

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 8, 2013

The Board of Mayor and Commissioners held its regular meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., in the conference room at City Hall. Mayor Jane W. Dawkins called the meeting to order and asked Gary Dawkins to give the invocation and Monroe Powers to lead the pledge to the flag. Upon a roll call, the following members were present: Commissioner Ronnie Lancaster, Commissioner Jimmy Wigfall, Commissioner Jeff Powers, Commissioner Debbie Hughes and Mayor Jane W. Dawkins. Absent: none.

Mayor Dawkins asked the Board to review the minutes of the September 10, 2013 board meeting. There being no revisions, a **Motion** to approve the minutes of previous board meeting was made by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Wigfall. Voting aye were five, none opposed. A **Motion** to approve the minutes of the special called meeting on September 23, 2013, was made by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Wigfall. Voting aye were five, none opposed.

The Mayor asked if there were any comments from the citizens. Carolyn Millhiser questioned the Board about the abandoned house on Oak Street that was damaged by fire. She wanted to know what the city would do about getting this area cleaned up. Billy Gouger, acting city attorney, said there were several options available to the city. He stated that there were ordinances, statutes, and laws governing these issues and said the city needed to look into these and decide what needed to be done.

Walter Officer stated that the lawn on 2nd and Holly was overgrown and that this was devaluing the surrounding homes. Carolyn Case said that an official complaint had been filed and turned over the Chief Dale Winters, Safety Inspector for the City. Attorney Gouger said that if the city gives proper notice to the property owner the city can mow the lawn and file a lien on the property.

Commissioner Hughes questioned a house on Cedar Avenue that had placed a trailer in the back yard. Chief Winters said the building inspector was looking into this and that the house was to be torn down.

Mayor Dawkins said there was also another house between 1st and 2nd Street on Laurel Avenue that partially burned about five months ago. She said nothing had been done to this property.

Walter Officer complained about the four way stop at 1st and Holly. He said that the police were not enforcing these stops.

Alley Mae Haley questioned the property tax increase. She wanted to know what impact this would have on her personally since she was on a fixed income. The Mayor stated that her property taxes would almost double in price. Mayor Dawkins also stated that the county did not increase their property tax rate. She did state that the water and sewer rate increased 40%. City Administrator

Sammy Burrows asked Donald Blansett, Manager of Marion Natural Gas, to elaborate on this increase. Blansett said this increase started in October.

Mayor Dawkins said that the Glidden Tour, on September 12th, was a delightful event. She thanked Virgil Holder, the Police Department, and all the volunteers that helped make this a success.

Mayor Dawkins wanted to give the citizens an update regarding the recent flood and possible grant monies that the city could receive. She said that the \$300,000 grant the news spoke of did not emphasize that the city had to match with \$150,000. Mr. Burrows said that the NRCS did some preliminary engineering work at eight (8) different sites affected from the flood. After consideration, they decided not to proceed with this work.

Chief Dale Winters, Police Department, thanked the mayor for her participation in kicking off Fire Prevention Week with our schools. Winters also stated that the 3rd Annual Christmas for Kids will help approximately fifty-five (55) families this year. Besides the annual car show and vendors, there will be a 5k road race and a corn hole tournament.

Terry Case, SPHA Director had no comment. Mayor Dawkins congratulated Mr. Case for all his hard work getting all the residents back into Chester Powell Apartments after the flood.

Lisa Bradford, Parks and Recreation Director, thanked the Police Department for their help during the Annual City-Wide Yard Sale. She reminded everyone about the October 28th Halloween Festival at the Armory. The City, Housing Authority, and Gas and Water Company are all sponsoring this event. This will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Donald Blansett invited everyone to the open house of the new waste water treatment plant on Wednesday, October 9th.

Commissioner Wigfall questioned the alley at 3rd and Pine. He stated that adding gravel is a temporary fix. He stated that this alley needed to be addressed. Mr. Burrows said this would be taken care of.

Mayor Dawkins thanked Billy Gouger for acting as the city's temporary attorney. After **Recommendation** by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Wigfall, Gouger was voted by acclamation as the city's new attorney. Dawkins stated that Gouger is also serving as our city judge. He cannot serve both positions and the city would have to select a new city judge.

Mayor Dawkins requested that Columbus Day be added to the city's personnel policy as an official holiday. A **Motion** to pass **Resolution #935** (A Resolution to Amend the Personnel Policy of the City of South Pittsburg, Tennessee, to add Columbus Day as an Official Holiday) was made by Commissioner Powers, seconded by Commissioner Wigfall. Voting aye were five, none opposed.

A **Motion** to close 4th and 5th Street on November 2nd for the Annual Car Show was made by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Powers. Voting aye were five, none opposed.

The SPHS is adding lighting to the girl's softball field by installing four electrical poles. One pole will be partially placed on the city's sidewalk. Mr. Burrows talked with the city planner and was given the okay to proceed. A **Motion** to allow the school to install this lighting was made by Commissioner Wigfall, seconded by Commissioner Hughes. Voting aye were five, none opposed.

Upon **Motion** to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Wigfall, seconded by Commissioner Hughes and no objection, the Mayor adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Diane Beavers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Diane Beavers
City Recorder

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane W. Dawkins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Jane W. Dawkins
Mayor

**CITY OF SOUTH PITTSBURG
RESOLUTION # 935**

**A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE PERSONNEL POLICY OF THE CITY
OF SOUTH PITTSBURG, TENNESSEE, TO ADD COLUMBUS DAY AS AN
OFFICIAL HOLIDAY**

WHEREAS, by virtue of the provisions of the Personnel Policy of the City of South Pittsburg, Tennessee, various State and Federal holidays are recognized by the City upon which Employees are allowed holiday leave;

WHEREAS, the Board of Mayor and Commissioners of the City has discovered that Columbus Day, a Federal holiday, was omitted from the list of recognized holidays in the City's Personnel Policy, and the Board now wishes to amend said Personnel Policy to include Columbus Day in the list of recognized holidays beginning with the 2013 calendar year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Commissioners of the City of South Pittsburg, Tennessee, that the City's Personnel Policy be amended to add Columbus Day as an official holiday for and within the City beginning with the 2013 holiday.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Commissioners that this Resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage, as required by law, the public welfare requiring it.

Approved this the 8th day of October, 2013.


Jane W. Dawkins, Mayor

Attest:


City Recorder

