

# CITY OF NIOTA

## MINUTES

### Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners

December 16, 2019

Date of Approval: January 13, 2020

Approved by Commissioners: Watkins and Wallace

**Call to Order:** A meeting of the City of Niota Board of Commissioners and Mayor was held in the Niota Memorial Building Fellowship Hall, Niota, Tennessee on December 16, 2019. The meeting convened at 6:00 P.M., Mayor Preece presiding, Jeannie Anderson as City Recorder.

**Members in attendance:** Commissioner's Baker, Wallace and Watkins

**Invocation:** Todd Baker

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Chief Tim Davis

**Reading of the Minutes:**

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on October 7, 2019 as read. Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion passed.**

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the Called Meeting held on October 29, 2019 as read. Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion passed.**

**Reports from Members of the Governing Body:**

**Depot Committee:** Mayor gave report on the Depot Dedication on November 2, 2019. It was a great event with over 80 attendees. Additionally, it was successful in making the public aware of the opportunity to rent the Depot for their future events!

**Library report:** The Library offered a Fall and Winter Women's program with a different topic each week. Unfortunately, there has been no attendance for these events.

**Finance report:** Jeannie Anderson reported that the annual audit had been conducted on November 11-12, 2019. It seemingly went well with a couple of issues found that were already being resolved. The Finance reports were read for November and December, we are half way through our fiscal year and on track in our budget.

**Mayor made a motion to accept the Finance reports as read, Commissioner Watkins seconded, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Police report:** Commissioner Watkins gave report to:

October: 22 stops, 7 arrests, 4 medical, 26 traffic citations issued, 116 dispatched calls.

November: 34 stops, 6 arrests, 3 medical, 29 traffic citations issued, 107 dispatched calls.

**Fire Department report:** No report given

**Sewer Department report:** Commissioner Baker gave report that the new clarifier is up and running. No violations were found.

**Street Department report:** No report given

**Water Department report:** Jen Cagle gave report that there were 4 cutoffs this past month.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Shultz and Knox Street Closures:** Mayor reported on the meeting with MTAS. First reading of Ordinance 19-11 was presented.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to accept Ordinance 19-11 to close Shultz and Knox Streets as read, Commissioner Baker seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Old City Vehicles:** 3 vehicles have been sold, with 2 more to go, the F 150, a patrol car, and a bush hog.

**Condemned Houses:** All letters have been sent and Jeannie Anderson will start looking for a contractor and an appraiser for the next steps in the removal process.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Water Department new trucks:** Report was given that the Water Dept had to purchase a new 2019 F-150 in October as one of the trucks had completely stopped running. The truck was purchased from Jacky Jones under a government issue that was left over from another utility company. The cost of the truck was \$24,950 and the Water Dept paid for it outright with no financing. Additionally, the Water Dept will need to purchase another truck as the second one is barely running and having constant repairs. Again, Jacky Jones was the lowest bid with a new 2020 F-150 at \$25,289, retailing at \$33,140. The Water Dept can pay outright with no financing for this truck as well. It will need to be ordered with a 4-6 weeks delivery time.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the prior purchase of a truck for the Water Department and to approve the purchase of a 2<sup>nd</sup> truck. Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Water Department:** Jen Cagle reported from attending the TAUD conference. She is currently working on new policies that need to be put into place in the Water Dept. before the new fiscal year.

**Water Department:** Thomas Builders has requested a sewer adjustment on their bill as they filled a pond and it did not go down the sewer. The adjustment is for the amount of \$98.00.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the adjustment for Thomas Builders of \$98.00 on the sewer portion of their water bill, Commissioner Baker seconded, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Police Department:** Purchasing of new patrol vehicles – currently both patrol cars are having major repair issues and are failing rapidly. 3 bids have been obtained and Jacky Jones Ford provided the best option. Each Ford Explorer fully equipped will cost \$45,312. A \$20,000 down payment will be made and financing will be provided by People’s Bank in Niota at 4.875% interest for 84 months.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the purchase of 2 new Ford Explorers from Jacky Jones Ford for the Police Department, Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Police Department:** Chief Davis and Officer Tabitha Bates are past due for their annual \$1/hr raise.

**Commissioner Baker made a motion to approve \$1/hr raise with retro pay for Chief Davis and Officer Bates.**

**Finance and Water Departments:** Jeannie Anderson in Finance and Jen Cagle in Water are both in need of new updated computers. Each will cost \$1821.75 and will be purchased, installed and maintained by Local Government.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the purchase of 2 new computers from Local Government for the Finance and Water Departments. Commissioner Baker seconded, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Magnolia (105) Property Purchase:** City would like to purchase this property from the County for the cost of owed back taxes, then divide into 2 separate lots. First lot structure will be demolished and used for city event parking. The second structure will be assessed and determined if it can be resold to pay for the back taxes owed.

**Commissioner Baker made a motion to purchase 105 Magnolia/164 Green Street property to use as event parking and to possibly resale the second structure to pay off back taxes for the city. Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Voting on hiring Greg Millsaps part-time:** A request to hire Greg Millsaps part time Streets/Floater was made. Pay would start at \$10/hr.

**Commissioner Wallace made a motion to hire Greg Millsaps part time for Streets/Floater at \$10/hr.**

**Commissioner Baker seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Raise, Retro Pay and Resignation of Heidi Wallace:** A \$1/hr raise is past due for Heidi Wallace. Additionally, Ms. Wallace submitted her resignation from the Water Department effective December 31, 2019.

**Commissioner Baker made a motion to approve the \$1/hr raise with retro pay for Mrs. Wallace.**

**Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to accept Ms. Wallace’s resignation from the Water Department, effective December 31, 2019. Mayor seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Christmas Employee Bonuses:**

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the employee Christmas bonuses at \$200/ full time, \$100/part time. Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Change of Board Meeting time to begin at 6:00 p.m.**

**Mayor made a motion to change the Board meeting start time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Watkins seconded, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**New CBDG GRANT:** To be used for placing cameras in the sewer lines.

**Mayor made a motion that if awarded funding to place cameras in the sewer lines as this was mandated by the State. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Announcements:**

- a.) Closed for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
- b.) Trash pick up will remain the same for the Holidays
- c.) Stage raffle tickets for sale – Drawing to be held Dec 31, 2019
- d.) Christmas house decoration drawing – January 13, 2020
- e.) Next meeting January 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

**Adjournment:**

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Wallace seconded. All voted aye, meeting adjourned.**

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**CITY RECORDER**

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**MAYOR**