

**City of Rocky Top Council Meeting
December 21, 2023 at 6:00 pm**

The City Council of Rocky Top, Tennessee met at City Hall at 6:00 pm on December 21, 2023, for the regularly scheduled City Council meeting with Mayor Kerry Templin presiding. Upon roll call the following answered present:

Jeff Gilliam Stacy Phillips Kerry Templin

Zack Green and Mack Bunch were absent.

Invocation

City Manager Mike Ellis opened the meeting with prayer.
Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Councilperson Stacy Phillips made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2023, City Council Meeting, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Councilperson Zack Green and Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch were absent.

Recognize Citizens, Guests, and Visitors

County Commissioners Tim Isbel and Shain Vowell came forward and stated that they want to start coming to the meetings and be more active in the city. Commissioner Isbel sent an Interlocal Agreement to the Mayor for any comments before they vote on it. Commissioner Isbel stated they received a \$50,000 grant for the Coal Miners Museum to open the upstairs and update the HVAC.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Templin mentioned the work on Fourth Street to replace a drain tile and inspect for water leaks. A drain tile has also been replaced on Seventh Street.

Committee Reports

Planning Commission – Councilperson Jeff Gilliam mentioned that Mark Webb requested a plat review to move a property line. The plat review was approved. Lydia Burke and Liz Porter, representing S&ME Inc., provided information for the Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant that will provide environmental cleanup for Rocky Top properties. This is federal funding to provide surveys regarding underground storage tanks, asbestos, and lead assessments. There is no cost to the property owners or the City.

Recreation Committee – No December meeting

City Manager Report

City Manager Ellis stated the City had to provide a water loss report to the state. The annual report showed a 40% loss. TAUD helped with the report. Tuesday was the pre-bid for the wastewater sewer project. The bid should be January 11, 2024. MTAS has contacted us to do a new code instead of revising the current code. This will give us a legal review and a new code book that will be posted on the MTAS website for anyone to view. Due to change in personnel, the audit will not be completed by the December 31, 2023 deadline. It looks like it will be around March 2024 before the audit will be complete. The City has notified the State. City Hall will be closed Friday, December 22, 2023, and