

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2024

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater Tennessee met in a called meeting and monthly workshop session on Monday, March 25, 2024 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Doyle F. Lowe called the meeting to order with Commissioners present being: Lamar Hughes, Sam Moser, Alan Richeson, JoAnna Jinks, and James H. Stutts. City Attorney John W. Cleveland was present.

No one was present to make a public comment. In the called meeting, Mayor Lowe opened the single bid received for new Street trucks from Jacky Jones Ford. The bid included a price of \$54,305 for a new F-350 4 x 4 truck and a price of \$64,393 for a new F-350 4 x 4 Chassis with Dump Bed and Snow Plow Package. Commissioner Jinks moved to approve the bid and purchase. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed. The motion was carried.

In the workshop session, the board reviewed the latest copy of the Employee Handbook draft. City Attorney John Cleveland reported back on the proposed drug policy, recommending that the board adopt the MTAS model which amends pre-employment and random drug testing to be performed only on employees classified as safety sensitive. Commissioner Stutts also requested a review on the harassment policy language to see what the Sweetwater Utilities Board or Board of Education policies include and if clarification on whether those employees are excluded from our policy is needed.

Commissioner Jinks reviewed options to secure the garage and dump sites to prevent people from dumping garbage at these sites. She recommended a remote-controlled gate be installed at each location and provided quotes to the board. The item was added to the April 1 agenda.

Jill Alliman with the Sweetwater Tree Board was present to request the board consider amending the code to require M-1 and M-2 to be included to some degree in the landscaping ordinances. She requested an ordinance to add landscaping islands and trees in the employee, office, and visitor parking areas. City Attorney John Cleveland advised he could prepare a draft for the April meeting.

The board reviewed the draft of the Capital Improvement Plan for 2025-2029.

Mayor Lowe reviewed the April agenda. There would be a bid opening for the Main Street grant project for one of the business façade improvements. City Recorder Jessica Morgan also reviewed the greenspace upgrades which would involve a landscape architect's drawing and survey and a recommendation for plantings, paths, and borders as well as work for upgrading the fountain. The first draft of the city's upcoming budget would be presented at that meeting as well.

No further action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

This the 25th day of March, 2024.

Mayor

Attest: _____

Recorder