

**TOWN OF DANDRIDGE, TENNESSEE  
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN  
Regular Meeting  
14 November 2023**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. The Dandridge Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BMA) met in a regular session in Dandridge, Tennessee on Tuesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023.
- B. Mayor GEORGE GANTTE was present and presiding and called the meeting to order.

**II. ROLL CALL**

- A. A roll call of the BMA was conducted with the following members responding:

- Mayor GEORGE GANTTE
- Alderman MIKE CHAMBERS
- Alderman JEFF DEPEW
- Vice-Mayor TODD KESTERSON
- Alderman MARIANNE REESE

ABSENT:

Alderman JESSICA ELDER  
Alderman MIKE NELSON

- B. A quorum being present, the following business was conducted and entered on the record:

**III. PUBLIC HEARING**

- **READING OF THE MINUTES**

It came on a motion by Alderman CHAMBERS, seconded by Alderman DEPEW, to approve the Regular Session minutes of the October 10, 2023, meeting as written.

On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/COMMENTS**

- **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, REMONSTRANCES, AND COMMUNICATIONS**

None presented.

- **BUSINESS PRESENTED BY THE MAYOR**

None presented.

- **FINANCIAL REPORT BY THE TOWN RECORDER**

<u>Bank Balance:</u>	<u>BMA Acct:</u>	\$5,034,486.22	<u>DVFD Balance:</u>	\$ 419,011.66
	<u>Drug Fund Balance:</u>	\$ 24,501.00	<u>DWMF Balance:</u>	\$3,580,900.02

- **PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

- **Resolution No. 23/24-10** DVFD Station 2 - Dedicating the Garland McCoig Fire Station

It came on a motion by Alderman Kesterson, seconded by Alderman REESE, to approve Resolution No. 23/24-10.

On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- **Resolution No. 23/24-11** Dedication of Holiday Displays (Pam Farrar)

It came on a motion by Alderman REESE, seconded by Alderman CHAMBERS, to approve Resolution No. 23/24-11.

On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- **Resolution No. 23/24-12** Authorizing Additional Funding for CDBG Project

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	NO		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed 4-1, with Vice-Mayor KESTERSON voting NO, and was so ordered.

- First Reading of **Ordinance 23/24-16** to Amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Dandridge, Tennessee, to revise development regulations for Travel Trailer Parks

It came on a motion by Alderman DEPEW, seconded by Alderman CHAMBERS, to approve Ordinance 23/24-16 on first reading.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

- **OLD BUSINESS**

- Dandridge Fire Department Public Protection Classification: **(ISO) 04/4X**

*Chief Riley addressed the BMA to discuss the meaning of the new classification and the impact that it will have on home and business owners in their district.*

*The BMA recognizes the hard work and dedication of the department to achieve this rating.*

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- Review Plan of Services for Intersection of HWY 25/70 and Cline Road (Map 67, Parcels 44) Annexation/Rezone Request

*Town Building Inspector introduces the item and states that discussion started when the question was raised about sewer availability at the property. The item is before the BMA to see if they would consider annexation into the Town limits and to send the item to Planning Commission.*

*Discussion with the potential property owners was held about future plans, long term will be for a hotel development, short term would be for storage units on the most unusable portion of the property.*

*Alderman Chambers inquired about specific plans and a timeline. Proposed owners respond that a hotel would be a two to three year down the road project, the plans would be for storage units initially and a gas station along with another future option of a strip mall setup.*

*Vice-Mayor Kesterson inquires about what issues this would cause our Town departments. Water Superintendent discusses that this would strain an already stressed sewer system but that upgrades are already under discussion but that solutions are not settled. Mayor Gantte inquires about a timeline of three years being a suitable time to accomplish system upgrades, the department is currently exploring funding options for system upgrades and working with their engineer.*

*Alderman Depew expresses concern that if we don't act when we can, we may miss the boat and someone else will claim it. The complex would be proposed to be a 90 to 110 unit hotel.*

*Chief Williams expresses that in his time as Chief that additional officers have never been brought on but with the growth of the Town they are needed now, he is exploring grant funding options for the next budget year.*

It came on a motion by Alderman DEPEW, seconded by Alderman REESE, to send the item to Planning Commission for review.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	NO		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed 4-1, with Vice-Mayor KESTERSON voting NO, and was so ordered.

- Acceptance of Jefferson Health Care Foundation Fund Grant to Purchase Automated Defibrillator Devices Townwide in the amount of \$25,088.00 (General Fund)

*Town was awarded funding in this budget year to purchase AED's townwide.*

It came on a motion by Alderman REESE, seconded by Alderman DEPEW, to approve the easements.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows on the original motion:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed and was so ordered.

- Approval to Purchase Aimpoint Duty RDS Sites / Ruger Rapid Deploy Rear Flip Sites / MAGPUL 30 round magazines for AR-15 for each officer (Drug Fund)

*\$6,088.04 is the requested amount.*

It came on a motion by Alderman KESTERSON, seconded by Alderman DEPEW, to approve the purchase.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- Approval to purchase .223 Ammo for Reserve Officers' weapons utilizing TN State Procurement Contract (General Fund)

It came on a motion by Alderman DEPEW, seconded by Alderman REESE, to approve the purchase.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- Approval to Surplus Hydraulic Extrication Equipment (Out of Service) and sell to another department.

*This item was thought to be previously surplus but was not, we have been contacted by a volunteer fire department in Charleston, MS and have expressed interest in purchasing the used extrication equipment for a price of \$5,000.00. The department has authorized the funds on their end and are awaiting word on if the sale is approved.*

It came on a motion by Alderman CHAMBERS, seconded by Alderman REESE, to surplus the property and approve the sale to the requesting volunteer fire department.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- Discussion / Consideration for 2024 Music on the Town Series

It came on a motion by Alderman CHAMBERS, seconded by Vice-Mayor KESTERSON, to continue with the event for seven Thursdays in the Fall.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- Discussion / Consideration of Lighting for Field of Dreams Baseball / Football Field

*Town Administrator explains the current state of lighting needs addressing. Currently there are seven lights out on field 3.*

*Vice-Mayor Kesterson questions if we can do one field at a time rather than a complete changeover now to see the quality of product and how it works.*

*The difference in temperature of the lights will be noticeable so continuity of all lights the same per field is best.*

It came on a motion by Vice-Mayor KESTERSON, seconded by Alderman DEPEW, to replace the lights on field 3 (30 bulbs) and address the remaining in the next budget year.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- Discussion / Consideration of Parking Issues at the Dandridge Memorial Library

*Item was placed on the agenda at the request of Bob Jarnagan. The library board has requested discussion to address parking that was lost due to construction of the new bridge.*

*A request was made for MTAS to look at the area and see if a recommendation can be made.*

*Item will be rolled to next meeting to bring options requested for discussion*

- Discussion / Consideration of Traffic Pattern entering Downtown Dandridge

*The request was made to gather more information from Progression and possibly provide drawings of what solutions may look like. TDOT would retain approval of any traffic pattern changes, the Town has authority of signalization.*

- **DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES**

- South Jefferson Little League President, Jeff Batson
  - Fall ball was successful.
  - New board members will be coming on board in Spring
- Town Administrator Chris Shockley
  - Thank you to Finance Director Kendall Moore for the help with extra duties
  - Zach Reese has been hired at new Town Recorder with a start date of December 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - Vehicles and projects are reaching maturity dates and so we are seeing them to fruition and it is exciting
  - Public Works is doing an excellent job
- Codes Enforcement/Building Inspector Terry Reneau
  - Mainly just reviewing construction that is ongoing
- Police Chief Carson Williams
  - Thank you to the BMA for allowing to purchase equipment
  - Axon equipment is in, just waiting on vehicles that have been ordered, will be '24 year models at no extra cost
- Finance Kendall Moore
  - Nothing to report
- Public Works Director Donald Whaley
  - Concrete work in Majestic Bay is completed.
  - Snowflakes and Wreaths are up and look great
  - Leaf season is here and crews are in full swing
- Dandridge Water Management Facility Superintendent Tana Benson
  - 17 new taps set last month
  - Downtown lift station fence install is nearing completion
  - Have abandoned a cast iron line on Lakeshore
  - Caught up on tap installation and working on strategic planning
  - Have a new hire, Mason Adkins, a Dandridge resident
  - Still have an opening for GIS position
- Parks and Recreation Director James Baker
  - Multiple events have been conducted at the FODAC
  - Basketball signups are at 403 currently
  - Shopping expos went extremely well
  - Interviews this week for seasonal staff
  - Gym lighting project is completed, the entire center looks different
- Fire Chief Andy Riley
  - Fire truck update is initial planning meeting is complete and we are awaiting final pricing with all the options
  - Still two years out on final build and delivery
  - Need rain, dry conditions have increased calls on brush fires
  - Automatic aide has been increased to each fire to get more water and people on scene to get ahead of situations rather than letting them get out of control

- Vice-Mayor Kesterson inquired about the light pole on the bridge that needs replacement
  - Light is ordered and there is a 12 week lead time
  
- **MISCELLANEOUS**
  - Dandridge Ministerial Association Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony – November 30, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
  - Merriment on Main – November 25, 2023 from 10:00am – 2:00pm

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

It came on a motion by Vice-Mayor KESTERSON, seconded by Alderman CHAMBERS, that the meeting of November 14, 2023, be adjourned.

On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

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George Gantte, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Chris Shockley, Town Administrator

MINUTES-BMA-111423