

**City of Rocky Top Council Meeting  
July 20, 2023 at 6:15pm**

The City Council of Rocky Top, Tennessee met at City Hall at 6:15 pm on July 20, 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 Stacy Phillips Kerry Templin

**Approval of Minutes**

Councilperson Stacy Phillips made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 15, 2023 meeting, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; Stacy Phillips “I”; and Mayor Templin “I”. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 26, 2023 Special Called Meeting, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Phillips. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; Stacy Phillips “I”; and Mayor Templin “I”. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Recognize Citizens, Guests, and Visitors**

Brian Brown inquired about a roadblock on the first Saturday in August to raise money for friend, Michael Hensley, who lost his house to a fire, had five (5) strokes, and his short-term disability has run out. Mayor Templin informed Mr. Brown that the request would need to be added to the Agenda for next month’s City Council meeting. Councilperson Zack Green suggested having a rain date once it gets added to the Agenda for next month’s meeting.

David Massengill, 218 Nelson Street, mentioned an embankment across from his house that is giving away, starting to slide. He is concerned the road will wash away if the issue is not fixed. Mr. Massengill doesn’t believe it is the responsibility of the City to shore the bank, he believes it is the homeowner’s responsibility. Mayor Templin requested Terry Bearden have Public Works look at the embankment the next day.

ASAP of Anderson invites everyone to the International Overdose Awareness Day event at the First Baptist Church, Clinton, on August 31, 2023, from 11:00 am-1:00 pm. The event will honor First Responders, Police, Mayor Terry Frank will also be present.

**Mayor’s Report**

FOG, Fats, Oils, and Grease – an Ordinance was passed in 2019 to establish fees related to the control of fats, oils and grease from getting into the sewer system. There are issues with this all over town, but it is worse on the North end. It causes problems when it gets into the sewer, the Water Department must take the sewer jet trailer out and clean the lines to remove the clog.

The Ordinance passed in 2019 didn’t give much detail about the permit. The new Ordinance will replace the 2019 Ordinance. The new Ordinance will establish fees, there will be inspections every thirty (30) days to get started.

Mayor Templin mentioned looking at Military Service Banners similar to Harriman, Kingston, and Rockwood. Mayor Templin would like to find a local non-profit or veterans’ organization to organize this. It will cost around \$160 per flag. The cost would be taken care of by the person. The City would not be responsible for cost, only responsible for hanging flags. The City Manager mentioned the City would need approval from Clinton Utilities Board to use their poles.

## **Old/Unfinished Business**

None

## **New Business**

Bids – Pest Control, Thomas Pest Solutions \$230/month; Electrical Maintenance Contract, Elliot; Cyber Security, Video, i4C Technologies; Website Development, Keller Creative Group.

Chicken Permit - \$25 annual fee. Councilperson Zack Green said the purpose of the Ordinance was to control the smell. The Ordinance is very detailed about the size of property versus how many chickens can be kept on property.

Mayor Templin suggested Lake City Middle School Football Parking Pass be tabled for the Recreation Committee to discuss.

Briceville Volunteer Fire Department requested a Boot Drive on August 5, 2023. No rain date was given. Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch makes a motion to approve the Boot Drive for August 5, 2023, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Phillips. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; Stacy Phillips “I”; and Mayor Templin “I”. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution 585, A Resolution to Adopt the Consultant Selection Policy for Projects Funded in Whole or in Part with Funds Provided by the Federal Highway Administration or the Tennessee Department of Transportation. Councilperson Zack Green inquired if this was suggested by TDOT. Mayor Templin confirmed. Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to accept Resolution 585, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Phillips. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; Stacy Phillips “I”; and Mayor Templin “I”. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution 586, A Resolution Authorizing the City of Rocky Top to Apply for and Match the 2023 TDOT Multimodal Access Grant. Mayor Templin mentioned this is from the bridge by City Hall to Jacksboro Street. Councilperson Stacy Phillips made a motion to accept Resolution 586, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; Stacy Phillips “I” and Mayor Templin “I”. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Templin discussed the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Policy, which is required by the State and Federal Government. Mayor Templin mentioned this is a requirement for our grants. Councilperson Zack Green inquired if the policies needed to come before the board. Mayor Templin mentioned the LEP was required to come before the board. Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to accept the LEP Policy, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Phillips. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam “I”; Mack Bunch “I”; Zack Green “I”; Stacy Phillips “I” and Mayor Templin “I”. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Templin discussed the Computer and Password Policies that have been established. Mayor Templin suggested these policies be pulled into the Personnel Policy.

Mayor Templin discussed the AirMedCare Membership proposal. City Manager Mike Ellis would like to make this a City of Rocky Top employee benefit. Anyone in the employee’s household would be covered. For three (3) years, it is \$185.00. Jim Shetterly discussed his wife’s experience with Flight Care, which totaled about \$60,000. His insurance only covered about \$5,000. Councilperson Jeff Gilliam shared he has the membership and other states besides Tennessee are also covered. Councilperson Zack Green inquired if there is a group rate. City Manager Mike Ellis recommends this benefit be available for new employees after they have been employed for one (1) year. City Manager Mike Ellis corrected his

previous statement, the three (3) year membership was \$195.00 per employee. Mayor Templin mentioned this is a great benefit at little cost to the City. Councilperson Zack Green suggested that the cost be covered by the wages budget. Mayor Templin asks for a motion to purchase three (3) year memberships for the City employees under the condition they are employed with the City for 12 months. Councilperson Zack Green inquired about the waiting period for other employee benefits. City Manager Mike Ellis answered 30 days. Councilperson Zack Green makes a motion to table until next month to discuss the details, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam "I"; Mack Bunch "I"; Zack Green "I"; Stacy Phillips "I"; and Mayor Templin "I". Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Templin discussed the Cannon & Cannon 2023-2024 Engineering Services Agreement. Councilperson Stacy Phillips made a motion to approve the Cannon & Cannon 2023-2024 Engineering Services Agreement, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Gilliam. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam "I"; Mack Bunch "I"; Zack Green "I"; Stacy Phillips "I"; and Mayor Templin "I". Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **General Government**

**July Sewer Adjustments \$516.00.** Councilperson Jeff Gilliam made a motion to accept sewer adjustment as written, seconded by Vice-Mayor Mack Bunch. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam "I"; Mack Bunch "I"; Zack Green "I"; Stacy Phillips "I"; and Mayor Templin "I". Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Police Department report

Fire Department report

Public Works report

Water/Sewer Department report

Financial Statement report

Mayor Templin commended the City employees for a great job on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Fiscal Officer Peggy Watson discussed the CPA firm Mitchell, Emert, and Hill will be preparing the contract and engagement letter for the 2022-2023 Audit. Richard Hill will be the CPA conducting the audit. The City's new financial platform is up and running.

### **Committee Reports**

Councilperson Zack Green provided an update from the Recreation Committee meeting. Main point discussed was the nightly ballfield closure. The committee decided to open the ballfield gates at 7:00am and close at sundown. The Community Center hours were changed, everyone must be out of the Community Center by 10:00pm. Officer Cody Culver asked if Police and Fire will still have access to the ballfield after hours. Mayor Templin stated the Police and Fire will be responsible for closing the ballfield gates. Tentatively discussed was Trunk or Treat for the end of October. The date will be voted on next month.

City Manager Mike Ellis mentioned he spoke with Jacob with Cannon & Cannon, Jacob was planning on stamping the plans for the sewer grant. Evan with Community Development Partners sent breakdown of

the grant and they are waiting for the SRF loan to come through. City Manager Mike Ellis also thanked everyone that helped with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

**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 and seconded by Councilperson Stacy Phillips. Mayor Templin called for roll call: Jeff Gilliam "I"; Mack Bunch "I"; Zack Green "I"; Stacy Phillips "I"; and Mayor Templin "I". The meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

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Kerry Templin, Mayor

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Amanda Daugherty, City Recorder