MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, AUGUST 19, 2008

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 19, 2008, at 6:00 P.M. with Mayor Proffitt presiding. The invocation was given by Council Member Buttram; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Buttram, Pelley, Perkinson, Proffitt

Council Member Alvey was absent during the meeting.

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 July 15, 2008, as well as the Called Meeting on July 1, 2008, were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

- 2 -
COMMUNICATIONS

PROCLAMATION – HAROLD R. HUNTER DAY

Mayor Proffitt read a proclamation recognizing August 20, 2008, as Harold R. Hunter Day in Athens. Mr. Hunter was honored for his 43 years and two months as a dedicated employee of the City of Athens. He was further recognized for his diligent service to the citizens of Athens, the Athens Regional Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, and the Athens City Council.

- 3 -
PRESENTATION OF SOAP BOX DERBY PROCLAMATIONS

Council Member Pelley, Council Member Buttram and Vice Mayor Perkinson presented proclamations honoring Jeremiah Whiting (Local Stock Division Champion), Samuel Whiting (Local Super Stock Division Champion), and Kara Grooms (Tullahoma Soap Box Derby Masters Division Champion) for their participation in the 2008 All-American World Championship Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio. All three recipients were in attendance to receive the proclamations and express appreciation to their family, sponsors, the City of Athens, and Recreation Director Austin Fesmire.

- 4 -
PRESENTATION OF VIVID AWARD

Mayor Proffitt presented the Very Important Volunteer Individual Award for the month of August 2008 to Phil Grooms. Mr. Grooms was recognized for his significant volunteer service to the community. He was specifically recognized for his involvement with the Soap Box Derby, Boy Scouts, Pinewood Derby and dedication to picking up litter and keeping his section of Athens clean.
MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Proffitt recognized Austin Fesmire, Parks & Recreation Director, for his dedication and effort displayed on behalf of the families and competitors of the 71st All-American Soap Box Derby World Championship. He also acknowledged receipt of letters from Emily Grater to City Manager Moore, Mayor Proffitt, and the City of Athens for a box of items from the City of Athens to take to Unzen, Japan to present to the Board of Education, students, teacher and staff. Ms. Grater will be participating in the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

AUDIENCE

Mayor Proffitt opened the meeting for petitions and requests from the audience. Ms. Wendolyn Rogers, 321 Pike Street #330, addressed the Council regarding problems at the Forrest Hills Apartments including drugs, working on cars, heavy flow of people coming in and out of the complex at all hours, and loud music. Ms. Rogers was very concerned for the safety of the children and asked that something be done to address these problems even if it was to have more police patrolling the area. Copies of reports and letters concerning these problems were distributed to the City Council. Mayor Proffitt requested that the City Manager and Police Chief look into this matter and report back to the Council. Mr. Richard Swafford, 102 Cherry Street, asked the City Council to consider widening Cherry Street as the street, in his opinion, is too narrow for two way traffic and cars are going onto private property to pass. Mr. Swafford also stated that residents would like to have their mailboxes moved from the circle drive/loop on Slack Road to Cherry Street. Petitions for street widening and relocation of mailboxes were presented to the recording clerk. Mayor Proffitt requested that this item be referred to the September 8, 2008 work session for further discussion.

6:35 P.M. ............................................... The Athens City Council recessed and reconvened as the Athens Beer Board

BEER BOARD

BEER APPLICATION – ANGELA’S CAFE, 217 EAST WASHINGTON AVENUE

An application for a Restaurant Beer Permit at Angela’s Cafe, 217 East Washington Avenue, was presented for consideration. After brief discussion and comments, motion was made by Vice Mayor Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Pelley, to approve the beer application as submitted. Upon roll call, the motion was approved by the following vote.

AYES:....................................... Buttram, Pelley, Perkinson, Proffitt
NAYS:....................................... None
ABSENT:.................................. Alvey

6:38 P.M. ............................................... The Athens City Council adjourned and reconvened as the Athens City Council
FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Brad Harris, Finance Director, presented the Finance Department Report for the month of July 2008. After brief discussion and comments, the report was accepted as presented.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Chuck Ziegler presented the Police Department Report for the month of July 2008. After brief discussion and comments, the report was accepted as presented.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Bob Miller presented the Fire Department Report for the month of July 2008. After brief discussion and comments, the report was accepted as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Proffitt 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:

1.) Approve Medical Insurance Proposal as submitted by *United Heathcare* for year beginning September 1, 2008;

2.) Approve Life Insurance Proposal as submitted by *Unum Life Insurance* for year beginning September 1, 2008;

3.) Accept bids (Bid No. 1483 dated July 22, 2008) as submitted by both Rogers Group, Inc. and APAC for *asphalt paving materials*;

4.) Accept low bid (Bid No. 1484 dated August 4, 2008) as submitted by D & W Environmental of Knoxville for *refuse containers*.

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

AYES: Buttram, Pelley, Perkinson, Proffitt

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alvey
ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 971 – SECOND READING – PUBLIC HEARING

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1 OF TITLE 20, SECTION 20-102, OF THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE, ENTITLED ‘CITY CEMETERIES,’ BY AMENDING THE PRICE OF LOTS AND GRAVE OPENINGS.”

Upon the reading of the caption by the recording clerk, Mayor Proffitt opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 971. There being no one present wishing to discuss the Ordinance, Public Hearing was closed. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Buttram, to approve Ordinance No. 971 on Second and Final Reading, and upon roll call, Ordinance No. 971 was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Buttram, Pelley, Perkinson, Proffitt
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Alvey

OLD BUSINESS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT – COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mayor Proffitt suggested, since Council Member Alvey was not able to attend the August meeting, this item be postponed until the September 16, 2008 City Council meeting to allow Council Member Alvey the opportunity to make her appointment to the Council Advisory Committee. He noted that the Council Advisory Committee would not meet until October 20, 2008 and postponing this item until September should not be a problem. The postponement was approved by unanimous consent.

MANAGER’S REPORT

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

JOHN M. PROFFITT, Mayor

MITCHELL B. MOORE, City Manager