

Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2025

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater met in a regular monthly meeting on Monday, January 6, 2025 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Doyle F. Lowe called the meeting to order with the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, with Commissioners present being: Lamar Hughes, Sam Moser, Alan Richeson, and James H. Stutts. Commissioner Jinks was absent due to illness. City Attorney John Cleveland was present.

Commissioner Richeson moved to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting of December 2, 2024. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

After the Recorder's report, Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the distributions for the month of November 2024. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

No one was present to make a public comment on actionable items.

A public hearing was opened to take comment on the following ordinances:

Ordinance No. 1044 to abolish R-4 zoning

Ordinance No. 1045 to amend Title 11 Municipal Offenses, Chapter 3

Ordinance No. 1046 to close East Mill Street

No written or oral comments were given. The public hearing was closed at 5:07 p.m.

In Old Business, the appointment to the Sweetwater Tree Board was postponed. The Hyper-Reach contract was postponed until a draft was received from the company.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve Ordinance No. 1044 to abolish R-4 Zoning as recommended by planning commission on second and final reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Richeson moved to approve Ordinance No. 1045 to amend Title 11 Municipal Offenses, Chapter 3 on second and final reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve Ordinance No. 1046 to close East Mill Street on second and final reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

In new business, Commissioner Moser moved to authorize the city administrator to award bid and execute contract with APAC resurfacing contract totaling \$248,555.05 for TDOT STP Grant project to resurface Hawkins and Linwood Roads. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve the resolution regarding the tax sale opening bid for Ad Valorem taxes only. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Resolution

REGARDING TAX SALE OPENING BID FOR AD VALOREM TAXES ONLY.

~~Whereas~~, the Clerk & Master's tax sale for delinquent 2013-2020 City of Sweetwater *ad valorem* taxes and special assessments is scheduled for February 26, 2025; and

~~Whereas~~, the delinquent *ad valorem* taxes plus the special assessments levied against Tax Map 23B, Group A, Parcel 007.00, and Tax Map 23C, Group F, Parcel 002.00, which are subject to sale for special assessments, so far exceed the anticipated bids that said properties are not expected to attract any bids if the bidding is opened for the sum of the *ad valorem* taxes plus special assessments; now

~~Therefore~~, Be It Resolved by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater that the Clerk & Master open the bidding on Tax Map 23B, Group A, Parcel 007.00, and Tax Map 23C, Group F, Parcel 002.00, for the amount of the *ad valorem* taxes only (including interest and other statutory costs and fees), not including special assessments, but preserving Sweetwater's special assessment claim if the final bid exceeds the opening bid.

Adopted this 6th day of January, 2025.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

CITY RECORDER

MAYOR

The city administrator gave an update on the Sweetwater 150th Celebration which kicks off Thursday January 9th at 6:00 p.m.

In other new business, the city administrator informed the board that a temporary construction easement has been executed with TDOT for the bridge widening project along Highway 11. The city was paid a sum of \$1300.00.

Commissioner Stutts moved to approve a resolution for the Charles L. Pruitt Memorial Bridge to be sent to the state for adoption. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Resolution to name a portion of Highway 322 "Charles L. Pruitt Memorial Bridge"

WHEREAS, the City of Sweetwater has seen fit to honor certain individuals whose efforts made Sweetwater a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, Charles L. Pruitt, generously gave of himself throughout his life for the betterment and prosperity of the citizens of the City of Sweetwater; the State of Tennessee; and the United States of America serving over 20 years with the United States Navy; and

WHEREAS, Charles L. Pruitt, a native of Sweetwater, enlisted in the United States Navy September 6, 1940, served aboard the USS Lexington aircraft carrier and the USS Henderson, as well as in the Philippine Islands, NAD Cavite, Japan, and other locations, surviving captivity in the Philippines and Japan for three years and five months as a POW, torture in multiple camps and aboard the hell ship Noto Maru, and the Omie Machi coal mine; and

WHEREAS, Charles L. Pruitt was liberated in September 1945, retiring from the US Navy as Chief Warrant Officer in October 1960; and attended the University of Tennessee and other colleges and universities, and was a member of the American Ex-P.O.W. Organization, and a lifetime member of the Sweetwater VFW Gold Star Post 5156, serving as chaplain and honor guard; and

WHEREAS, the leaders and citizens of Sweetwater are grateful to Mr. Pruitt for his many selfless contributions to our nation and wish to recognize his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pruitt passed away on December 4, 1998 and the City of Sweetwater wishes to honor his legacy; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SWEETWATER, TENNESSEE, on the 6th day of January, 2025,

That the section of State Highway 322, which is the overpass of Interstate 75 at Exit 62, is hereby designated "Charles L. Pruitt Memorial Bridge" in honor of his service to the City of Sweetwater, State of Tennessee, and the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESLOVED, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Tennessee House of Representatives and Tennessee Senate.

Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Recorder

Commissioner Richeson moved to approve a resolution to hold an election in June 2025. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

RESOLUTION
MAYOR AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF SWEETWATER, TENNESSEE

WHEREAS, the City Charter of the City of Sweetwater, Tennessee, requires the election of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners and school board members on two-year election cycles for four-year terms; and,

WHEREAS, in the year 2025 the terms of office for the Mayor, two City Commissioners and two Sweetwater City School Board members will expire such that the City is in need of holding an election in 2025, and,

WHEREAS, the City has historically used the services of the Monroe County Election Commission for the purpose of holding City elections. The City will pay for the cost of the election as budgeted and authorizes the Monroe County Election Commission to bill the city for associated costs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater, Tennessee, in regular meeting assembled, that the City of Sweetwater requests the Monroe County Election Commission to hold an election in the City of Sweetwater on the second Thursday in the month of June, 2025, in keeping with State law, the City Charter, and the Municipal Code, for the purpose of electing the Mayor, two City Commissioners and two members of the Sweetwater City Board of Education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption the City Recorder forward a copy of this Resolution to the Monroe County Election Commissioner and that upon holding of such election, the cost of such election be paid from the general fund budget of the City by the Recorder.

Done, this 6th day of January, 2025.

MAYOR

Attest:

City Recorder

No further action was taken. The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

This the 6th day of January 2025.

Mayor

Attest: _____

Recorder

