

Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2017

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners met in a workshop and called meeting session on Monday, October 23, 2017 at 5 p.m. at City Hall.

Mayor Lowe called the meeting to order with Commissioners present being: Lamar Hughes, Sam Moser, Edward Lee, Billy G. West, and Bill W. Stockton. City Attorney John Cleveland was not present.

The first item on the agenda was awarding the bid for the FEMA Fire grant equipment. Chief Watson advised after viewing the equipment demonstrations, the fire department recommended accepting the bid from MES totaling \$43,199.59. Commissioner Lee moved to award the bid to MES, with Commissioner Hughes seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Next, the Mayor opened the single bid received for a used mower for the parks and recreation department from Smith Turf & Irrigation. The mower was for a Toro Reelmaster 3100 sidewinder with an 85 inch cut for \$12,000. Commissioner Lee moved to accept the bid, with Commissioner Stockton seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

The Mayor opened the single bid received on a hood and ansele system for the Main Street Entrepreneur grant from United Services, Inc. The bid for equipment was \$13,205 plus \$4,560 for installation, for a total of \$17,765. Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the bid, with Commissioner West seconding. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Recorder Jessica Morgan reviewed the financial impact of the eclipse in a report (Summary inserted here):

Eclipse Festival Financial Impact Statement

August 2017

Sales Tax Summary

County Wide Gains as compared to last August: \$42,076, which translates to around \$1,750,000 in additional gross sales to merchants.

Sweetwater has an adjustment taken from our August 2017 totaling \$9,743 so without this adjustment, Sweetwater city gained \$11,303 compared to last August, which translates to around \$400,000 in gross sales to merchants inside Sweetwater.

On the attached details, you will find each city's percentage gains as follows:

Madisonville: 6%

Sweetwater: 4% (Our average gain over prior year so far this fiscal year is 1.9%)

Tellico Plains: 9%

Vonore: 2%

Eclipse Revenue other than Local Sales tax:

Gasoline Tax- is actually paid to cities per capita, not based on consumption, so a specific event in our area would not increase it necessarily- but a state-wide impact would increase the amount of total gas tax distributed. The October payment (which reflects purchases in August) was 5% more than last August, not including the new gas tax increase, which was an additional \$3,098.68 for the month.

Merchandise sold included t-shirts, postcards, glasses, and window clings. We used a paypal setup to allow for online purchases since most buyers were from out of town. The total sales through the paypal account were \$60,165.

Sweetwater sold approximately \$60,000 worth of **t-shirts**, including \$4,500 worth after the eclipse on a pre-order basis. We still have around 75 shirts left and are selling online through paypal until they are gone.

Parking Revenue for lots the city manned and leased totaled around \$15,000. We administered the Pleasant Grove Parking for Exit 60, LLC and retained around \$500 in fees. We also added business and property owners to our official maps if they donated back \$1 per vehicle, which netted the city approximately \$1,000 in contributions from private property owners.

Glasses were purchased by SMPOA, which netted them a total of around \$3,500.

Donations were not sought but Volunteer Federal and JTECH both volunteered to cover some costs associated with Glasses and the Movies in the Park for the Eclipse event., totaling around \$2,000.

Remaining Glasses, postcards, and event day revenues are posted to the Eclipse fund. Event day revenues are posted in the Eclipse fund totaling \$12,542.05 including \$4,150 in starting change. These revenues came from \$1 each shuttle rides, sales of postcards and fans, vendor fees, and kids zone admission.

Overall, the city shows revenues of around \$94,000 between our online paypal account and the counter sales. Total expenditures paid from the Eclipse fund total around \$75,000. These expenditures include:

Payroll expenses for overtime and additional part-time staff, gravel and improvements to make parking areas accessible, cost of leased space for parking, costs for merchandise, the shuttles, kids zone rentals and staff, concerts and sound, signage, radio rental, postage and shipping, janitorial supplies, portable toilets, dumpsters, temporary power poles, donations to various groups who assisted with parking and the kids zone, and miscellaneous expenses.

PROFIT:

As of today we have cash balances restricted to Eclipse totaling \$18,715.86.

Mayor Lowe thanked the city staff for their efforts. Commissioner West thanked the Recorder for a thorough report.

Mayor Lowe reviewed the upcoming November agenda. City Planner Scott Wilson reviewed Ordinance No. 954 to amend Title 14 which would change C-2 zoning to add auto repair as a use on review, since there are already two auto repair businesses in downtown C-2 zoning now. This allows the planning commission to add guidelines to repair shops within that zoning.

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Mayor Lowe announced that the industrial property located near Exit 60 will be presented as a Select Site at the Governor's Conference this Friday and invited the board members to attend with him. He also reminded the board they are invited to the dinner hosted by the First United Methodist Church on November 8, 2017 at 6 p.m.

No further action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

This the 23rd day of October, 2017.