

**CITY OF NIOTA  
MINUTES  
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners  
December 14, 2020**

**Date of Approval: January 11, 2021**

**Approved by Commissioners: Watkins and Dilbeck**

**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 14, 2020. The meeting convened at 6:00 P.M., Mayor Preece presiding, Jeannie Anderson as City Recorder.

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

**Invocation:** Todd Baker

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Attorney Chuck Pope

**Resignation of Commissioner Wallace** – submitted on October 23, 2020.

**Commissioner Dilbeck made a motion to accept Scott Wallace's resignation, Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion passed.**

**Nomination of Allen Watkins to a 2 year Commission seat for the City of Niota. Commissioner Baker, made a motion to accept the nomination of Allen Watkins to a 2 year Commission seat, Commissioner Dilbeck seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Installation of newly elected Commissioner: Renee Brakebill**

**Commissioner Dilbeck made a motion to accept Ms. Renee Brakebill's appointment as a City of Niota Commissioner, Commissioner Watkins, seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Appointment of Renee Brakebill:**

**Mayor made a motion to appoint Renee Brakebill as the Streets Commissioner to replace Scott Wallace, Commissioner Dilbeck seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Installation of re-elected Commissioners:**

**Mayor made a motion to re-appoint Allen Watkins as the Police Commissioner, Commissioner Brakebill seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Mayor made a motion to re-appoint David Dilbeck as the Water Commissioner, Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Nomination of Allen Watkins as Vice Mayor:**

**Commissioner Dilbeck made a motion to re-appoint Allen Watkins as Vice-Mayor, Commissioner Baker seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

## **Reading of the Regular Minutes:**

**Commissioner Baker made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on November 9, 2020 as read. Commissioner Dilbeck seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion passed.**

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

**Depot Committee:** Resealing the deck, steps and ramp on the Depot is completed. The landscaping is underway and Christmas lights and garland have been put in place for the holidays. All the maintenance and upgrades have been done with FGTF profits and no tax payer money has been used for these projects.

**Finance report:** Jeannie Anderson reported that we are staying on budget with revenues and expenditures. Ms. Anderson also stated that the in-house annual audit had been done on November 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> and that all seem to go smoothly.

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

**Police report:** Commissioner Watkins gave the Police report stats for November: 1 arrests, 0 calls for medical, 23 traffic citations, 79 dispatched calls, 28 traffic stops.

**Fire Department report:** Chief Slack reported that 90% of the calls were for medical. Reported that the pump test on the trucks went well. The Fire Dept gave out Christmas presents for 35 kids and 2 Dudes BBQ provided boxed meals for 65 people. It was suggested that Marc Plaster owner of 2 Dudes BBQ be given some form of recognition for this contribution as he has been doing this for several years.

**Sewer Department report:** DMR and MOR no violations. Working to get the Moratorium lifted.

**Street Department report:** Commissioner Dilbeck reported that the F-350 had been repaired and even with additional needed repairs only cost \$2315.

**Water Department report:** Commissioner Dilbeck reported that 772 new meters are installed and all are working correctly but one. Two lines at Pilot are needing repairs and they are getting quotes. Valves are desperately needed at the Pilot/interstate location. We are relying on main lines that would be completely closed off in there was a break. Valves would contain water outages for customers.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Ordinance 20-20 Budget Amendment:** Second reading of Ordinance 20-20.

**Commissioner Dilbeck made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 20-20 Budget Amendment, Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**WWTP:** Land sale – Randy Dunlop will pay for the survey, assessment and deed paperwork. Offering \$1000 for the parcel of land.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to accept the offer from Randy Dunlop of \$1000 for the parcel of land at the WWTP, Commissioner Brakebill seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Police Department:** Rehiring of Officer Tabitha Bates as of 11/18/2020. Reported that Officer Bates is doing well on daily reporting.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to rehire Officer Bates, Commissioner Baker seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Police Department:** Chief Davis requested that officers that live within the county be allowed to take home their vehicles at night. This allows for faster response time and is a great benefit for the officers.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to table the request until next meeting, Commissioner Baker seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion to table was passed.**

**Police Department:** Officer Cook has completed his 90 day probation period. Do to his extended responsibilities he is being given the position of Senior Officer and pay will be raised \$1.50/hr.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to raise Officer Cook's pay to \$1.50/hr due to his responsibilities, Commissioner Baker seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.**

**Police Department:** Samantha Hall has completed her TBIRS re-certification and should receive a \$1/hr raise.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to raise Ms. Hall's pay \$1/hr. Commissioner Dilbeck seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Street Department:** F350 Truck repairs costs of \$2315.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the F350 repair costs of \$2315. Commissioner Brakebill seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

**Budget Amendment Ordinance 20-21:** Purchase of 105 Magnolia Street from McMinn County in the amount of \$6512.00 to cover back taxes.

**Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment Ordinance 20-21 to purchase the property located at 105 Magnolia Street from the county for the amount of \$6512. to cover back taxes.**

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

**Finance Department:** Request for approval to give the Niota City Employees an annual Christmas bonus of \$200 full time/ \$100 part time.

**Commissioner Dilbeck made a motion to approve the Niota City Employees annual Christmas bonus, Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.**

## **Announcements:**

- a. Next meeting will be held January 11, 2021
- b. Christmas House decoration contest
- c. Bike raffle – we are needing children to sign up

**Adjournment:**

**Commissioner Dibeck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Baker. All voted aye, meeting adjourned.**

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**CITY RECORDER**

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**MAYOR**