

**Norris City Council
Regular Meeting**

**July 8, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

Minutes

The regular meeting of the City Council of Norris Tennessee convened July 8, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

The following Councilmembers were present: Will Grinder, Mayor Chris Mitchell, and Loretta Painter. Councilmembers Bill Grieve and Chuck Nicholson were absent.

Also, present were Charles Adam Ledford, City Manager, Bailey Whited, Assistant City Manager, and Sandy Johnson, City Recorder and representatives of the press from Courier News and the Norris Bulletin.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Mitchell.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved up item Consideration of Resolution #18-2024 under Minutes; and Safe Routes to School after New Business.

HEAR FROM THE PUBLIC

Susan Bowling, resident, spoke regarding the new home being built on the service drive without any advance notification to neighboring residents. She also stated the builder has violated standard construction safety practices.

Loy Johnson, resident, spoke in regarding notifications to residents when proper is divided.

Scott Chase, resident, praised the fire, police, fire and water departments for their services. He also inquired about the city's codes and enforcements, questioned several blighted areas of town, including an abandoned vehicle and objects in yards.

Ron Hill, resident, stated he would like to have updates on city activities posted around the community for everyone to view.

Mayor Mitchell praised the achievement of the Norris Day celebration, specifically recognizing the contributions of the Lions Club, Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works, Keep Norris Beautiful, and the 75th Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee.

George Miceli, a resident, expressed gratitude to the Lions Club for their efforts during Norris Day. He also mentioned that the 75th Anniversary hardback book is still available for purchase, with approximately 50 copies in stock.

Susan Miceli, resident, reported a group of women associated with Keep Norris Beautiful, planted flowers and cleaned out weeds within the city.

MINUTES

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE10, 2024 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Councilmember Grinder moved to approve and Councilmember Painter seconded. The motion passed by voice vote with Councilmembers Grinder, Painter and Mayor Mitchell voting "Aye."

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 10, 2024 PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Councilmember Grinder moved to approve and Councilmember Painter seconded. The motion passed by voice vote with Councilmembers Grinder, Painter and Mayor Mitchell voting "Aye."

ITEMS MOVED UP FROM NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Resolution #18-2024, entitled, "A Resolution of the City of Norris, Tennessee City Council to Approve the 2024 Anderson County Basic Emergency Operations Plan"

Councilmember Grinder moved to approve and Councilmember Painter seconded. The motion passed by voice vote with Councilmembers Grinder, Painter and Mayor Mitchell voting "Aye."

OLD BUSINESS

SIA SAWMILL ROAD PROJECT

Mr. Ledford stated that the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) requested details about the utilities both above and below ground in the area, and Mr. Wilkerson supplied them with the necessary information.

Update on Facilities Condition – Setting a Facilities Meeting – Mr. Ledford highlighted an item on his report stating the gym's air conditioner has broken down again. Despite being repaired last year at a cost of \$12,000.00, the unit was near the end of its useful life and only functioned for two months during the hot season. Replacing it will cost \$40,000.00. For the time being, fans will be used to circulate air. Additional spending on the gym is not justifiable until the facility's long-term plans are finalized later this year.

Capital Outlay Note

Mayor Mitchell stated he wants to leave this on the agenda until it is needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Ordinance #690-2024, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP BY REZONING A PORTION OF PARCEL 031 083.00 FROM FAR: FOREST, AGRICULTURE, AND RECREATION AND P-1: PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC DISTRICT TO C-2: GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT."

Councilmember Painter moved to deny the C-2 approval and Councilmember Grinder seconded. The motion passed by voice vote with Councilmembers Grinder, Painter and Mayor Mitchell voting "Aye."

The following residents spoke on this topic: Loy Johnson, Ron Hill, Paula Riggs, Martha Shear and Scott Chase. A public hearing was scheduled on Monday, August 12, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. prior to the City Council meeting.

Review of SWOT survey for City of Norris Strategic Plan

Due to not having all members of council at this meeting, it was suggested this item be moved to the August agenda.

Consideration of Mayoral Appointments to Boards and Commissions - None

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Bailey Whited reported that he attended the Anderson County School Board workshop preceding the council meeting to discuss the sidewalk construction. Mr. Whited confirmed receiving their approval to proceed with an agreement, which they will formally present at their meeting on Thursday, July 11, 2024. Councilmember Grinder then motioned to rescind our contract with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and instead proceed with the school's agreement. Councilmember Painter proposed an amendment to the motion, suggesting that we have our attorney review the contract and provide feedback before proceeding. Councilmember Grinder seconded. The motion passed by voice vote with Councilmembers Grinder, Painter and Mayor Mitchell voting "Aye."

DEPARTMENT AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – A copy of the report as presented is attached as "Exhibit A"

POLICE DEPARTMENT – A copy of the report as presented is attached as "Exhibit B"

FIRE DEPARTMENT – A copy of the report as presented is attached as "Exhibit C"

NORRIS WATER COMMISSION (NWC) – A copy of the report as presented is attached as "Exhibit D"

PUBLIC WORKS - A copy of the report as presented is attached as "Exhibit E"

PARKS & RECREATION – No report.

BILLS PAYABLE – No report.

MINUTES AND REPORTS (BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS)

RECREATION COMMISSION –Brianne Kibler reported several upcoming events: Creek Exploration with Joe; Adult yoga; Disc Golf, Arts & Crafts; and NES Bog Adventure. She also reported August 24, 2024 will the Picnic on the Commons for all ages. Mayor Mitchell stated he is working on a grant for the sports complex and also funding on the Master Plan.

WATERSHED BOARD –Joe Feeman reported Kerry's crew has been weed-eating the trails.

TREE COMMISSION – No report.

ANIMAL SHELTER COMMISSION – No report.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – No report.

LITTLE THEATRE – May Boardman expressed her appreciation to Marlene Kibler for her help.

PLANNING/BZA – Joe Feeman reported at their recent meetings the BZA denied the certificate of occupancy, followed by an application to the Planning Commission for rezoning part of Covenant Life Church's property to Commercial (C2) status. The votes against the church's request were unanimous in both of the BZA and Planning Commission meetings.

ARCHIVES – Joe Feeman reported they are still looking for another board member. He also reported he has been in contact with the State and they will be receiving some training.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Grinder moved to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. and Councilmember Painter seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote with Councilmembers Grinder, Painter and Mayor Mitchell voting "Aye."

Sandy Johnson, City Recorder

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

September 9, 2024

Chris Mitchell, Mayor