

MINUTES: CITY OF DECHERD BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
DECHERD, TENNESSEE
May 11, 2020

The City of Decherd Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session, Monday, May 11, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Hall Council Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR MICHAEL GILLESPIE
 VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY
 ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD
 ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT
 ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS
 CITY ADMINISTRATOR REX CLARK

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Doney, Ross Peterson, Gina Sims Johnson and son, Jerre M. Hood, Ben Foster (Officer at Arms), Alton Tipps (WCDT radio, who live streamed the meeting), Brian Justice (Herald Chronicle) Persons to speak were admitted at intervals due to closure. Meeting was live streamed on Facebook.

Mayor Michael Gillespie 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 March 9, 2020 was reviewed. Motion to accept was made by Alderman Tammy Holt and Seconded by Alderman Pam Arnold. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY- Aye
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - Aye
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT- Aye
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - Aye

Motion Passed Unanimously 4-0

No Minutes for April as there was no meeting due to the Coronavirus Shutdown.

The Financial Report for the Month of March 2020 was reviewed by the Board. Motion by Alderman Pam Arnold and Seconded by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders to approve this report as indicated. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY- Aye
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - Aye
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT- Aye
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - Aye

Motion Passed Unanimously 4-0

The Financial Report for the Month of April 2020 was reviewed by the Board. Motion by Alderman Pam Arnold and Seconded by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders to approve this report as indicated. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY- Aye
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - Aye
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT- Aye
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - Aye

Motion Passed Unanimously 4-0

Department reports for the Police and Fire were given by Public Safety Director Ross Peterson, Building Inspection Report was given by Codes Director Dennis Doney, and the Water Report was read by Mayor Michael Gillespie. The reports for March and April were reviewed. Motion to accept Department Reports by Vice Mayor Richard Gulley and seconded by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY- Aye
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - Aye
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT- Aye
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - Aye

Motion Passed Unanimously 4-0

1. First Reading of Ordinance #426 was addressed. An Ordinance of the City of Decherd Amending Title 5 of The Municipal Code regarding the municipal procurement code. Discussion began as to why this is needed and the difference between sealed proposals and sealed bids. Discussion continued among the Aldermen and Mayor. Alderman Tammy Holt made the motion to accept on First Reading and Vice Mayor Richard Gulley Seconded the motion with reservations. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY- Aye
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - No
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT- Aye
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - No
MAYOR MICHAEL GILLESPIE – Aye

Motion Passed 3 - 2

2. First reading of Ordinance # 427 was addressed. An Ordinance adopting the amended budget for fiscal year 2019 – 2020. A motion to accept the amended budget was made by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders and seconded by Alderman Tammy Holt. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY- Aye
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - Aye
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT- Aye
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - Aye

Motion Passed Unanimously 4-0

3. First reading of Ordinance # 428 was addressed. An Ordinance for New Budget for fiscal year 2020 – 2021. A small discussion on how the budget submitted came to be. City Administrator stated it was a bare bones budget to allow the Aldermen to make changes during the process. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Richard Gulley to pass on First Reading and Alderman Tammy Holt seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY- Aye
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - Aye
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT- Aye
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - Aye

Motion Passed Unanimously 4-0

4. Abatement of 2019 Personal Property uncollected taxes of closed businesses and vendors that need to be expunged from tax rolls. There are 51 businesses on the abatement report. Discussion followed concerning where the City had means to collect the unpaid taxes on personal property and the City Attorney was asked about this. The abatement of the taxes was deferred to a future date to research options.
5. Approval to retain Winnett Associates as auditors for the physical year 2020/2021 was addressed. Motion to retain Winnett Associates as auditors was made by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders and seconded by Alderman Pam Arnold. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY- Aye
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - Aye
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT- Aye
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - Aye

Motion Passed Unanimously 4-0

6. Approve Emergency Order # 001 to replace James Price, Price IT Concepts with Rob Bennett was addressed. The Mayor opened the floor for discussion. Some of the discussion became slightly argumentative at times but calmed to request a motion to approve or disapprove the Order # 001. At this time the Mayor withdrew the Order making it void. No vote was required.
7. The approval of Baxter Electrical to install electrical service to the new digital sign at a cost of \$3450.00 plus \$ 510.00 to DREMC for the power cable was addressed. A long discussion followed concerning the additional cost to get the sign operating. A motion was made by Alderman Tammy Holt to accept the bid from Baxter Electrical and Vice Mayor Richard Gulley seconded the motion with reservations. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY- Aye
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - No
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT- Aye
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - No
MAYOR MICHAEL GILLESPIE – Aye

Motion Passed 3 - 2

Citizens' Concerns:

Gina Sims Johnson discussed flooding issues, unpaved street, and street light issues. Items were discussed about progress on flooding issues and how the City was addressing the issues at hand.

Cleaning of ditches was brought up by Mrs. Sims Johnson and explained by the Mayor. Other issues were discussed, and Chief Peterson responded.

Mayor's Communications:

Budget workshop on Thursday May 14, 2020 at 2:00 PM announced.

Aldermen's Communications:

None

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Pam Arnold and seconded by Alderman Tammy Holt and a roll call vote taken with the following results:

VICE-MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY- Aye
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - Aye
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT- Aye
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - Aye

Motion Passed Unanimously 4-0

Michael Gillespie, Mayor

Attest: _____
Rex Clark, City Administrator