

Regular Meeting of the
Board of Mayor and Council
City of McKenzie
McKenzie, TN 38201
May 9, 2024

A. Call to Order – Mayor Griffin

B. Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance – Vice Mayor Townes

C. Roll Call

Vice Mayor Townes - Present
Councilperson Alexander – Present
Councilperson Armpriest - Present
Councilperson Batton - Present
Councilperson Pruneau - Present
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 April 10, 2024.

Motion carries

F. Financial Matters:

None presented.

G. Old Business:

- a. Discussion/Approval on 2nd reading of Ordinance 565 to amend the text on permitted uses in B-1, B-3 and B-4 (Local Business Districts)

No discussion.

Motion to approve Ordinance 565 amending text on permitted uses in B-1,B-3,and B-4 on 2nd reading made by Councilperson Armpriest, second by Vice Mayor Townes.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Councilperson Young | Y | Vice Mayor Townes | Y |
| Councilperson Armpriest | Y | Councilperson Batton | Y |
| Councilperson Alexander | Y | Councilperson Pruneau | Y |

Motion carries.

- b. Discussion/Approval on 2nd reading to amend Fireworks Ordinance 566 concerning age limits, and purchase times.

No discussion

Motion made by Councilperson Armpriest, second by Vice Mayor Townes to amend the Fireworks Ordinance to match that of the State ordinance.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Councilperson Young | Y | Vice Mayor Townes | Y |
| Councilperson Armpriest | Y | Councilperson Batton | Y |
| Councilperson Alexander | Y | Councilperson Pruneau | Y |

Motion passes

- c. Discussion/Approval on 2st reading of Ordinance 567 to Amend Ordinance 324 relating to State Wastewater Regulations.

No discussion

Motion to pass Ordinance 567 that amends the original Ordinance 324 concerning wastewater regulations was made by Vice Mayor Townes second by Councilperson Armpriest.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Councilperson Young | Y | Vice Mayor Townes | Y |
| Councilperson Armpriest | Y | Councilperson Batton | Y |
| Councilperson Alexander | Y | Councilperson Pruneau | Y |

Motion passes

H. New Business:

- a. Discussion /Approval to appoint Tim Beeler to the Planning Commission for four (4) year term.

Discussion: Councilperson Armpriest asked how people got on boards, if they ask or if they were appointed. Mayor Griffin replied if someone wanted to be on a board, they could let him.

Motion made by Councilperson Young, second by Councilperson Armpriest to appoint Mr. Beeler to the Planning Commission.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| Councilperson Young | Y | Vice Mayor Townes | Y |
|---------------------|---|-------------------|---|

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Councilperson Armpriest | Y | Councilperson Batton | Y |
| Councilperson Alexander | Y | Councilperson Pruneau | Y |

Motion passes

- b. Discussion/Approval to appoint Dennis Coleman to the Housing Authority for a four (4) year term.

Mayor Griffin stated this would be Mr. Coleman's second term on the Housing Authority.

Motion to approve Dennis Coleman made by Councilperson Pruneau, 2nd by Vice Mayor Townes.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Councilperson Young | Y | Vice Mayor Townes | Y |
| Councilperson Armpriest | Y | Councilperson Batton | Y |
| Councilperson Alexander | Y | Councilperson Pruneau | Y |

Motion passes

- c. Discussion/Approval of Resolution 24-000 authorizing City election on November 5, 2024.

Mayor Griffing informed the council the Carroll County Election Commission has asked to have a resolution authorizing the election of three (3) councilpersons at large in the November election.

Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the November 2024 City Election of three (3) councilpersons at large.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Councilperson Young | Y | Vice Mayor Townes | Y |
| Councilperson Armpriest | Y | Councilperson Batton | Y |
| Councilperson Alexander | Y | Councilperson Pruneau | Y |

Motion passes

- d. Discussion/Approval on 1st reading Ordinance 568 for the 2024/2025 City of McKenzie budget.

Discussion: No discussion due to the workshop meeting prior to the council meeting.

Motion made by Councilperson Alexander, second by Vice Mayor Townes to approve the 2024-2025 budget.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| Councilperson Young | Y | Vice Mayor Townes | Y |
|---------------------|---|-------------------|---|

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Councilperson Armpriest | Y | Councilperson Batton | Y |
| Councilperson Alexander | Y | Councilperson Pruneau | Y |

Motion passes

- e. Discussion/Approval on 1st reading of Ordinance 569 to Convert Broadway Street to a One-Way Street.

Discussion: Mayor Griffin started by apologizing to the council for making the decision contacting them. “In the words of Shirley Nanney, the mayor has learned his lesson” He went on to say that when the engineer approached him with the safety issues of leaving the Street a two-way, he then contacted Police Chief White and Public Works Supervisor Mercer for their thoughts. Both agreed with the engineer, his biggest concern that been the size of the islands. He stated sometimes it is difficult when the engineer and designer are not here when the plans are drawn and after it is underway, you are approached with problems. He asked Supervisor Mercer what the cost would be if it became necessary to restripe and make it two-way again and was told \$ 4600.00. Mayor Griffin said that would not exceed the funds and then reiterated that he had made a mistake and had learned from it.

Councilperson Alexander commented he had personally spoken with business owners and had been told they were fine with it. He also mentioned that the curb was long enough to accommodate a 23’ long crew cab pickup. Councilperson Batton said some people don’t obey Lee Street period. She felt like it’s more change, than how it was approached. She said what mattered is the intent, which she did not feel was that way. Councilperson Young spoke with the downtown businesses as well. He said 13 liked the one way, 3 didn’t. He then texted another 15 citizens, and only 3 said no. He said the biggest issue was how it was approached. Some were concerned about the loading zone. He went on to say, he felt the biggest issue of a two-way street was trying to pull out onto Cedar. Councilperson Armpriest said that she felt the general consensus was it didn’t matter. She felt like it was not a change in a routine. Councilperson Pruneau stated it was tradition. He has been here since 1965 and it was that way then. Tradition is hard to change. He said to give it serious thought and hear the need. Older people need their say too. Beau Pemberton, the city attorney said both arguments have merit. He said he applauded the mayor for his acknowledgement of being incorrect and suggested to table it to the June meeting and get additional input from businesses and citizens. He stated that people have a tendency to ignore signs, but his role as attorney is what is best change for the entire city. Councilperson Pruneau said a public hearing would be a fair opportunity. Correct a wrong that was a mistake. Councilperson Townes said it was a bad situation, it was good Mayor Griffin he was wrong, but said hard to make a wrong a right.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Townes to table the ordinance until June, second by Councilperson Pruneau.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| Councilperson Young | N | Vice Mayor Townes | Y |
| Councilperson Armpriest | N | Councilperson Batton | N |

Councilperson Alexander N Councilperson Pruneau Y

Motion passes

Additional discussion occurred saying the one-way sign should be removed and left as a two-way street until it was either decided it was a one way or reverted back to two way. Motion was made by Councilperson Young, second by Councilperson Armpriest to convert Broadway into a one-way street.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Councilperson Young | Y | Vice Mayor Townes | N |
| Councilperson Armpriest | Y | Councilperson Batton | N |
| Councilperson Alexander | Y | Councilperson Pruneau | N |
| Mayor Griffin | Y | | |

Motion passes

- f. Discussion/Approval of resignation of Councilperson Charles Pruneau.

Motion to accept Councilperson Pruneau's resignation made by Councilperson Alexander, second by Vice Mayor Townes.

Mayor Griffin presented a plaque to Councilperson Pruneau for his twelve (12) years and dedication to the City of McKenzie. He then stated it was a hard call to receive, and appreciated the wisdom given to him since he had been mayor and to the city during his twelve years on the council.

Councilperson Pruneau thanked him and said he had not planned on resigning, but it had become a major undertaking getting ready to come and do his part.

Councilperson Young said he would really miss him being here and certainly valued his dedication.

Councilperson Armpriest said his wisdom and consideration of the city was wonderful.

Councilperson Alexander said he had learned since his time on the council that he was full of wisdom and cared about the City of McKenzie.

Recorder Waldrup said she appreciated that he was always being on top of his information and if he needed anything at all in the future, she was only a call away.

Vice Mayor Townes said he appreciated all the wisdom and just call us, we might need you if we get stuck.

Councilperson Batton said she was now going to have to give someone else a hard time! She thanked him for always being encouraging. Your wisdom will be there to harvest, even though he would have a different role. She appreciated him so much.

- g. Discussion/Approval to appoint Drew Beeler to finish the term of Councilperson Pruneau.

Discussion: Councilperson Pruneau stated that he was sure that he would do a good job.

Motion to appoint Drew Beeler to finish the term to November for Charles Pruneau made by Councilperson Alexander, second by Vice Mayor Townes.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Councilperson Young | Y | Vice Mayor Townes | Y |
| Councilperson Armpriest | Y | Councilperson Batton | Y |
| Councilperson Alexander | Y | Councilperson Pruneau | Y |

Motion passes

Motion then made by Councilperson Young, second by Councilperson Armpriest to

- I. Citizens Input:
None

- J. Department Head Reports:

Chief Tucker with Fire Department stated they had responded to 51 calls. 19 EMS calls transported by non-fire agency, 14 of medical assist -EMS crew, 7 alarm system activations, 5 dispatched & canceled en route and various other calls.

Water Superintendent Earnest Umstead stated things were going well with his department. One of the new trucks will be used as a service truck. He also mentioned that EPA has issued a test concerning lead & copper service lines being checked and finished by October and that his crew has already finished up with the testing.

Police Chief White reported his department had responded to 1444 calls this month. The officers had 774 security checks, 280 traffic stops, and 390 various other calls. One of the new SRO vehicles has been painted with the big M and looks great. He mentioned there were twenty-two (22) vehicles for sale and that they were trying to contact other police agencies to sell them too.

Public Works Supervisor Johnny Mercer said his crew had been busy cleaning up a lot of the ditches. Hopefully next week they will start getting some hot mix to fix water cuts and some of the smaller holes. They were staying busy running the weekly route pick-ups of household and tree & limbs.

Jim Seaton, Codes Department reported he had fifty-nine violations. (32) that were one-month old, (2) that are 60 days old, (3) in condemnation process.

Parks Director Billy Hollowell said the park is wide open. Baseball continues. Soccer ends This weekend. Getting ready for a big baseball tournament this weekend. Splash pad opens end of May. The splash pad has new concrete ridge and work on the pump has been finished

City recorder Jennifer Waldrup invited everyone to the Memorial Day program on May 27th, Farmers Market opening June 1st, Nights on Broadway starting June 7th.

Mayor Griffin reminded everyone there would be a Homeless forum at the Park Theatre on May 13th at 6 p.m.

Attorney Pemberton said this was his first year as the City Attorney and he had filed delinquent taxes with the delinquent taxes.

K. Council Reports:

Councilperson Young stated the council all had interest in McKenzie, sometimes didn't always agree, but we tried to do what was best.

Councilperson Armpriest said thank you

Councilperson Alexandre said thank you

Vice Mayor Townes had nothing

Councilperson Batton had nothing

Councilperson Pruneau had nothing.

- L. With no further business, a motion was made by Councilperson Armpriest, 2nd by Vice Mayor Townes to adjourn at 6:58 P.M.

Motion carried

APPROVED: _____
Ryan Griffin, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Jennifer Waldrup, City Recorder-City Clerk