

**TOWN OF DANDRIDGE, TENNESSEE
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
Regular Meeting
11 June 2024**

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The Dandridge Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BMA) met in a regular session in Dandridge, Tennessee on Tuesday, the 11th day of June 2024.
- B. Vice-Mayor TODD KESTERSON 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
 - Vice-Mayor TODD KESTERSON
 - Alderman JESSICA ELDER
 - Alderman MARIANNE REESE
 - Alderman MIKE CHAMBERS
 - Alderman MIKE NELSON
 - Alderman JEFF DEPEW

ABSENT:

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

III. PUBLIC HEARING

- **Second and Final** Reading of **Ordinance 23/24-25** to Amend the 2023/2024 Budget
No Comments
- **Second and Final** Reading of **Ordinance 24/25-01** Adopting the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2024.
No Comments

IV. READING OF THE MINUTES

It came on a motion by Alderman NELSON, seconded by Alderman CHAMBERS, to approve the Regular Session minutes of the May 14, 2024, meeting as written.

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

V. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/COMMENTS

Troy Pulliam – speaking on the need for crosswalks in town. Could start with dike area over to circle drive intersection/library. Businesses and the post office are difficult to reach. There is a crosswalk at the 4-way in downtown and at town hall. Would like to see one in front of the steps up to the post office. TDOT would need to be contacted to get some help with this.

Marian Knight (440 W. Main Street) – speaking on flock camera proposal. Understands the usefulness but has concerns about who would have access to surveillance. Is there a vendor involved, federal government?...

VI. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, REMONSTRANCES, AND COMMUNICATIONS

None Presented

VII. BUSINESS PRESENTED BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Gantte – At the budget retreat, board said they would like to put Town Administrator contract on the fiscal year. Compiled an average of “like” town administrator salaries. Information came from MTAS salary survey. Need to consider term, length, salary, and severance pay. Board chooses to look over information and discuss next month.

Mayor Gantte has tentative surgery scheduled for July 10 at Vanderbilt. Thanks Vice-Mayor Kesterson for running the meeting.

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT BY THE TOWN RECORDER

<u>Bank Balance:</u>	<u>BMA Acct:</u>	\$5,643,800.15	<u>DVFD Balance:</u>	\$ 258,959.33
	<u>Drug Fund Balance:</u>	\$ 22,310.00	<u>DWMF Balance:</u>	\$4,133,481.18

IX. PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- **Resolution No. 23/24-21** A Resolution Adopting Revisions to the Urban Growth Boundary

Town Administrator Shockley – had 2nd public hearing tonight. This is to officially request the reconvene of the urban growth boundary committee and get the ball rolling.

It came on a motion by Alderman ELDER, seconded by Alderman DEPEW, to accept Resolution No. 23/24-21.

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

- **Resolution No. 23/24-22** A Resolution Endorsing the Use of Visual Surveillance Devices to Enhance Law Enforcement in the Town of Dandridge

Town Administrator Shockley – a request from Flock to get board support. Flock is a specific brand of license plate readers. They do compile data used specifically for law enforcement. Information is stored for 90 days on their in-house servers. Information is shared between law enforcement departments that are subscribers of Flock. Initial site is EB off ramp and WB off ramp and potentially near Bucks and Bass coming into town. Could possibly use a private business to have a Flock presence covering 25/70 and 92.

Alderman Nelson – Where will the cameras be installed? Initial site is EB off ramp and WB off ramp and potentially near Bucks and Bass coming into town. Could possibly use a private business to have a Flock presence covering 25/70 and 92.

Alderman Elder – Are there any other cities using these? Jefferson City and White Pine are participating in the county. Sevierville, Newport, Knoxville.

Alderman Depew – huge liability on personal information. If there is a breach, who is at fault? Is it flock or the town? The information belongs to Flock so they will be solely responsible.

Alderman Chambers – what is lifespan? 4/6 years per camera

Vice Mayor Kesterson – what is the financial commitment from the town? \$14,600 for camera purchase. That is an annual subscription. \$3,600 per individual unit and \$7,500 for intersection unit. Year to year contract.

Police Chief Williams – These cameras are not speed enforcement. Flock doesn't share personal information with us, just video. It is totally cloud based and they are responsible for information. A good tool used for crime fighting.

It came on a motion by Alderman NELSON, seconded by Alderman REESE, to approve Resolution No. 23/24-22.

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

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

On a roll call vote, the motion passed 6-1, and was so ordered.

- **Second and Final Reading of Ordinance 23/24-25** to Amend the 2023/2024 Budget

Town Administrator Shockley - Highlights

Central Staff – Bonuses, AED’s – grant from Jefferson County Health Fund (\$25,088), ARPA Funds for holiday decorations

Police – Bonuses, extra firearm supplies, police vehicles and upfitting (\$264,300), grants for tasers

Fire Department – ARPA Funds transfer for new fire truck (\$425,000), bonuses, new sign for station 2

Highways and Streets – Storm clean-up (\$30,500), Combo tractor/truck purchase (\$151,752)

State Street Aid – Paving

Sanitation – Transfer for Garbage Truck purchased in prior year (\$314,789.14)

Recreation – Field Lights (\$105,200)

It came on a motion by Alderman REESE, seconded by Alderman ELDER, to approve Ordinance No. 23/24-25 on final reading.

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

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

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

- **Second and Final Reading of Ordinance 24/25-01** Adopting the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025.

Town Administrator Shockley - Highlights

- *Budget is balanced but comes with conservative estimates due to the uncertainty of the property tax revenue.*
- *Includes 5% raise or pay-scale revision for employees, whichever is the larger of the two (\$236,000 increase over last year including TCRS bump)*
- *TCRS rate bumped up to 15% from 12%*
- *Includes 5% health insurance premium increases, 3% dental insurance premium increase.*
- *Dandridge Water Department - \$439,158 profit anticipated. No price increase.*

It came on a motion by Alderman NELSON, seconded by Alderman CHAMBERS, to approve Ordinance No. 24/25-01 on final reading.

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

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

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

X. OLD BUSINESS

None Presented

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- Industrial Development Board Presentation (Steve Hammer)

Steve Hammer (Chairman of Jefferson County Industrial Board) – Discussing possibility of sewer expansion to 412/415. Trying to get ahead of the development that is happening at 407/408. If we could sewer, it would be easier to market those areas. Looking to bring in engineer (Matt Hatfield) to do a master plan. Master plan would allow us to pursue grants with the state. Will be approaching Jefferson Alliance and the Jefferson County Commission on the project.

Alderman Elder – who is paying for the master plan? Tentative estimate is \$50,000 shared between Dandridge, Jefferson Alliance, and County Commission.

Alderman Nelson – if it is not in the city limits, the town will not run sewer. We need commitment from the county to see if its even feasible.

- Approval of Contract with Reducing Diesel Emissions for a Healthier Tennessee (\$57,000.00)

Town Administrator Shockley – Chief Riley was awarded a grant that would go towards offsetting the cost of the new engine by \$57,000. Contract states old engine that is being replaced has to be pulled out of operation and can't be sold to anyone else. The award is worth more than the value of the old engine.

Mayor Gantte/Vice-Mayor Kesterson- smaller fire departments in rural areas could use old engines. A lot of these places don't have the option to buy new engines. Other places have needs that this could fulfill to keep the citizens safe.

It came on a motion by Alderman CHAMBERS, seconded by Alderman NELSON, to approve the Contract with Reducing Diesel Emissions for a Healthier Tennessee for \$57,000

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

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

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

- Request for Approval to Participate In the Environmental Protection Agency’s Class Action Lawsuit Versus Chemours, Corteva 3M, Chemours, and Tyco Fire Products

Town Attorney Jeff Greene – have the opportunity to take part in class action lawsuit over fire suppressant chemicals. Our participation costs us nothing but there are no details on what the value could be (nothing to lose).

It came on a motion by Alderman ELDER, seconded by Alderman REESE, to approve the Participation In the Environmental Protection Agency’s Class Action Lawsuit Versus Chemours, Corteva 3M, Chemours, and Tyco Fire Products

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

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

On a roll call vote, the motion passed 6-1, and was so ordered.

- Request to Sell a Previously Surplused Item (Watering Box – DWMF)

Town Administrator Shockley – Town of Sweetwater approached us today about purchasing watering box for \$17,000. We had a valuation of \$20,000.

DWMF Tana Benson – They are similar size to us and they are experiencing very long lead times. Would prefer to sell to someone who needs it.

It came on a motion by Mayor GANTTE, seconded by Alderman CHAMBERS to suspend Robert’s Rules of Order to add an agenda item approving sell of surplused water box to the City of Sweetwater.

It came on a motion by Mayor GANTTE, seconded by Alderman NELSON to surplus water box with a sales price of \$17,000 to the City of Sweetwater.

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

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

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

XII. DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

- Codes Enforcement/Building Inspector - Terry Reneau
 - Carlyle Construction got permits for office complex on 92
 - No update on Firehouse Subs
 - Violation letters going out for mowing (Can now file tax liens when cited)
 - No permits thus far for short-term rentals
- Dandridge Water Management Facility Superintendent - Tana Benson
 - Thank you for sale of water box to Sweetwater
 - 11 water taps and 5 sewer taps
 - Several water leaks keeping us busy
 - Created map of project areas
- Dandridge Memorial Library – Bethany Jones
 - Working on grant for \$2 million dollars for new library that closes on July 12. Would require 10% match
- Public Works Director - Donald Whaley
 - Staying ahead, trying to keep the road mowed down and getting ready for June Jubilee
- Finance Director - Kendall Moore
 - Thanks to board for passing budget and amendments
- Parks and Recreation Director - James Baker
 - Very proud of the crew with the amount of tournaments/play
 - Two successful expos the last few weekends – animal expo and craft fair
 - Friday – had basketball draft for the instructional league – 225 kids signed up
 - Revolution volleyball is finishing up this week – great turnout
- South-Jefferson - Jeff Batson
 - Opening day went well despite the weather. Appreciates the board for support and Alderman Nelson for throwing out 1st pitch

- Police Chief - Carson Williams
 - Thanks to Alderman Nelson for helping install charging station for reserve cars
 - New radios are in that were paid for through Violent Crimes Grant. On with state agencies (THP)
- Attorney Jeff Greene
 - Property purchase at FOD – Contract has been signed and survey is in from sellers. Will have closed before next board meeting.

- Town Administrator Shockley – Commends police department on beer buy. All 19 license holders did comply.

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS
None Presented

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

It came on a motion by Alderman CHAMBERS, seconded by Alderman NELSON, that the meeting of June 11, 2024, be adjourned.

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

Todd Kesterson, Vice-Mayor

ATTEST:

Zach Reese, Town Recorder

MINUTES-BMA-061124