

Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2019

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater met in their regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 4, 2019 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 present.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve the minutes from the monthly meeting of January 7, 2019 and the workshop of January 28, 2019. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

After the Recorder's Report, Commissioner West moved to approve the distributions for the month of January, 2019. Commissioner Moser seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Mayor Lowe opened the floor to the owners of local hotels and bed and breakfasts concerning the ordinance. Kevin from the Rodeway Inn asked the board give another month before voting so that they could speak with their hotel lobbying association, who was scheduled to speak with the state about repealing hotel tax this week. Commissioner Hughes moved to table the ordinance to next month to give the hotel owners more time to consult. Commissioner Stockton asked if the ordinance could be tabled. City Attorney John Cleveland advised some action must be taken or the ordinance would fail, and that tabling the motion was an action that could be taken. Commissioner Moser seconded the motion. Commissioner West said he would like to see the motion placed back on the table so the board could vote tonight. The Recorder noted that since Sweetwater was a home rule city, the association's effort may not affect them, as the state legislature was not required to authorize the hotel tax for Sweetwater. Commissioner West agreed and noted there was no guarantee any legislation would pass by the state. Mayor Lowe called for a Roll Call Vote on the motion to table to next month. Upon Roll Call Vote, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes and Moser. Nays being Commissioners Lee, West, and Stockton. The motion failed. Air Bed and Breakfast owner Sandi Kile stated she would like to see copies of ordinances at the meetings or they be read aloud. Sandi stated she was the only bed and breakfast owner in the city. The Recorder advised she would send 11 notices to the 7 hotels and 4 existing or planned lodging establishments, some of whom had already spoken to Planning Commission or the Main Street group about their plans. Ms. Kile was also concerned about the privacy of her register, as the ordinance says city officials can inspect the register. The Recorder advised the ordinance used the same model as neighboring communities and had been reviewed by MTAS and the City Attorney. The City Attorney advised there were no privacy laws that he knew of that this ordinance as drafted would violate. He noted that you're not required to provide the information to anyone other than the city officials who are designated by the ordinance. Commissioner Hughes moved to remove the Ordinance No. 969 from the table and place on the agenda for action. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The

motion was carried. Commissioner West moved to amend Ordinance No. 969 by changing the percentage to 2.25% and the wording changes recommended by John Cleveland and MTAS in the current draft. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Upon Roll Call Vote, to adopt Ordinance No. 969 to levy a privilege tax upon the occupancy in any hotel or any plan in which rooms, short-term rental units, bed and breakfasts, lodgings or accommodations are furnished to transients for a consideration as amended on second and final reading, the ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Lee, West, and Stockton. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

In New business, Tania Rich presented the annual library report. She noted multiple building maintenance including ADA upgrades at the library in coordination with the city. She noted the library had 39,874 visitors in 2018, despite being closed for maintenance for 19 full days and 29 partial days. Commissioner Stockton thanked Tania for her good work and questioned what the library was doing to ensure the library's survival. Tania noted the library needed to adapt in order to survive and it involved incorporating technology and hands on activities.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve a Resolution to approve the Capital Improvement Plan FY ending 2020-2024. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City Charter requires adoption of a Capital Improvement Program annually by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners: and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Commissioners has reviewed the capital needs and projected program for fiscal years ending 2020-2024: and,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater, in regular meeting assembled, that the attached Review and Summary of the Capital Improvement Program is adopted for the fiscal years ending 2020 through 2024 for budgeting and planning purposes as required by the City Charter.

Resolved this ____ day of _____, 2019.

Mayor

City Recorder

Capital Improvement Program							
2020-2024							
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
<u>FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>							
aerial truck	grant					1,000,000	
Pumper truck	budget		350,000	350,000			
equipment	FEMA grant	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	150,000	
Fire hall maintenance	Budget	12,000	12,000	12,000	25,000	12,000	
TOTALS		37,000	387,000	387,000	50,000	1,162,000	2,023,000
<u>POLICE DEPARTMENT</u>							
Replace vehicles	budget	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Public safety bldg expansion	budget/note expense	85,000	25,000				
Upgrade cameras (incl body cams)	budget/ DF	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Computers & equipment	budget/ DF	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	
TOTALS		177,000	117,000	92,000	92,000	92,000	570,000
<u>PARKS/RECREATION</u>							
softball fields	grant/budget	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	2,000	
Softball dugouts	budget	4,000					
trails/greenways	budget/grant			250,000	250,000	250,000	
soccer fields	budget	1,500	5,000	1,500	1,500	2,000	
baseball fields	budget	1,500	1,500	10,000	1,500	2,000	
football field	budget	1,500	1,500	1,500	15,000	2,000	

multi-use field	budget	500	500	500	500	1,000	
Playground surfacing	budget		30,000			30,000	
Football field bleachers	grant/budget			500,000			
Engleman Park Phase 2	grant/budget	350,000					
Splash pad maintenance	budget		2,500	2,500	2,500	5,000	
pool improvements	budget	10,000	125,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	
volleyball court	budget		15,000				
Replace score boards	budget			5,000		5,000	
surveillance	budget	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	
tennis courts surfacing	budget					25,000	
mowers & equipment	budget		12,000	12,000	15,000	15,000	
Parks Office improvement	budget	5,000					
trucks	budget	36,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	
TOTALS		416,500	202,500	797,500	300,500	352,000	2,069,000
<u>STREETS</u>							
landscaping	Budget	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	7,500	
general equipment	budget/SSA	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
SSA Equipment	SSA	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
Street Sweeper	Bond/ Debt Service	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Sidewalk extentions & additions	budget/SSA	50,000	50,000	50,000	150,000	150,000	
Sidewalk along High Street	SSA/grant	150,000					
Repairing walks & curbs	SSA	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	
Engineering fee for STP project	SSA/budget	25,000			25,000		

paving	budget/SSA	75,000	75,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
street signs	budget	5,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	
TOTALS		423,000	245,000	270,000	395,000	372,500	1,705,500
<u>Planning, Dev, & Tourism</u>							
vehicle upgrade	budget	1,000	26,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Prop Maint assessments	budget	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	
Hwy 68 signage	budget/private						
Prof./Engineering Services	budget	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	
Computer upgrades	budget			5,000			
Main Street grants for downtown	Grants	125,000	75,000	25,000	25,000	100,000	
Main Street Program	budget/grants	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
		215,500	190,500	120,500	115,500	190,500	832,500
<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>							
Fund Balance Growth	budget	100,000	100,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Grant matching funds	budget	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	
Public wifi	budget/grant	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
Building Improvement Projects	budget	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	
parking	budget			35,000			
Industrial dev.	loan/grant	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Decorations & Christmas Lights	budget/donations	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	
community center	budget/grant		450,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	
Recycling program	budget/grant			25,000			

Computer upgrades	budget	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
I-75 infrastructure	Budget/grant	10,000	100,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
School capital projects	budget	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
School technology upgrades	budget	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	
ADA upgrades	budget/grant	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Access Road I-75 exits	Grants				6,000,000		
TOTALS		295,000	835,000	350,000	6,290,000	290,000	8,060,000
<u>SUMMARY</u>							
Fire		37,000	387,000	387,000	50,000	1,162,000	
Police		177,000	117,000	92,000	92,000	92,000	
Parks/Rec		416,500	202,500	797,500	300,500	352,000	
Streets		423,000	245,000	270,000	395,000	372,500	
Planning, Dev, Tourism		215,500	190,500	120,500	115,500	190,500	
Gen Govt.		295,000	835,000	350,000	6,290,000	290,000	
TOTALS		1,564,000	1,977,000	2,017,000	7,243,000	2,459,000	15,260,000

Commissioner Moser moved to approve Ordinance No. 971 to amend the budget for the year ending June 30, 2019 on first reading. Commissioner Hughes seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Lee, West, and Stockton. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Mayor Lowe advised the city had an opportunity to apply for a Department of Agriculture grant for the Marketplace to provide a public restroom and washing station for vendors. He asked the board if they found it acceptable to apply for the grant up to \$50,000 with a 50% match that did allow in-kind work towards the match. The board agreed by consent.

Mayor Lowe reminded those going to the East TN Legislative Luncheon to accept an award for the city to be at City Hall by 9:30 am on Friday.

No further action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

This the 4th day of February, 2019.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

RECORDER