

**City of Rocky Top Council Meeting
January 18, 2024 at 5:00 pm**

The City Council of Rocky Top, Tennessee met at City Hall at 5:00 pm on January 18, 2024, for the regularly scheduled City Council meeting with Mayor Kerry Templin presiding. Upon roll call the following answered present:

Jeff Gilliam Mack Bunch Zack Green Kerry Templin

Stacy Phillips was absent.

Invocation

Councilperson Zack Green opened the meeting with prayer.
Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2023, City Council Meeting, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent.

Recognize Citizens, Guests, and Visitors

None

Mayor's Report

Lead Service Line Inventory – Initiative from EPA through TDEC regarding service lines, from the meter to the home. The Police Department will be taking flyers to each home in the city, that need to be filled out and returned. The purpose of this is to determine what type of service line the homeowner has from the meter to the home. If the homeowner has questions, we can send someone from the Water Department out to help.

Committee Reports

Planning Commission – Reappointment of Robert Seiber to the Planning Commission through December 17, 2027. Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to reappoint Robert Seiber to the Planning Commission, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent.

Recreation Committee – No meeting for January. The City would like to apply for a Tree Grant for Abigail Park (splashpad), \$18,000 in the project, 100% reimbursable grant. Councilperson Zack Green made a motion to apply for the grant and have Tim Hatmaker oversee writing the grant, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent.

TDEC Intent to Apply – Recreation Grant is due February 22, 2024. Grant is for ADA compliance at the ballfield. Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to apply for the Recreation Grant, seconded by Councilperson Zack Green. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent.

City Manager Report

City Manager Ellis stated the City has started collecting money, invoicing for the sewer project. City Manager Ellis wanted to thank the employees for helping clear the roads during the snow. Councilperson Jeff Gilliam thanked Mayor Templin and City Manager Ellis for his help in clearing the roads as well.

General Government Report

There were no sewer adjustments for December.

Police Report – Police Chief Thomas stated that the Rocky Top Police Department accounted for over 40% of the arrests that went to Sessions I for December. Anderson County and Campbell County Sheriff's Departments are still covering nightly. Job offers accepted for two certified officers that will put us back up to full staff. Assistant Chief Greg Woods has retired. Lieutenant Matt McGhee has been designated as the Deputy Chief, to replace Assistant Chief Woods.

Fire Report – 36 calls for the month of December.

Public Works Report – Normal monthly operations.

Water/Sewer Report – Bar Environmental installed the new polymer pump for the sludge press.

December water loss was 37.47%.

Resolutions and Ordinances

First Reading of Ordinance No. 582-The renter's deposit is changing from \$100.00 to \$300.00. Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 582, An Ordinance to Amend the Rocky Top Municipal Code by Revising Water and Sewers Title 18, Section 18-103, Residential Renters Refundable Fee, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent.

First Reading of Ordinance No. 583-Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 583, An Ordinance of the City of Rocky Top, Tennessee Amending Title 15 of the Municipal Code to Adopt by Reference State Traffic Offenses and Rules of the Road, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent.

Resolution 595-(see New Business for discussion from Jacob Blocker with Cannon & Cannon) Bidding opened January 11, 2024. Bid was awarded to Morgan Contracting for \$5,449,280. Councilperson Zack Green made a motion to approve Resolution 593, For Tentative Award City of Rocky Top, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent.

Old/Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Jacob Blocker with Cannon & Cannon: opened bids for the sewer rehabilitation project on January 11, 2024. There were four bidders, bids ranged from \$4.6 million to \$7.6 million. Low bid was Norris Brothers, who was deemed nonresponsive, because all required items were not included in their

bid package. The next low bid was Morgan Contracting. Jacob recommends awarding to Morgan Contracting, contingent on funding approval and gaining additional funding. The resolution is for the City to approve so Evan Sanders can approach State Revolving Fund (SRF) to gain additional funding. The City is approved for \$4.3 million and the bid came in at \$5.4 million. Reducing the scope is not an option. If SRF does not approve the additional funding, the City will have to pay the additional \$1.2 million. Mayor Templin has asked Anderson County Commission and Anderson County Mayor for \$250,000. Mayor Templin hopes the county can increase that.

Cannon & Cannon, Amendment #1 – Additional Services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements-Cannon & Cannon will design the improvements required by the EPA and give the City plans and specifications. The funding will come from SRF. The SRF requires plans and specifications and an engineering report. The Amendment is for Cannon & Cannon to write the engineering report. The cost is \$45,000. Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve the Amendment, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent.

TDEC-ARPA admin contract needs to be adjusted down-The original contract was for \$68,800, and Evan Sanders would like to adjust this DOWN for a new total amount of \$43,051. Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made the motion to adjust the contract, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent.

Finalize SRF Funding contract for administrative services \$39,750.00-Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to pay the SRF funding contract of \$39,750.00, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent.

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilperson Zack Green, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. The meeting adjourned at 5:47 pm.

Kerry Templin, Mayor

Amanda Daugherty, City Recorder