

## Meeting Minutes

July 2, 2018

5:00 p.m.

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater met in their regular monthly meeting on Monday, July 2, 2018 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Lowe called the meeting to order with Commissioners present being Lamar Hughes, Sam Moser, Edward Lee, and Billy G. West. Commissioner Bill W. Stockton was absent due to a medical procedure. A quorum was present. Commissioner West led an invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Guest Tulli Cole.

Commissioner West moved to approve the minutes from the monthly meeting of June 4, 2018 and the workshop of June 25, 2018. Commissioner Moser seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Mayor Lowe tabled the distributions for the month of June, 2018 pending closing of the fiscal year.

A public hearing was opened to take comment on Ordinance No. 965 entitled An Ordinance to amend the zoning map of the City of Sweetwater by rezoning parcel 43.22 of Monroe County tax map 023 from R-2 to C-3. No written or oral comments were given. The public hearing was closed at 5:03 p.m.

Visitor Jim Stutts, Chairman of the Sweetwater Main Street board was present to address the board. He thanked the Mayor and Board of Commissioners, both individually and as a board for their support of the Main Street program. He noted the state was concerned initially with the organizational structure proposed combining the City of Sweetwater and the Sweetwater Merchants and Property Owners Association, which Mayor Lowe started when he was elected. He stated the state now uses Sweetwater as a reference for other programs and is very happy with our progress. He wanted to publicly thank the city board for the work downtown, particularly Commissioner West for the public improvements downtown. He added that the city's partnership and support of downtown was unusual among Main Street communities and he just wanted to thank the city from both the main street board and the merchants of downtown.

Mayor Lowe moved on to Old Business where Commissioner Moser moved to approve Ordinance No. 965 entitled An Ordinance to amend the zoning map of the City of Sweetwater by rezoning parcel 43.22 of Monroe County tax map 023 from R-2 to C-3 on second and final reading. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Lee, and West. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

In New Business, Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the Resolution to name the Sweetwater Interstate Bridge "Clinton Riddle Bridge", with Commissioner West seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

**Resolution to name a portion of Highway 68 “Clinton Riddle Bridge”**

WHEREAS, the City of Sweetwater has seen fit to honor certain individuals whose efforts made Sweetwater a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, Clinton Riddle, has generously given of himself throughout his life for the betterment and prosperity of the citizens of the City of Sweetwater and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Clinton Riddle has served in Italy, France, Africa in Company B324th Glider Infantry of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division during WWII, surviving the Battle of the Bulge, to return to honor his fallen comrades at the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Clinton Riddle survived crashing behind enemy lines in Normandy, and his heroic career in military service was followed by a lifetime of service to his family, community, and church; and

WHEREAS, Clinton Riddle has been established as a Hometown Hero, serving many times as a parade marshall, speaker, community leader, mentor, and friend; ensuring the legacy of those who protected our freedoms; and

WHEREAS, the leaders and citizens of Sweetwater are grateful to Mr. Riddle for his many selfless contributions to our nation and wish to recognize his achievements; now, therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SWEETWATER, TENNESEEE,

That the section of State Highway 68 from the intersection of Murray’s Chapel Road to the intersection of Telford Drive, which is the overpass of Interstate 75 at Exit 60, is hereby designated “Clinton Riddle Bridge” in honor of his service to the City of Sweetwater, State of Tennessee, and the United States of America.

IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Tennessee House of Representatives and Tennessee Senate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Recorder

Commissioner Moser moved to close CDBG account at Simmons Bank and add the proceeds to a reserved account for CDBG eligible expenditures, per the recommendation of the City Recorder. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner West moved to approve the promotion of Justin White to full time patrol officer, with Commissioner Hughes seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Lee moved to approve the promotion of Hunter Raby to full time Fire fighter, with Commissioner West seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve the application specific to Wine in Grocery Stores, with Commissioner Hughes seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Lee moved to approve Ordinance No. 966 to amend the budget for the year ending June 30, 2018 on first reading. Commissioner West seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Lee, and West. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Lee moved to appoint Brent Hickey to a term expiring 7/1/21. Commissioner West seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner West moved to appoint Richard Collette to the Sweetwater Utilities Board with a term expiring 6/30/22. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve the Mayor's appointment of Jason Dacus and David Vestal to the Economic and Community Development Board with terms expiring

7/1/2022. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve Jerry Richesin to serve on the planning commission with a term expiring 6/30/25. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Hughes moved to appoint Lucinda Wayman, Kim Harvey, and Jason Upton to the Parks and Recreation Commission, with Commissioner Lee seconding the motion. Commissioner West recused himself from voting, stating that while all three appointees make excellent commissioners, he would not vote on the matter as Jason Upton was his grandson. Commissioners Hughes, Moser, and Lee voted in favor, with Commissioner West abstaining. None opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner West moved to approve Dan Harvey, Kenny Archer, and Keith Shope to continue on the Health, Education, and Housing Facility Board, with Commissioner Hughes seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to appoint Marty Allen, Jason Dacus, and Doug Watson to the Industrial Development Board, with terms expiring 7/1/24. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to reappoint Mary Chappell Crabtree and Jean Curtiss to the Historic Zoning Commission, with terms expiring 6/30/22. Commissioner West seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner West moved to reappoint Virgil Wyrick and Joyce Newman to the Sweetwater Heritage Museum Board, with Commissioner Hughes seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to appoint Randy McCool to the Building Codes Board of Review with a term expiring 6/30/21. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve the Resolution to meet national objectives to eliminate or prevent slum and blight and voiced support for the Main Street Façade grant application. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

## **RESOLUTION**

### **A RESOLUTION FOR DOWNTOWN SWEETWATER TO MEET NATIONAL OBJECTIVES TO ELIMINATE**

**OR PREVENT SLUM AND BLIGHT**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Sweetwater, and property and business owners, have invested in the improvement of downtown Sweetwater; and,

**WHEREAS**, some structures within the downtown district are in need of renovations to improve public safety, welfare, and economic development; and,

**WHEREAS**, some buildings within the downtown district have experienced chronic turnover and/or high vacancy rates; and,

**WHEREAS**, *Tennessee Code Annotated* Title 13, Chapter 21 declares that slum or blighted areas are so called by reason of dilapidation, obsolence, or are detrimental to the safety, health, morals, or welfare of the community; and,

**WHEREAS**, The City of Sweetwater wishes to serve the citizens of Sweetwater through plans for economic development and improvements in our downtown business district; and,

**WHEREAS**, The City of Sweetwater would like to provide property owners with opportunities to improve their buildings through grants and other resources;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City of Sweetwater, Tennessee:

**Section 1.** That at least 25% of properties within downtown are experiencing physical deterioration of building improvements, abandonment or chronic high turnover/vacancy rates.

**Section 2.** The area of need is described as the properties located inside the Main Street district, running along the east side of Main Street and the west side of Main Street from 306 S. Main Street to Biggs Street and including the properties along Oak Street and Railroad, as defined by the attached map.

**Section 3.** This resolution shall be effective from and after its adoption.

Resolution Adopted: July 2, 2018

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Recorder

The Main Street façade grant timeline and application was reviewed. A Public meeting was held, with Mayor Lowe opening the floor for public comment regarding the grant and any questions about the application process. Sonya Crush stated she has enjoyed watching the downtown improve through our previous grants. She commended the board, stating it was a good thing that the city supported the Main

Street district and also thanked the board for the opportunity in assisting with the administration of those grants. Jim Stutts commented he appreciated the Recorder sending the application out to everyone in the Main Street district and pointed out the funds could be spread into multiple smaller projects. He stated he thought this was an excellent program and thanked the city for applying. Judy Hughes commented that Sweetwater is a great place to live and if the board had not paid attention to the downtown, many of the stores could have closed or disappeared so she felt the city had done a good job in keeping downtown healthy. Chuck Whited stated he was forwarding a comment from Elain Archer of the Historic Zoning Commission- She appreciates the opportunity to work with business owners to preserve the historical integrity of downtown. She appreciates the effort the board puts out to make downtown a showplace. Richard Kirkland, Monroe County Economic and Community Development Director, commented that it was a pleasure to see the improvements in downtown which brought in new life and tourism to our area and felt this was a great community project. Tania Rich, Library Director noted that in her time here she thought there was a great improvement and that Main Street was doing a great job. Mayor Lowe thanked everyone for their comments and requested they sign in for grant documentation.

Commissioner Edward Lee recognized Mr. Glen Crowden, who was retiring from the Sweetwater Fire Department. He thanked Glen for his dedication and noted that everyone would miss working with him.

Mayor Lowe introduced guest Carl Lansden, who was running for State Senate in our district. Mr. Lansden complimented our beautiful city and stated his primary issues in his platform was the negative effect of removing the Hall income tax and the number of uninsured Tennesseans. He requested those present consider voting for him.

Richard Kirkland, Director of Economic Development for Monroe County announced he had been very busy with visits from prospective industries since his appointment and he felt Sweetwater was a hotbed. He looked forward to landing some of the prospects in order to create high-paying jobs for our students in the county.

Mayor Lowe invited everyone to attend the annual Independence Day Celebration on Wednesday and thanked all the departments for their work on the event. He also thanked the many sponsors.

No further action was taken.  
The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.  
This the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2018.

---

Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Recorder