Hall at 6:04 p.m., on March 16, 2023 for the regular scheduled meeting, with Mayor Kerry Templin presiding. Upon roll call the following answered present: Mack Bunch Jeff Gilliam Zack Green Kerry Templin
Absent due to illness: Richard Dawson

Invocation

Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch opened the meeting with prayer.
Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2023 City Council meeting, Councilman Zack Green seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote and roll call. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Mack Bunch "I"; Jeff Gilliam "I"; Zack Green "I" and Mayor Templin "I". Richard Dawson was not present.

Councilman Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2023 Special Called meeting, and Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote and roll call. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Mack Bunch "I"; Jeff Gilliam "I"; Zack Green "I" and Mayor Templin "I". Richard Dawson was not present.

Recognize Citizens, Guests and Visitors

Mayor Templin inquired if any member of the audience had any comments. Individuals expressed their gratitude that potholes had been repaired and that water bills had gone down.

Additionally, an individual inquired about the Board's decision regarding the costs associated with obtaining additional garbage cans. City Manager Michael Foster discussed that the City would have to recover all costs associated with the purchase of additional garbage cans once we determine that all citizens have obtained their initial can. City Manager Michael Foster stated the details related to the additional cans would need to be worked out. One initial thought would be to charge a second service fee for the additional can being picked up. Also, wanting to give everyone ample time to determine if they need the additional can.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Templin discussed that vacancies still exist on the Tree Committee and are open to citizens and non-citizens to serve.

Mayor Templin discussed that a vacancy on the Recreation Committee still exists, and several people have expressed their desire to serve on the committee. Zack Green discussed that per the Ordinance a maximum number of seven would be permitted to serve on the Recreation Committee. Councilman Zack Green nominated Jackie Phillips to serve on the Recreation Committee, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote and roll call. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Mack Bunch "I"; Jeff Gilliam "I"; Zack Green "I" and Mayor Templin "I". Richard Dawson was not present.

Unfinished Business

Councilman Zack Green inquired as to the status of the posting for the City Manager position. Mayor Templin responded that we have not moved forward with this but we need to. Mayor Templin stated that the council would need to get a job description prepared. Councilman Zack Green stated that he had copies of the previous City Manager job posting the city has had. Mayor Templin advised Councilman Zack Green to send the information he has to the board for review. Councilman Zack Green questioned the Mayor's timeline for getting a City Manager hired. Mayor Templin stated that we have a six-month window.

New Business

Mayor Templin read the Parental Alienation Awareness Proclamation and declared April 25, 2023 as Parental Alienation Awareness Day. Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to approve the Parental Alienation Awareness Proclamation, seconded by Jeff Gilliam. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote and roll call. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Mack Bunch "I"; Jeff Gilliam "I"; Zack Green "I" and Mayor Templin "I". Richard Dawson was not present.

General Government

Sewer Adjustments- \$94.17

Michael Foster added that improvements have been made with the second week of garbage collection and surprisingly we have not had a lot of issues. Exit 128 interstate lighting poles are going to be installed and a third pole will be repaired at Exit 129. Further, most of the interstate lighting is working and the wiring issues have been addressed. Dollar General Market is set to open on March 31, 2023. Discussion that all Rocky Top Dollar General Store locations will reopen.

Mayor Templin and City Manager Michael Foster discussed the TDEC cleaning out of the underground tanks at the Hoskins location.

Review of Fire Department report.

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

Water Department report. Statistics were presented by Gary Harsey to portray a visual on the water usage the night of the house fire. Brief discussion regarding the CUB and Anderson County Water Authority monitoring system and high water usage alerts they receive.

A resident asked if water reads are real time. Foster explained how meter reads are used and the information they show.

Councilman Jeff Gilliam discussed that the two water meters located behind the Community Center one of them needs to have a replacement lid due to the lid not staying shut and his concern about the safety of children.

Street Department report. City Manager Michael Foster added that Spring Clean-up will continue through the end of the month and no hazardous materials or tires will be collected. Additionally, beginning the first part of April, we will start making hot mix again. The rough area on Church Street by the Post Office was repaired again due to the severity of the problem. Councilman Jeff Gilliam shared a citizen was pleased with the trash pickup effort in the alley on Sixth and Seventh Street. City Manager Michael Foster added he is seeing the yield of the additional time that the guys not being on the garbage truck for two days has opened up.

Citizen inquired about the pothole at Weigel's. City Manager Michael Foster advised that we would notify TDOT of that needed repair.

Arbor Day Proclamation/Tree City USA Proclamation read by Mayor. Motion to Approve Arbor Day Proclamation/Tree City USA Proclamation was made by Councilman Zack Green, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote and roll call. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Mack Bunch "I"; Jeff Gilliam "I"; Zack Green "I" and Mayor Templin "I". Richard Dawson was not present.

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch and seconded by Councilman Jeff Gilliam at 6:41 p.m.

Kerry Templin, Mayor

Peggy Watson, City Recorder