

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN**

July 11, 2023

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Lookout Mountain, Tennessee met in regular session at the Town Hall on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:00 p.m., those being present being listed on Exhibit A hereto. Commissioner Valadez and Town Attorney Smith were absent from the meeting.

1. Call to order and Declaration of Quorum. Mayor Jones called the meeting to order and recognized a quorum for the conduct of business. . Upon motion by Commissioner Leavengood seconded by Commissioner Bentley, and unanimously approved the minutes of the May 8 and June 13 2023 Meetings of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners were approved and ordered to be entered in the Town's minute book.

3. Financial Report: Jenifer Waycaster presented a discussion of the Financial Report through the month of June 2023. After discussion between Commissioner Hailey and Ms. Waycaster regarding the possibility of using funds from the beautification fund to fund projects not contemplated at the time of the budget adoption and being advised that it must be in next year's budget, and upon motion of Commissioner Bentley, seconded by Commissioner Hailey and unanimous vote of approval, the Financial Report was approved. A copy of the report is attached as Exhibit B hereto. She then reviewed the proposal to change the accounting process for the traditional uniform reimbursement allowances. Upon motion of Commissioner Bentley , seconded by Commissioner Hailey the change as recommended was adopted by resolution. A copy of the proposed change in procedure is attached as Exhibit C hereto. Lastly , she reviewed in broad outline the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The proposal contains a 6.4% tax increase to \$2.15 per \$100 assessed value and a 3% salary increase, the tax increase resulting from the final phase-out of the state Hall Income tax and other revenue sharing decreases as well as the loss of revenue from the operation of the Lookout Mountain Incline. Upon motion of Commissioner Leavengood , seconded by Commissioner Bentley and unanimous vote the budget as proposed was adopted upon second and final reading. A copy of the budget ordinance is attached as Exhibit D hereto.

4. Departmental Reports:

Commissioner Bentley representing the Fire and Police Department recommended that the Town change parking meter providers and remove the kiosks and change service providers. He then asked County Commissioner Joe Graham to give a review of the recent actions of the City of Chattanooga and Hamilton County regarding the permitting and regulation of Short Term Vacation rental locations. Commissioner Graham outlined the types of requirements recently enacted by both. Commissioner Bentley suggested that the Town implement a system of permitting and regulation at a future date.

Commissioner Hailey reported for the Parks Department that the 10 and under and 12 and under baseball teams had advanced to the Dizzy-Dean World Series with the 10's finishing 2nd and the 12's finishing 3rd. The bids for the lighting replacement have been received with the bid of a local company, EMS, being considered the best at a price of \$78,300.00 for lights only. Commissioner Bentley moved acceptance of that bid, Commission Leavengood seconded the motion, and the recommendation was approved. County Commissioner Graham has recommended that the County contribute a total of \$62,050.00 toward the total project which will include replacement of the light poles. Attendance at Commons Camp was increasing daily to cap a highly successful season. A fire truck visit was scheduled for July 12.

Commissioner Leavengood reported for the Education Department and advised that the renovations in the main office area was progressing, that the Summer Library would run through July 20 and that new principal was working on filling a few remaining staff position, that registration is scheduled August 4 with the first day of school for August 9

Mayor Jones reported for Commissioner Valadez for the Public Works Department and advised that department head Cory Evans was back at work after an extended absence , that bids wee being solicited for repainting the yellow lines on the streets and should be started shortly.

5. Citizen's Input. County Commissioner Graham announced that the County had opened the dog park at Ben Miller Park in St Elmo, that the multi-sport complex partnership with the City of Chattanooga was resurfacing the courts.

Resident Lisa Hailey expressed concern about using the green space at the Town Common for vehicle parking

6. Old Business. The only matter of Old Business was the consideration on second and final reading of a zoning variance requested by the owners of property at 241 Park Road. Upon motion by Commissioner Leavengood, seconded by Commissioner Hailey and unanimous vote of approval the requested variance was granted was granted upon second and final reading..

7. New Business. The only matter of new business was the consideration of the adoption of an ordinance regulating the placement and content of signs within the Town and the recommendation for approval given by the Regional Planning Agency at its meeting on July 10. After discussion and upon motion of Commissioner Bentley, seconded by Commissioner Hailey and unanimous approval the recommendation of the RPA was approved and the ordinance adopted upon first reading.

8 Mayor's Report. Mayor Jones brought the Commission current on the Tennessee American Water Company project to upgrade the water tanks at the Bragg Avenue location Te project will cause traffic disruption for several months but cell service should be back to normal in 30 days. He reported that he and Commissioner Bentley had held a meeting with representatives of the CARTA Board which he felt had been productive.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned until the August 8, 2023 meeting of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners.

[Signatures on next page]