



City Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 6:00 PM

The Tom Hardin Room – 100 Public Square, Mount Pleasant, TN

1. Call to Order

Mayor White called the meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation

Commissioner Knowles led the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner Johnston gave the invocation.

3. Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Bill White
Commissioner Pam Johnston
Commissioner Mike Davis
Commissioner Willie Alderson
Commissioner Lorie Knowles

Mayor stated we have a guest here tonight. Mr. Chris Cummins who is the Fire Chief for the City of Columbia. He is here tonight instead of going to the County meeting to fulfill his obligation for Maury Alliance where you have to attend a meeting. He thanked him for choosing Mt. Pleasant. Chris was born and raised here.

4. Approval / Correction of Minutes from Prior Meetings

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston, Seconded by Commissioner Alderson.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Alderson, Commissioner Knowles

A. Study Session - December 12, 2024

Mayor White asked for approval of the minutes from the Study Session meeting on December 12, 2024.

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston to approve the Study Session minutes from December 12, 2024. Seconded by Vice-Mayor Alderson. All were in favor. Motion passed.

B. Regular Meeting - December 17, 2024

Mayor White asked for approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting on December 17, 2024.

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from December 17, 2024. Seconded by Vice-Mayor Alderson. All were in favor. Motion passed.

5. Awards/Presentations/Appointments

A. Mayor's Appointments

1. Mount Pleasant Beer Board
2. Mount Pleasant Recreation Commission

Mayor White reappointed to the Mount Pleasant Beer Board Jimmy Hines, David Workman and Jay Smith. These are done annually.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to reappoint the three current Mount Pleasant Beer Board members, Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Alderson, Commissioner Knowles. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Mayor White appointed Ms. Katrina Holt to the Mount Pleasant Recreation Commission. She was recommended by Mr. Larry Patton at the Recreation Meeting. He stated he would like to see her on the board. She is a young lady that lives here in town and has children that are involved in the community, and she would like to be a part of this board.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Mayor White to appoint Katrina Holt to the Mount Pleasant Recreation Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles. All were in favor. Motion passed.

6. Completion / Review of Unfinished Business from prior meeting

There was no unfinished business.

7. Monthly report from Mayor

Mayor White stated he is going to let Vice Mayor Alderson speak on this. He stated he spoke to Al Kerstiens, the head of our Power System, this afternoon and he stated that TVA is requesting from 5:00 am in the morning until 1:00 pm tomorrow afternoon that everyone conserve all the power that they can.

Vice Mayor Alderson stated just to save on energy to help TVA out. If everybody will do their part maybe we will not have any blackouts.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

8. Monthly Financial / Budget report

Mrs. Cox presented the monthly financial and budget report.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to approve the monthly financial report and budget report, Seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Alderson, Commissioner Knowles. All were in favor. Motion passed.

9. Monthly report from City Manager

Mr. Grooms presented his report with updates on all the projects going on now.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

10. Special reports from other City Departments or Committees if applicable

A. Wastewater Liaison Report - Barge Design Monthly Report

Mr. Grooms highlighted the monthly report from Barge Design.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

B. Mount Pleasant Gas System Report

Mr. Grooms stated they have spent a lot of time discussing the Gas System lately and he gave a report on the highlights of those discussions.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

11. New Business

(Comments from citizens may or may not be included, dependent on the issues.)

A. Ordinance 2025-1129 - An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2024-1125 said ordinance appropriating the revenues and expenses of operating and maintaining the departmental functions of the City of Mount Pleasant, Tennessee for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025; providing an effective date.

Mrs. Cox discussed Ordinance 2025-1129 on first reading, amending Ordinance 2024-1125 for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to approve Ordinance 2025-1129 on first reading. Seconded by Commissioner Knowles.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles. All were in favor. Motion passed.

B. Ordinance 2025-1130 - An Ordinance Amending Title 14, Zoning and Land Use Control, Chapter 2, Zoning Ordinance, of the Mount Pleasant Municipal Code, the same being the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Mount Pleasant, Tennessee, including the Municipal Zoning Map incorporated therein by rezoning a property from Light Industrial (IL) to High Density Residential (R-3). Approved Rezone - Magnolia Drive

Mrs. Jones stated the purpose of this ordinance is to rezone property on Magnolia Drive from Light Industrial to High Density Residential. The Planning Commission held a public hearing and then recommended this rezone. The Planning Commission found that this location would support the zoning of high density residential because adjacent lots are already zoned R3 and Light Industrial, so they are equal to or greater zoning. For those reasons there will not be an adverse effect on adjoining landowners. The Planning Commission passed a resolution with the worksheet and comments from their meeting attached, which will be in your packet. She has a highlighted section in their draft that was in their packets they gave them the option to go ahead like they normally do and go through the factors, or they can do the worksheet. The worksheet has been adopted by the Planning Commission. She loves it and they will have that choice at the next meeting. There will be a public hearing on the second reading.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Davis to approve Ordinance 2025-1130 on first reading. Seconded by Vice Mayor Alderson.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- C. Resolution 2025-1 - A Resolution by the City of Mount Pleasant, Tennessee declaring certain City of Mount Pleasant inventory as surplus property and authorizing the sale of this surplus property.

Mrs. Jones stated the purpose of this resolution is to declare 2 Dodge Chargers and a 2008 Ford F150 as surplus property. If declared surplus, the City Manager will sell this property on Govedeals.com. The proceeds will be sale of the Dodge Chargers will go to the General Fund. The proceeds from the sale of the Ford F150 will go to the Gas Fund.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to approve Resolution 2025-1 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- D. Resolution 2025-2 - A Resolution to apply for USDA Funding.

Mrs. Jones you all have decided to purchase a third Skid for the water treatment plant's filtration system at the Darrell Dean Water Plant. This is the skid project; the total cost is estimated to be \$3-3.5 million. The City planned to do a borrowing for this project, but USDA expects to be able to offer a grant to cover a portion of the project cost. We do not know the exact amount of the project or the breakdown of grant v. loan at this time, but we expect the grant amount to be around 25%. The purpose of this resolution is to authorize the City to apply for USDA Water and Environmental Loan/Grant Program. There are no matching funds. This relates to Resolution 2024-23 where you entered into a contract with CEC Engineering.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston to accept Resolution 2025-2 as presented, Seconded by Vice Mayor Alderson.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- E. Resolution 2025-3 - A Resolution for Skid - CEC - Rickey Oakley

Mrs. Jones stated the purpose of this Resolution is to approve an Authorization for Additional Services with CEC. It will authorize an additional scope of services and an additional \$30,000 to the engineering agreement between the City and CEC Engineering. The additional funding will be used by CEC to prepare a preliminary engineering report and an environmental study that is required by USDA as part of the grant project discussed by Resolution 2025-2. The Authorization for Additional Services is attached as an exhibit. The general terms of the engineering agreement that was previously approved will still apply to this work.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Davis. Seconded by Vice Mayor Alderson.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles. All were in favor. Motion passed.

F. Audit Approval

Mrs. Cox stated the auditor presented the report on Thursday at the Study Session. She asked if anyone had any questions about the audit.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson, Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles. All were in favor. Motion passed.

G. Approve bid for East Merchant Street Repairs

Mr. Grooms stated we did not receive any bids. We feel like this was due to the holidays. We are rebidding and hoping to have this in front of you next month.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

H. Downtown Project Change Order

Mr. Grooms stated they do have this in their packets, and he discussed in further detail for them.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to approve the change order for the Downtown Project, Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles. All were in favor. Motion passed.

I. CT Form for Police & Fire Departments Vehicle Leases

Mrs. Jones stated the City incurred debt to finance the purchase of the police and fire vehicles. This form acknowledges that the City took out debt. This is not a voting item it's just for informational purposes that we have in the minutes that we presented this form and have submitted the debt.

Commissioner discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

12. General comments from citizens (May be limited in time and/or number of comments.)

There were no citizen comments.

13. Board / Staff Comments / Adjournment

Mayor White asked for any comments from Board or Staff.

Mrs. Knowles stated she had talked to Phillip earlier about the texts the City sends out and he informed her he is having a meeting with that group tomorrow so she will just wait.

Mr. Grooms stated he would follow up with that. We all received the same email about our text system and what we are using it for. He does have a meeting at 1:00 pm with the staff that is involved with sending those out. We will create a policy and send it to you. We can put on the agenda for your approval if we need to.

Mrs. Knowles stated the only other concern she had to bring up, and it was solved through Chief Hay and Phillip, it was the gunshots inside the City limits. She had a couple of calls because people were really upset because it was about 5:30 or 6:00 in the morning.

Commissioner stated he appreciates all the employees and with it being this time of year and being so cold for all the ones who work outside.

Mrs. Alderson stated we have a new business. Mt. Pleasant Super Buys at 107 Boswell Street, they have some unique stuff in there.

Commissioner discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Davis, Seconded by Commissioner Johnston to adjourn.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Commissioner Johnston, Commissioner Davis, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Knowles