

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, JANUARY 19, 2010

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 19, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Buttram presiding. Boy Scout Troop #118 of Keith Memorial United Methodist Church led the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was given by Council Member Jackson; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Davis, Jackson, Pelley, Perkinson, Buttram

The following decisions were made and ordered made a part of the records of the Athens City Council.

- 1 -

MINUTES

The Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting on December 15, 2009 were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

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COMMUNICATIONS

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA – 100<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF SCOUTING

Mayor Buttram introduced Mr. Butch Quillen from Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Quillen spoke briefly about the Boy Scouts of America organization and the celebration on February 8, 2010 at Tennessee Wesleyan College at 6:00 p.m. marking its 100<sup>th</sup> year of scouting.

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ACCEPTANCE OF DECLARATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE “ATHENS OF THE WORLD” NETWORK

Vice Mayor Perkinson and his wife, Lynn, on behalf of Mayor Buttram, travelled to Athens, Greece in December 2009 to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> Athens’ Mayors Meeting. Vice Mayor Perkinson briefly described his trip and presented Mayor Buttram with the Declaration on the Establishment of the “Athens of the World” Network and a medallion from Mayor Nikitas Kaklamanis of Athens, Greece. Mayor Buttram thanked the Perkinson’s for representing the City of Athens, Tennessee in Athens, Greece.

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PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION – SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION WEEK

Mayor Buttram read a proclamation recognizing the week of *January 24-30, 2010* as “*School Board Appreciation Week*”. Mike Bivens, Chairman from the Athens City Schools

School Board, was present and accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Athens City School System.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Buttram acknowledged receipt of letters of appreciation for services performed by city staff.

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#### PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

#### AUDIENCE

Mayor Buttram opened the meeting for petitions and requests from the audience. There were none presented at this time.

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#### REPORTS

#### FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Brad Harris, Finance Director, presented the Finance Department Report for the month of December 2009. After brief discussion and comments, the report was accepted as presented.

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#### POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Chuck Ziegler presented the Police Department Report for the month of December 2009. After brief discussion and comments, the report was accepted as presented.

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#### FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Jim Dyer presented the Fire Department Report for the month of December 2009. After brief discussion and comments, the report was accepted as presented.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUARTERLY/ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Anthony Casteel, Community Development Director, presented the Building Permit Quarterly/Annual Report for the City of Athens. For the quarter ending December 31, 2009, he reported the issuance of 90 permits, with valuation costs estimated at \$ 1,949,037. The annual records reflect 338 permits being issued during 2009, with valuation costs estimated at \$9,870,902. After brief discussion and comments, the report was accepted as presented.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Buttram advised that the following items were discussed during the recent work session and are presented as a part of the Consent Agenda. The recording clerk read the items into the record:

- a.) Approve 2010 Monthly Cruise-in Schedule for the Athens Travelers;
- b.) Accept proposal (RFP #1509) from Miracle Recreation Equipment Company for the addition of playground equipment at Cook Park;
- c.) Approve **Resolution 2010-01** authorizing the City of Athens to make a joint application with the Town of Englewood and McMinn County to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation for Recreation Trails Program (RTP) Grant Funds;
- d.) Accept Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (City of Athens, Utilities Board, Athens City Schools) as submitted by Neal, Scouten & McConnell for year ended June 30, 2009;
- e.) Reappoint Sally Garren to the International Relations Committee, term expires January 20, 2013;
- f.) Reappoint Alejandro Mora to the International Relations Committee, term expires January 20, 2013.

**On motion by Council Member Davis, seconded by Council Member Jackson, the Consent Agenda as stated above was approved by the following roll call vote:**

**AYES: Davis, Jackson, Pelley, Perkinson, Buttram**  
**NAYS: None**

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ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 981 – SECOND/FINAL READING – PUBLIC HEARING**

**“AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, PROVIDING THAT THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 14, CHAPTER 2 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE, BE AMENDED BY REVISING SECTION 3.04.16 SO AS TO ADD SUBSECTION “O” THAT ESTABLISHES THE H-1 HISTORIC OVERLAY DISTRICT LIMITS AS ROUGHLY BOUNDED BY THE PROPERTIES ON EAST MADISON AVENUE, INGLESIDE AVENUE, GUILLE STREET, AND ATLANTIC STREET; AND PROVIDING THAT THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IS AMENDED SO AS TO ATTACH THE H-1 HISTORIC OVERLAY DISTRICT AS DESCRIBED HEREIN AND ON THE ATTACHED MAP; AND PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE .”**

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. Mayor Buttram opened the public hearing. There being no one present wishing to discuss the H-1 Historic Overlay District, Public Hearing was closed. **A motion was made by Council Member Pelley, seconded by Vice Mayor Perkinson, to approve Ordinance No. 981 on Second and Final Reading.** There being no further comments, Ordinance No. 981 was approved by the following roll call vote:

**AYES: Davis, Jackson, Pelley, Perkinson, Buttram**  
**NAYS: None**  
**ABSENT: None**

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NEW BUSINESS

**MARKET PARK GRANT APPLICATION**

Mayor Buttram stated that this item was for the City Council to decide whether or not they want to pursue grant funding for Market Park. If they chose to pursue funding, a motion to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to submit an application to the USDA Rural Development for development of Market Park in the amount of \$100,000 would be in order. **A motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Davis, to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to submit an application to the USDA Rural Development for development of Market Park in the amount of \$100,000.** Council Member Pelley stated that he was opposed to the application and felt it was inappropriate at this time. He did not believe the timing was right and that there were many other projects including the E.G. Fisher Library in need of tax dollars. Council Member Davis commented that she felt this project would bring business to the community as people are looking for less expensive vacations due to the recession. Vice Mayor Perkinson noted that this project had been worked on for several years using a phased-in approach. Funds were set aside to do this project and

economic development is a top priority. After additional comments and discussion, the motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

**AYES: Davis, Jackson, Perkinson, Buttram**  
**NAYS: Pelley**

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**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE TO REFLECT REFUSE AND TRASH DISPOSAL CHANGES TO ACCOMMODATE AUTOMATION SERVICES**

Mayor Buttram presented a proposed ordinance to amend Title 17, Chapter 1 of the *Athens Municipal Code*, entitled "Refuse and Trash Disposal".

**ORDINANCE NO. 982 – FIRST READING**

**"AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 17, CHAPTER 1 OF THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED 'REFUSE AND TRASH DISPOSAL' BY REVISING SECTIONS 17-104 AND 17-113."**

The caption of the above-described Ordinance was read by the recording clerk. **Motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Vice Mayor Perkinson to approve Ordinance No. 982 on First Reading.** Upon roll call, the first reading of Ordinance No. 982 was approved by the following vote:

**AYES: Davis, Jackson, Pelley, Perkinson, Buttram**  
**NAYS: None**  
**ABSENT: None**

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**APPALACHIAN QUILT TRAIL**

Mayor Buttram asked Council Member Davis to talk about the Appalachian Quilt Trail project. Council Member Davis briefly explained that the Appalachian Quilt Trail project was established to bring agriculture, art, tourism and local culture together and lead visitors across Tennessee. McMinn County is now a part of this project and there will be ten quilts throughout the county and an additional sixteen quilts downtown. The quilts are actually two foot by two foot wooden squares with painted quilt patterns on them. Each sign will have a different quilt pattern and be attached to buildings throughout the county. As a participant in the project, McMinn County should benefit from tourism dollars.

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MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Moore presented the Manager's Report. He reviewed the progress of current city projects/meetings scheduled during the months of January and February. After brief comments, the report was accepted as presented.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

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R. HAL BUTTRAM, Mayor

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MITCHELL B. MOORE, City Manager