

MINUTES OF MEETING, ATHENS CITY COUNCIL, DECEMBER 21, 2010

The Athens City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, December 21, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Buttram presiding. The invocation was given by Vice Mayor Perkinson; and upon roll call, the following members were present:

Davis, Pelley, Perkinson, Buttram

*Council Member Jackson was out-of-town and did not attend 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 November 16, 2010 were submitted and approved by unanimous consent.

- 2 -  
COMMUNICATIONS

PRESENTATION OF VIVID AWARD

Council Member Davis presented the *Very Important Volunteer Individual Award* for the month of December 2010 to Esther Cruz for her outstanding support of this community. Ms. Cruz was present to accept the award.

- 3 -

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Buttram acknowledged receipt of a letter of appreciation from Helen Hyatt for services performed by the Athens Fire Department honoring Fallen Soldier, Spc. Nathan Lillard.

- 4 -  
PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

AUDIENCE

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

- 5 -

REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Brad Harris, Finance Director, presented the Finance Department Report for the month of November 2010. After brief comments, the report was accepted as presented.

- 6 -

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Chuck Ziegler presented the Police Department Report for the month of November 2010. After brief comments, the report was accepted as presented.

- 7 -

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Jim Dyer presented the Fire Department Report for the month of November 2010. After brief 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 Resolution No. 2010-29 authorizing the distribution of Athens Utilities Board's electrical in lieu of tax payments for fiscal year 2010/11;
- b.) Approve Resolution No. 2010-30 authorizing the distribution of Athens Utilities Board's gas in lieu of tax payments for fiscal year 2010/11;
- c.) Approve Athens City Board of Education Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2010/11;
- d.) Appoint Charles Clark to fill vacancy on Board of Adjustments and Appeals, term expires June 3, 2013;
- e.) Reappoint Allan Gentry to the International Relations Committee, term expires January 20, 2014;
- f.) Reappoint Stephanie Huskey to the International Relations Committee, term expires January 20, 2014;
- g.) Accept resignation by Dr. J. Dale Kennedy from the Board of Zoning Appeals, term expires June 30, 2014;

- h.) Accept resignation by Becky Simpson from the International Relations Committee, term expires January 20, 2011.

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

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

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NEW BUSINESS

RECOMMENDATION FROM ARPC – DENY REQUEST FOR DE-ANNEXATION

Mayor Buttram presented Minutes of the Athens Regional Planning Commission, meeting in regular session on December 6, 2010, unanimously recommending that City Council deny the request for de-annexation of the property located on County Road 378.

**Motion was made by Council Member Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Perkinson, to deny the request for de-annexation of the property located on County Road 378 as recommended by the Athens Regional Planning Commission.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

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MUNICIPAL CODE CODIFICATION

Mayor Buttram presented a resolution to request the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) codify and revise the ordinances of the City of Athens, Tennessee at the earliest possible date.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-31**

**“A RESOLUTION TO OFFICIALLY REQUEST RECODIFICATION OF THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL CODE.”**

The caption of the above-described Resolution was read by the recording clerk. **Motion was made by Vice Mayor Perkinson, seconded by Council Member Pelley, to approve Resolution No. 2010-31 as presented.** Upon roll call, the resolution was approved by the following vote:

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

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BONUSES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

**A motion was made by Council Member Pelley that each hourly employee receive a 2% bonus for the year 2010 and all department heads and salaried persons be given a \$100 bonus. This would be a onetime bonus and all taxes be paid by the city.** The motion died for lack of a second. Council Member Pelley stated that the employees deserve a bonus and before the end of the year. Mayor Buttram commented that the Council had not had an opportunity to review the City's financial condition and he believed it would be prudent to have more information on the finances before making a decision. Council Member Pelley stated that the City had \$3.75 million in the capital improvements fund and if they could spend \$450,000 on a piece of property then they could spend \$150,000 on the employees. Vice Mayor Perkinson commented that it had been a tough year and the negative effects of this recession are projected to escalate. He noted that the City had not closed on the property and had not spent the \$450,000 nor had the City spend the \$1.125 million for the Mt. Verd sewer project. After a brief discussion, Mayor Buttram asked City Manager Moore to place this item on the January Work Session agenda.

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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 December and January. 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 6:42 p.m.

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R. HAL BUTTRAM, Mayor

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MITCHELL B. MOORE, City Manager