

Minutes of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen
City of Dyersburg
April 20, 2009

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session on Monday, April 20, 2009 in the municipal courtroom at 7 p.m.

Mayor John Holden presided with all Aldermen present.

The meeting opened with the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag" followed by prayer by Alderman Bart Williams.

The minutes of the April 6, 2009 meeting were approved as written on a motion by Aldermen McCright and Kirk.

Public Hearing – Property Maintenance Code

On a motion by Aldermen Norman and Williams the Board set a public hearing for May 18, 2009 to consider the adoption of a revised property maintenance code.

Mayor Holden announced that a joint meeting of the Finance and Street Committees with review the proposed code at a meeting on April 22, 2009.

City Attorney Invoice

The City Attorney Invoice for March 2009 in the amount of \$5,137.50 was approved on a motion by Aldermen Dudley and Williams.

Bids – Railroad Spur

Purchasing Agent Greg Williams reported to the Board the need to do emergency repairs to the rail spur serving Ermco, Northdown and Quebecor. The railroad has given until May 3rd for the work to be completed. Based on a preliminary estimate the Board authorized Williams to get bids for the emergency repairs and to execute a repair contract not to exceed \$55,000. Failure to complete the work in a timely manner could result in the spur being shut down by Canadian National.

Public Safety Committee

Chairman Bob Kirk reported on the April 8, 2009 meeting. The City Attorney gave an explanation of the animal control ordinance. The Humane Society reported that they impounded 344 pit bulls and euthanized 278 from January 1, 2008 to April 2009. Since December 2006, City Court has heard 46 vicious dog cases with only 4 involving bites.

Mark Grant had reported on the emergency siren system. He proposed: replacing existing electronic boxes with new aluminum or stainless steel boxes; relocate the Route 211 siren to a spot across from Hoff Road; install new sirens at Morgan Road and Community Park Road; the number of sirens increased from 7 to 9.

On a motion by Aldermen Kirk and Williams the Board authorized the use of emergency warning funds in the fiscal year 2009-2010 budget to do maintenance and upgrades to the siren system when the funds become available.

Mr. Benny Spain of the E-911 Board had asked the Committee to consider the location of an E-911 building on one acre at the end of Henry Street adjacent to the water tank. The 25000 square foot building would store the mobile P-SAP and have a conference room.

On a motion by Aldermen Norman and Williams the Board authorized the City Attorney to research the viability of sites and to work out an agreement in the least expensive and most expedited manner.

Finance/Street Committee Report

Chairman Lewis Norman reported on the joint committee meeting of April 16, 2009. Mayor Holden reported that the auction of seized and surplus equipment netted \$58,000. The Mayor stated that the animal control ordinance education campaign includes newspaper articles, website, channel 4 notices and a printed brochure.

The Committee had reviewed the proposed property maintenance code that incorporated all existing code provisions on property maintenance along with an enforcement mechanism. The code will hold offenders responsible and not place the cost of clean up solely on the property owner. The proposal was supported by the Sub-Standard Housing Board and the Weed-Seed Committee.

Committee members had proposed improvements to the proposal. Another review is set for April 22, 2009.

Mayor Holden stated that copies of the proposed code are available at City Hall.

Reports

Alderman Kirk announced that Crime Stoppers will offer a reward for arrest of flower thieves at our cemeteries.

Alderman Williams announced that Saturday April 25 is a community project day with Mission Blitz, Clean Up Dyer County and other efforts. He asked citizens to keep their monthly trash pick up off of the streets and sidewalks.

Alderman Dudley asked that recent tire ruts at Fairview Cemetery be repaired.

Alderman Walker urged new and continued support for Crime Stoppers.

Alderman Moody complimented the spraying efforts at the cemeteries.

Alderman Norman inquired about street projects. Mayor Holden stated that bids had been taken and are awaiting TDOT approval. The project bids: Mall Boulevard at Parr Avenue \$386,726.90 and Frank Maynard \$153,205.55.

Alderman McCright thanked the police department for doing a fine job. He encouraged high visibility and loitering prevention.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

John Holden, Mayor

Gleyn T. Twilla, City Recorder