

Regular Meeting of the
Board of Mayor and Council
City of McKenzie
McKenzie, TN 38201
January 11, 2023

A. Call to Order – Mayor Griffin

B. Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance – Councilperson Batton

C. Roll Call

Vice Mayor Townes - Present
Councilperson Alexander – Absent
Councilperson Armpriest - Present
Councilperson Batton - Present
Councilperson Pruneau - Absent
Councilperson Young - Present

D. Mayor's Welcome:

Mayor Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Griffin extended a warm welcome to all.

E. Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Councilperson Armpriest, seconded by Vice Mayor Townes, to approve the minutes dated December 14, 2023.

Motion carries

F. Financial Matters:

None presented

G. Old Business:

None

H. New Business:

a. Discussion /Approval for solid waste bid.

Councilperson Batton asked Tommy Legins with RaeKar if they had done a client approval survey. Mr. Legins responded there was a 95% approval rate that is available on their website.

Councilperson Batton then asked Gerry Burke with Republic if they had a client approval survey. Mr. Burke stated there was a 90% range nationwide and from 2023, their rate was over 90% for this area. Councilperson Batton then asked if Republic was aware of any issues. The response was in 2022 another company had gone bankrupt and left their customers

without help for several weeks, at that time Republic took all their spare back ups to help customers in that area.

Councilperson Armpriest asked Mr. Legins if there would be a CPI issue that would affect our rate. His response was that if there was any issue, he would approach the council to explain any rate change.

Councilperson Young made the motion to approve Republic's bid. There was no second.

Councilperson Armpriest made the motion to approve Raekar's bid. Second by Vice Mayor Townes

Roll Call Vote:

Councilperson Young	N	Vice Mayor Townes	N
Councilperson Armpriest	Y	Councilperson Batton	Y
Tie vote made by Mayor Griffin Y			

Motion passes

I. Citizens Input: none

J. Department Head Reports:

Brian Tucker, Fire Department stated they had responded to 46 calls. 27 calls for the medical program for the month of December, 5 MVA – No injuries, 2 each for structure fire, aircraft standby, EMS assist, MVA-injuries, and several other. Chief Tucker verified they had received an air pack grant.

Earnest Umstead stated the water department was staying busy. They just hired a new employee, who is young, so hopefully he will be on staff for a long time. Hoping that everything stays in shape for the anticipated cold weather.

Police Chief White, our Drug agent had been assigned to the Drug Task Force. They have had some very large drug bust for marijuana, fentanyl, cocaine and more. Chief White stated he is very happy to have the department working these raids. He thanked the council again for allowing the department to purchase the new vehicles. They are now being outfitted and should be on the road very soon.

Public Works Supervisor Johnny Mercer was welcomed back to work this week after having a hip replacement. He thanked his crew for working hard while he was out. He stated the leave truck had slowed down. They were trimming trees to help the school buses and large trucks. Busy servicing equipment. They had also repaired a downtown sidewalk.

Jim Seaton, Codes Department stated he had been successful in having one house on Forrest demolished and another house on the street a 17,000 lb. cleanup surrounding the house.

Mayor Griffin then congratulated Mr. Seaton about successfully passing the new building code test.

Parks Director Billy Hollowell was not in attendance due to attending an 8th grade award night for one of his grandsons. Mayor Griffin gave Mr. Hollowell's report stating they had removed and packed up all the Christmas decorations. We busy trimming trees at the park and servicing their equipment.

- K. Council Reports:
Councilperson Young had nothing.

Councilperson Armpriest asked if there would be another workshop concerning the liquor information relating to the December meeting.

Vice Mayor Townes stated he wanted to thank everyone for the great job last year and to keep up the good work.

Councilperson Batton stated that the fact that we are seeing so much marijuana fentanyl was alarming. She wondered if the police had any plans to educate the public. Chief White responded he was hoping to bring back the Dare program. Someone would have to be sent to school for two weeks. He did state that the SRO's talk to students about this issue. He said that his department had used more Narcan in the past two years, than in the last twenty-three years he had been on the force. With all the drugs, it creates more issues with theft and burglary so they can purchase more drugs. Chief White assured the council that steps were being taken.

- L. With no further business, a motion was made by Councilperson Armpriest, 2nd by Vice Mayor Townes to adjourn at 6:30 P.M.

Motion carried

APPROVED: _____
Ryan Griffin, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Jennifer Waldrup, City Recorder-City Clerk