

MINUTES: CITY OF DECHERD BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
DECHERD, TENNESSEE
JANUARY 13, 2020

The City of Decherd Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session, January 13, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Hall Council Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT: VICE MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS
CITY ADMINISTRATOR REX CLARK

MEMBERS ABSENT: MAYOR MICHAEL GILLESPIE
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Doney, Bryan Justus (HC), Danita Slatten, Eric Bradford, Jerre Hood, Al Tipps (WCDT)

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley called the meeting to order with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Decherd Board of Mayor & Aldermen dated December 9, 2019, 2019 was reviewed. Motion made by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders and Second by Alderman Pam Arnold to approve Minutes as printed.

Motion Passed Unanimously 3 – 0

Financial Report for December 2019. Motion to accept made by Alderman Pam Arnold and second by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders.

Motion Passed Unanimously 3 - 0

Department reports for the Police and Fire, Building Report given by Codes Director Dennis Doney and Water report given by the Water Superintendent Eric Bradford, Department reports were reviewed for the month of December 2019.

Motion to accept Department Reports by Alderman Pam Arnold. and second by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders

Motion Passed Unanimously 3 – 0

1. Second reading Ordinance # 424, An ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF DECHERD, TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 14-204(2). THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF DECHERD, TENNESSEE TO SET THE ZONING FOR A PARCEL OF LAND. HEREIN DISCRIBED FROM CITY OF DECHERD ZONING R-1 (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO CITY OF DECHERD ZONING C – 2 HIGHWAY SERVICE DISTRICT.

Alderman Pam Arnold made motion to pass n first reading Ordinance # 424 and seconded by Vice Mayor Richard Gulley.

Roll Call: VICE MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY - AYE
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - AYE
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT - ABSENT
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - AYE

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 3 – 0

2. **First reading Ordinance # 425**, An ordinance to amend the Decherd Municipal Code **TITLE 14 SECTION 210, 14-302 (3), parts of 14-302 (6), 14-302 (12), 14-402 (1) (m), 14-502 (5 (a & b), 14-503 (2) (a &b) TITLE 16 SECTION 104 AND 105.** All of which pertain to signs within the corporate limits of the City of Decherd. This ordinance would delete the above mention sections and add **Chapter 11 to TITLE 14.** This ordinance would replace all sign ordinances and regulations of the Decherd Municipal Code.

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley ask Codes Director Dennis Doney how Ordinance # 425 come about. Codes Director stated that a contractor had requested if we had a sign ordinance. Mayor Michael Gillespie ask if City had one, thought we need one. Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders stated we have it in our odes and state TCA Codes that has been adopted. We don't need no more sign codes. Codes Director Dennis Doney stated the main difference was the use of LED signs. Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders stated it would put too much on City.

Motion to adopt Ordinance # 425 made by Vice Mayor Richard Gulley. Motion dies due to lack of second.

3. Approved the hire of Cynthia Bevel as candidate to become a CMFO.

Brief description of CMFO program given by City Administrator Rex Clark.

Motion to approve Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders second Alderman Pam Arnold.
Motion Passed Unanimously 3 - 0

4. Approved Rex Clark (City Administrator), Eric Bradford (Water Superintendent), and Tom Summers (WTP Manager) as The Drought Management Task Force.

Water Superintendent Eric Bradford stated we have a Drought Management Plan as part of water and distribution operation. The Tennessee Department of Environment Conservation now requires a Drought Management Task Force be appointed and read onto the minutes of a board meeting and be part of that Drought Management Plan. Ask board to approve and read into minutes.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Richard Gulley to approve The Drought Management Task Force second by Alderman Pam Arnold.

Motion Passed Unanimously 3 - 0

5. A discussion and vote by The Board of Mayor and Alderman to submit an application for a Community Transportation Planning Grant.

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated that the grant was for the planning stage of sidewalks and bike trail from North Junior High School to Main Street on to downtown Decherd. TDOT Would pay 90% of the planning cost up to \$125,000 and the City of Decherd would be responsible for the other 10% plus any cost over \$125,000. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley ask what was the Boards desire? Alderman Pam Arnold replied NO. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley replied NO. Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders replied NO. No motion made so dropped.

6. Continued discussion about purchase and warranty for a digital sign board for City Hall.

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated the reason postponed was a question about the warranty. Mayor Michael Gillespie has the information and he is absent.

Motion to postpone action upon the purchase of a digital sign for City Hall made by Vice Mayor Richard Gulley second by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders.

Motion Passed Unanimously 3 - 0

7. Discussed and voted THDA HOME programs.

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated that the program was to get assistance to fix up homes in Decherd. Program requires hiring an administrator and coordinator. The time limit for Decherd to get involved is March 5, 2020. Vice Mayor Gulley ask if we had participated in a program like this before? Codes Director Dennis Doney stated in 2016 Decherd participated in a county program. He stated that we don't have the manpower to implement the grant. Only 6% of grant covers administrative cost and the City would be responsible for any cost over that. Codes Director Dennis Doney continued to explain the program and previous experiences with program.

8. Discussed about Executive Orders.

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated that he didn't think anybody, Mayor or anyone else has authority to make an Executive Order. Investigation into the TCA Code by Attorney Jerre Hood and City Administrator Rex Clark turned up further information. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated that in the past there had been some orders that were called Executive Order but were not. An Executive Order is when the head of the executive branch of an organization can make on his authority a decision and need no other authority unless the board votes it down. What we have had is Mayor done something in a pinch before the City Board could convene. The Mayor then would contact the Alderman about the action. Then the next board meeting the Board would be ask to approve the order. This is not Executive Order it is an emergency action. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated he was in favor of setting up if needed by a resolution or ordinance. Alderman Pam Arnold and Jimmy Wayne Sanders were in agreement.

The floor was opened for Citizens Concerns:

Al Tipps (WCDT) ask for clarification of the location of the property mentioned in Ordinance # 424 (Baker Property) City Codes Director Dennis Doney discussed location.

Mayor's Communications:

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley thanked the Street and Sanitation Superintendent Mike St John and his crew, Public Safety Director Ross Peterson, the Police and Fire Departments, and all the volunteers on another successful Christmas Parade.

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated there being no additional business the meeting was adjourned 7:35 p.m. with Alderman Pam Arnold making motion to adjourn. Second by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders.

Motion Passed Unanimously 3 - 0

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley

Attest: _____
Rex Clark City Administrator