

**JOURNAL AND PROCEEDINGS
MURFREESBORO CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 10, 2023**

The Murfreesboro City Council met in a regular scheduled meeting Monday, April 10, 2023, at the Murfreesboro City Hall. Mayor Jim O'Neal called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Buddy Ray from the Murfreesboro Church of Christ led the council in prayer.

Recorder/Treasurer Lamb called the roll. Member Stone was absent. All other council members were present.

The minutes from the Regular Meeting held on March 13, 2022, were presented to the Council. Member Barnes made a motion to accept the minutes as given and Member Gills 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 the poles and lights for the baseball field at the Murfreesboro City Park have been delivered and assembled. South Central Arkansas Electric Company will be setting the poles as soon as possible.

Ordinance 2023-2 entitled An Ordinance Permitting the City of Murfreesboro, Pike County, Arkansas to Purchase Services from an Official, Directly or Indirectly, Pursuant to A.C.A. §14-42-107 was introduced to the council. The purpose of the ordinance is to allow Council Member Jane Fugitt to be employed by the Murfreesboro Advertising and Tourism Commission. A motion to introduce was made by Member Barnes. Member Bachmann made the second. The motion passed unanimously. Member Barnes made a motion to suspend the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance No. 2023-2. Member Bachmann made the second. The motion passed unanimously. Member Barnes made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-2. Member Bachmann made the second. The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2023-3 entitled An Ordinance Permitting the City of Murfreesboro, Pike County, Arkansas, to Make Purchases from a Business Owned by a City Employee, Directly or Indirectly, Pursuant to A.C.A. §14-42-107 was introduced to the council. The purpose of the ordinance is to allow the city to do business with Branch Construction LLC. which is owned by Richard D. Branch (AKA Ricky Branch). Mr. Branch is an employee of the Murfreesboro City Planning Commission. A motion to introduce was made by Member Fugitt. Member Barnes made the second. Member Bachmann abstained from the vote. All the other council voted in favor. The motion passed 4-0. Member Gills made a motion to suspend the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance No. 2023-3. Member Barnes made the second. Member Bachmann abstained from

the vote. All the other council voted in favor. The motion passed 4-0. Member Barnes made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-3. Member Gills made the second. Member Bachmann abstained from the vote. All the other council voted in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

Bids for public bathrooms were accepted until April 5, 2023. Only one bid was received, from Branch Construction LLC. The bid was presented to the council to discuss. Member Barnes made a motion to table the discussion. Member O'Neal made the second. The motion passed unanimously.


Ordinance No. 175 of 1992 was presented to the council for review. The ordinance allows for the city to collect a 5% tax on alcohol sales at the private clubs located within the city of Murfreesboro. State law allows the city to collect up to half of the amount charged by the state for permitting fees and alcohol sales. General discussion by the council was held. No action was taken. No changes will be made to Ordinance No. 175 at this time.

Mayor O'Neal informed the council that exit conferences were held for the 2021 audit. We have not received the final result, but everything appears to be in order.

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 6:56 p.m.

Date approved: 5/8/23



Jim O'Neal, Mayor



Penny Lamb, Recorder/Treasurer