

City of Rocky Top Council Meeting
Thursday, October 19, 2023, at 6:00 pm

The City Council of Rocky Top, Tennessee met at City Hall at 6:00 pm on Thursday, October 19, 2023, for the regularly scheduled City Council meeting with Mayor Kerry Templin presiding. Upon roll call the following answered present: Mack Bunch Jeff Gilliam Zack Green Kerry Templin Stacy Phillips was absent.

Invocation

Councilperson Jeff Gilliam opened the meeting with prayer.
Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 19, 2023 City Council Meeting, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam "I"; Mack Bunch "I"; Zack Green "I"; and Mayor Templin "I". Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Recognize Citizens, Guests, and Visitors

Kelly Harris, the Rocky Top Public Library Director, partnered with the UT Ag Extension Master Gardner's Program, to create a series of gardens around the library.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Templin mentioned that the EPA has required the City to inventory all of our services in town looking for lead pipe, close to 800 to 900 services. Some will be easy; you look on the customer side of the meter and you can see that leg of pipe. The City is creating a database with assistance from TAUD. This inventory must be completed by October 2024. A pamphlet will be sent out to each customer.

Mayor Templin read a letter from the Tennessee Comptroller's Office, regarding the past two (2) years of water loss. The City has to provide a plan to reduce water loss under 40% to the Comptroller's Office by December 31, 2023.

Old/Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 577, An Ordinance of the City of Rocky Top, Tennessee Amending the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget, Passed by Ordinance 574, seconded by Councilperson Zack Green. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam "I"; Mack Bunch "I"; Zack Green "I"; and Mayor Templin "I". Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ordinance 578-Councilperson Zack Green inquired about the Local 501(C)(3) organizations. City Manager Mike Ellis suggested removing the "(3)" from Local 501(C)(3). With removing the "(3)" from Local 501(C)(3), Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 578, An Ordinance of the City of Rocky Top, Tennessee Amending the Rocky Top Municipal Code Title 15, Chapter 8, Entitled Roadblocks, Parades, Foot or Bicycle Races Assemblies or Other Events, seconded by Councilperson Zack Green. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam "I"; Mack

Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; and Mayor Templin “I”. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ordinance 579-Councilperson Zack Green inquired about weapons purchased with grant money. Police Chief John Thomas answered that it depends on the grant, and that will be taken into consideration. Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 579, An Ordinance Authorizing the Award of Items to Certain Retiring Police Officers and Firefighters after Twenty-Five Years of Service to Rocky Top, Tennessee., seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; and Mayor Templin “I”. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to approve the Property Maintenance Form, seconded by Councilperson Zack Green. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; and Mayor Templin “I”. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Police Chief John Thomas stated that two (2) police cruisers are older and in poor condition and he is proposing they be replaced. Lieutenant Matt McGhee has researched and found four (4) used vehicles, all with less than 55,000 miles. A 2018 Dodge Charger inspected and in very good condition, 43,800 miles, in Kentucky, for \$18,000 for the car, to get it on the road, \$19,500. A 2020 Dodge Charger in Missouri, with almost 55,000 miles, \$23,900 for the car, needs prisoner partition, to get it on the road, \$28,000. A 2021 Dodge Charger with 50,000 miles for \$28,000 and \$32,300 to get it on the road. A 2020 Ford Explorer with 62,000 miles for \$37,150 to get it on the road. City Manager Mike Ellis mentioned that one vehicle would be sold, while the other would stay with the City as a spare. Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to purchase the 2018 Dodge Charger and 2020 Dodge Charger, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; and Mayor Templin “I”. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

General Government

September sewer adjustments were \$422.00. Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to accept the sewer adjustment report for September, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; and Mayor Templin “I”. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

October sewer adjustments were \$269.00. Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to accept the sewer adjustment report for October, seconded by Councilperson Zack Green. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; and Mayor Templin “I”. Councilperson Stacy Phillips was absent. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Monthly water loss was 30.062%.

Department and Committee Reports

Public Works Report

Water Department Report

Fire Department Report

Police Department Report

Recreation Committee Report – Costume contest for the kids at the Trunk or Treat on October 27, 2023. We are partnering with the Anderson County Chamber of Commerce for the Christmas Parade on December 1, 2023. There will be a toy drive, so everyone that will be in the parade, please bring a toy. The Walk through Bethlehem was mentioned, but may not happen because of timing.

City Manager Report

We have eight (8) businesses ready for inspections on the Fats, Oils, and Grease program. We have five (5) businesses that we are waiting on permits, and three (3) businesses that have not responded yet. Evan with Community Development Partners went over how the grant money will be allocated for the sewer project. The sewer project will likely start around the first of spring. Another grant that Evan is looking at is for the bleacher at the ballfield. Evan is going to submit an application and hopefully that will start in 2024. Jacob from Cannon & Cannon said the plans and specs for the wastewater collection system should be ready for review by the next council meeting. Fall clean-up will be during the month of October. The first and third Wednesday for the South end and the second and fourth Wednesday for the North end. Trunk or Treat will be October 27, 2023, from 5:00pm-8:00pm.

Public Comment

None

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Kerry Templin, Mayor

Amanda Daugherty, City Recorder