

**JOURNAL AND PROCEEDINGS
MURFREESBORO CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 13, 2023**

The Murfreesboro City Council met in a regular scheduled meeting Monday, February 13, 2023, at the Murfreesboro City Hall. Mayor Jim O'Neal called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Terry Chapman, from the Murfreesboro First United Methodist Church led the council in prayer.

Recorder/Treasurer Lamb called the roll. All council members were present.

The minutes from the Regular Meeting held on January 9, 2022, and the Special Meeting held on January 23, 2023, were presented to the Council. Member Barnes made a motion to accept the minutes as given and Member O'Neal made the second. The roll call vote approved the minutes.

The Treasurer's report was presented to the Council. Member Gills made the motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Member Barnes made the second. The roll call vote approved the motion unanimously.

Financial, written, and/or verbal reports were given for the Parks Commission, Waterworks Commission, Advertising & Tourism Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission and Animal Control.

Mayor O'Neal informed the council that Kyle Armstrong of South Central Arkansas Electric will be providing the six light poles for the baseball field at the Murfreesboro City Park. South Pike County schools has applied for a grant to help with the lighting expense.

Mayor O'Neal informed the council that Ricky Branch has agreed to resume the role of Inspector for the Planning and Zoning Commission. He will receive \$500.00 per month for his services.

Mayor O'Neal presented a TIPS quote for weather sirens from Goddard Enterprises. The quote (\$133,850.26) includes purchase and installation of three (3) weather sirens within the city limits of Murfreesboro. TIPS is a national organization that provides the service of the bidding process, so cities do not have to.

Mayor O'Neal gave an update on the ongoing grant projects for the city. A. L. Franks Engineering has been hired as the engineer for the drainage ditch project. Beginning stages of the project have begun and should be complete by fall. The survey process is still ongoing for the sidewalk project but is expected to complete in the fall as well.

Mayor O'Neal presented a quote from Central Laundry Equipment of Ward, AR for a washer-extractor for the fire department. A.C.A. Annotated Code § 14-58-303 allows for purchases under \$35,000 without bidding. A.C.A. Annotated Code §26-52-452 states that the purchase of the washer-extractor is exempt from sales tax. The estimated cost is \$22,500 for the pair. The

quote will be reissued to include the dryer. Member Gills made the motion to approve purchase. Member Bachmann made the second. The roll call vote was unanimous.

DeeDee McCauley from the AR Foundation for Medical Care made a presentation regarding community sources for assistance with utilities, food etc. The assistance is aimed at helping families of drug abusers under the age of eighteen.

Mayor O'Neal informed the council of his intention to place security cameras in strategic areas on city properties. This action stems directly from the break in at the municipal building community room in recent weeks. The mayor has asked a Nashville, AR based business to provide a quote on the camera systems.


Mayor O'Neal requested the council's approval on a quote from Whatley Sign Company to remove the Water Department information from the outdoor sign. Member Fugitt made the motion to approve the expense. Member Stone made the second. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mayor O'Neal presented a plan to provide public restrooms on the square. Contractor Ricky Branch drew a rough design of adding bathrooms to the existing pavilion at the City Service Building. The mayor asked for approval to move forward with exploring the plan and all the facets involved. Although no vote was taken, the council gave general consent.

A round table discussion was held after the agenda items. Mayor O'Neal reminded the council about the Chamber of Commerce Banquet on March 2, 2023. The mayor also informed the council of an economic development 5-year plan meeting with Steve Harvill on February 23, 2023. Member Barnes expressed an interest in having a food box placed in front of City Hall for the members of the community who may be in need. There were no other items to be brought to the attention of Mayor O'Neal or the council.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Date approved: 3/13/23


Jim O'Neal, Mayor


Penny Lamb, Recorder/Treasurer