

**City of Rocky Top Council Meeting
February 15, 2024 at 6:00 pm**

The City Council of Rocky Top, Tennessee met at City Hall at 6:00 pm on February 15, 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 Stacy Phillips Kerry Templin

Invocation

County Commissioner Shain Vowell opened the meeting with prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

Swearing in of Rocky Top Police Officers – At the request of Police Chief John Thomas, Police Officers Matt McGhee, Kevin Perkins, Mikala Malicoat, Tim Powers, Matt Maples, Cody Culver, and Police Chief John Thomas were sworn in by City Recorder Amanda Daugherty.

Approval of Minutes

Councilperson Zack Green made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2024, City Council Meeting, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Motion carried.

Recognize Citizens, Guests, and Visitors

Jerry Mayes is concerned about the sports leagues. Mayor Templin informed Mr. Mayes that the City is not involved in the sports leagues that use the City's facilities.

Jeremy Bailey, new resident of Rocky Top, is curious about the growth of downtown Rocky Top. Mayor Templin informed Mr. Bailey that the City has a Codes Enforcement Officer and a new Administrative Hearing Officer and the City is working to get some of the abandoned buildings taken care of.

David Massengill, 218 Nelson Street, said he grew up in Lake City. He voiced his concern about the empty buildings downtown.

Mayor's Report

Coal Creek Channel Improvements report noted some issues with sedimentation in the creek, brush needs to be cut back, and looking for funding to remove the excess sedimentation.

Reschedule April 18, 2024 City Council Meeting to April 11, 2024 at 6:00pm. Councilperson Zack Green suggested changing it to Thursday, April 25, 2024 to cover Planning Commission and Recreation Commission meetings. Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch made a motion to move the April City Council Meeting to April 25, 2024, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Motion carried.

An individual from a community South of Rocky Top has an individual that wants to fund a Safe Haven Baby Box for the Rocky Top Fire Department. Mayor Templin wanted to make the City aware that this may be coming in the near future.

Committee Reports

Planning Commission – Planning Commission will meet Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

Recreation Committee – The July 4th celebration will be held on July 4, 2024. The tree grant for Abigail Park was submitted, with a final amount of \$11,000 applied for. The TDEC grant for ADA compliance at the ballfield is due February 22, 2024.

City Manager Report

City Manager Ellis met with Paris Construction from North Carolina. They will be cleaning up the burned apartment building at 321 S Main Street. They hope to start Monday and hope to have it all cleaned up in two weeks. Kate Hull from the Free Medical Clinic has asked if they can use the Community Center parking lot to set up their mobile clinic the first Tuesday of every month from 8:30 am-3:30 pm. The new Rocky Top website is up and running. We are still working on it. When the sewer project gets started, we will add a GIS map that will show the location of the construction. City Hall will be closed Monday, February 19, 2024, in observance of President’s Day. Garbage pickup will be Tuesday and Wednesday. Monday’s garbage schedule will be on Wednesday. There is a Veteran’s Breakfast at Clear Branch Baptist Church on Saturday, February 17, 2024, at 8:00 am.

General Government Report

We have two beer permits, from January 19, 2023 for Minaben B. Patel, and July 20, 2023 for Akash Karawadra that were approved by the Beer Board, but did not get approved by City Council. Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve both beer permits, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Phillips. Motion carried with Councilperson Zack Green abstaining.

Name	Address	Reason	Adjustment
Stacy & Lance Coleman	330 Butcher Ln.	Damaged Faucet	\$226.00
Robert Underwood	1105 S Main St	Burst Pipe	\$706.00
Helen Anderson	614 Jacksboro Ave	Burst Pipe	\$406.00
James Lane (Helen)	313 Willow Ln	Leak	\$393.00
Rinaldo Tata	502 Wallace Ave	Leak	\$1,253.00
Alma Mowery	201 Watts Ave	Leak	\$221.00
Total			\$3,205.00

January sewer adjustments are \$3,205.00. Councilperson Stacy Phillips made a motion to approve the sewer adjustments, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Motion carried.

Police Report – Helped with fatal apartment building fire. Noncertified Officer Malicoat will go to the Academy March 28-June 27. Assigned Officer Powers to collateral duties as Detective and will be sending him to training under grant money in the near future. ACSO and CCSO are still covering nightly, but with the new hires, we will start full coverage on February 26. The vehicle graphics have been applied to the new charger. The rest of the fleet will be updated in the coming months.

Fire Report – 43 calls for the month of January.

Public Works Report – Normal monthly operations, removed snow and salted roads, replaced hot water heater at the library.

Water/Sewer Report – Banks Avenue tank will be switched from solar power to shore power to help with tank reading errors.

December water loss was 45.095%.

Resolutions and Ordinances

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 582-The renter's deposit is changing from \$100.00 to \$300.00. Councilperson Zack Green made a motion to approve the second 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 Councilperson Stacy Phillips. Motion carried.

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 583-Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to approve the second 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 Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Motion carried.

Resolution 591-Councilperson Stacy Phillips made a motion to approve Resolution 591, A Resolution Authorizing the City of Rocky Top to Participate in the Public Entity Partners Cyber Security Matching Grant Program, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

None

Mayor Templin is very appreciative to Commissioners Vowell and Isbel for providing assistance in trying to obtain additional funds to help with the sewer project.

New Business

By Proclamation, Mayor Templin declares March 1, 2024, as Arbor Day. There will be a program at the Rocky Top Library including students from Lake City Elementary School at 11:00am on March 1, 2024.

Councilperson Jeff Gilliam praised the City employees for the work they did in January, during the snow and helping with the fire.

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Phillips. The meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Kerry Templin, Mayor

Amanda Daugherty, City Recorder