

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

Date of Approval: October 6, 2020

Approved by Commissioners: Wallace and Watkins

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 September 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, Wallace and Watkins

Invocation: Todd Baker

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Preece

Reading of the Regular Minutes:

Mayor Preece made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on August 10, 2020 as read. Commissioner Dilbeck seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion passed.

Reports from Members of the Governing Body:

Depot Committee: Suffrage activity – On August 29, 2020 the Cancellation of the 19th Amendment Postage Stamp was a great success!

Finance report: Jeannie Anderson reported that we are on track in all departments for the first quarter of the 2020-21 budget.

Commissioner Baker made a motion to accept the Finance reports as read, Commissioner Wallace seconded, all voted aye, motion passed.

Police report: Commissioner Watkins gave the Police report stats for August: 4 arrests, 5 calls for medical, 36 traffic citations, 103 dispatched calls, 24 traffic stops.

Fire Department report: Fire Chief Slack reported 15 calls, 1 for vehicle fire, rest for EMS.

Sewer Department report: Mayor gave the report that the sewer is going well. The City was awarded a CDBG in the amount of \$630,000.00. Everything is running well with no violations.

Street Department report: Commissioner Wallace said that there was no report at this time.

Water Department report: Commissioner Dilbeck reported that there was no report at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance 7-15: Trash and Brush -

Mayor Preece made a motion to accept the second reading on the updated verbiage on the Trash and Debris pickup, Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Resolution 20-11: Budget Amendment -

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to accept the second reading of the Budget Amendment Resolution 20-11, Commissioner Baker seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Purchase of 105 Magnolia Street Property -

Mayor Preece made a motion to purchase the property for the amount of back taxes owed to the County located at 105 Magnolia Street for the City to use as a parking lot and to resale the existing white house on the property to pay for the City's costs in purchasing and cleanup. Commissioner Wallace seconded the motions, all voted aye, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Purchasing and Procedures Policy – Mayor Preece brought it before the Board to update the City's Purchasing and Procedures Policy to increase the limits requiring preapproval.

Commissioner Dilbeck made a motion to update the City's Purchasing and Procedures Policy to increase the limits requiring preapproval by the Board, Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Resolution 20-15 - Driver Safety Grant –

Commissioner Dilbeck made a motion to approve Resolution 20-15 for the Driver Safety Grant offered by Public Entity Partners, Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Ordinance 20-16 – Budget Amendment for TCRS

Mayor Preece made a motion to increase the budget line for the Police Dept TCRS so that all officers can participate when the retirement program starts in October 2020. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Ordinance 20-17 – Unclaimed Property Policy

Mayor Preece made a motion to approve Ordinance 20-17 - Unclaimed Property Policy for the City, Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Police Dept:

Court Clerk Samantha Hall has reached her 90 day trial period for employment and has been recertified in TBIRS. She is due a \$1 per hour raise.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to give Ms. Hall her \$1 per hour raise, Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Police Dept:

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to accept Officer Adam Cook as the new Niota Police Dept Officer replacing Officer Tabitha Bates. He officially began his duties on August 24, 2020. Commissioner Wallace seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Police Dept:

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to allow Officer Cook to take his patrol vehicle home during times that the Chief is in TLETA training or on vacation so that any off duty response times are kept to a minimum. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Police Dept:

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to declare the old Crown Victoria police cars as surplus and put to auction. Commissioner Dilbeck seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Building Inspector:

Mayor made a motion to ask Bill McConkey from the City of Athens to serve as the City of Niota's Building Inspector. Commissioner Dilbeck seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Structural Engineer:

Discussion held around whether or not the City needs to hire a structural engineer to assess the Etowah Properties Building on Main Street. Further research is needed to determine what process should be taken to have the building either repaired or removed. No decision was made at this time.

November – December Activities:

On November 21, 2020 the City will hold a Holiday Boutique in the Depot with Vendor Crafts and Gifts, A Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show will be held outside the Depot and a Book Sale will be held at the former Library. On December 5, 2020 the City will hold a second day of the Holiday Boutique.

Request to Speak:

Adrian Schmidt – spoke concerning the grass that was left on the sidewalks and in the street. Her children and some other youth helped in cleaning it up and requested time given for community service for their school.

Announcements:

- a. Next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 6th, 2020 due to conflict with scheduling.

Adjournment:

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

CITY RECORDER

MAYOR