

**Regular Meeting of the
Cornersville Board of Mayor
and Aldermen
July 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**



Those Participating: Mayor John Luna, Alderman Mary Johnson, Alderman Doris Arthur, Alderman Sheryl McClintock, Alderman Janice Kerber, Town Administrator Taylor Brandon and Chief Mark Chandler

1. **Luna called the meeting to order.**
2. **Luna led the Pledge of Allegiance.**
3. **Arthur said the Invocation**
4. **Approval of the Financials:** Kerber made a motion to approve the financials as they are presented. Johnson seconded the motion. Luna asked if there was any discussion and there was none. Luna called for a vote and all voted in favor of the motion.
5. **Approval of the Minutes:** Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as they were presented. Arthur seconded the motion. Luna asked if there was any discussion and there was none. Luna called for a vote and all voted in favor of the motion.
6. **Citizens Comments:** Mayor Luna moved agenda item number 10) Citizens Comments to agenda item 6).

(A) Kristin Tolley, 2930 Lynnville Hwy Cornersville, TN, began to speak "on behalf" of the pigs in town limits. Ostermann explained that citizens must reside inside the town limits of Cornersville in order to speak during the meeting.

(B) Jennifer Willis, 117 Beechwood Ave Cornersville, TN, stated she has a 10-year-old pot belly pig that stays in her house, her porch, or yard. Willis wants to prove they are pets like a dog and are not a nuisance. Willis stated that people drive down her street to see her pig. Willis asked why there are complaints now when there never has been before.

(C) Kayla Smith, 104 Terry Lane, Cornersville, TN, stated her family has had a pot belly pig at her residence for about 2 ½ years. The area is fenced, has a small swimming pool and a dog house to get out of the sun. Smith stated the area is kept clean, and the pig is a family pet. The animal's needs are met. Smith said the area for her animals is large enough to meet their needs.

(D) Savannah Siwec, 511 North Main St Cornersville, TN, stated she has rescued and spayed/neutered the 4 pot belly pigs she has on her property inside a fenced area of her yard. Siwec said the pigs are pets and respond to voice commands. Siwec says the pigs are not a nuisance to anyone.

(E) Freddie Capps, 202 Lynnville Hwy Cornersville, TN, stated he has an issue with pigs being in a residential zone. Capps stated he sold the lot at 104 Terry Lane, which is 1.5 acres. Capps stated the owners have a cow and a pot belly pig in the fenced back yard. The lot is too small for the animals.

7. **Ordinance 23-295 Personnel Policy:** Ostermann stated the Ordinance should repeal previous resolutions adopting personnel policies. Brandon stated the current policy is a resolution. For the policy to be codified, it will have to be written as an ordinance. McClintock wanted clarification for page four of the ordinance relating to who can occupy the role of Town Administrator, Recorder, and Treasurer as quoted by Section 7 of the Town Charter.

McClintock asked about holiday pay for part time employees under section 2.2, page 8 of the ordinance as well as personal day accrual under section 4.3, page 17. Ostermann stated the hours should be based on normal work days. McClintock requested the normal hours worked for holiday and personal day accrual for part time employees.

Arthur asked about section 2.5 on page 10 of the ordinance relating to compensable time off for lunch.

McClintock asked if personal days carried over from one year to the next. Brandon stated personal days do not.

Brandon stated he would rather adopt a block of hours (personal time, vacation and sick) as paid time off instead of separate pay categories. Brandon stated he currently cannot track any time off except Vacation and Sick time through the payroll software. McClintock agrees a block of hours time off will be better.

McClintock wanted clarification regarding accrual of sick time on page 18, section 4.5 of the ordinance.

McClintock asked for Rule 17 on page 24 to read, "Employees are not permitted to allow nonemployees to drive Town-owned vehicles without express authorization from the Town Administrator."

McClintock asked if a new cross shredder was required on page 30.

McClintock asked if employee dismissal requires a majority on page 38. Brandon stated the Town Charter requires unanimous approval to dismiss elected officials and a majority for other employees.

Kerber made a motion to adopt Ordinance 23-295 Personnel Policy with the changes described and including accrual of 64 hours of sick pay per year on first reading. McClintock seconded the motion. Luna called for a vote and all voted in favor of the motion.

8. Ordinance 23-296 Livestock in Town Limits: Brandon stated the Municipal Code has this listed at Ordinance #11. Brandon gave several example ordinances from other cities relating to livestock and nuisances. Ostermann stated this ordinance is no longer enforceable and it needs to be rewritten and feels it should be based on nuisance and not name different types of livestock. Johnson asked if the current owners are grandfathered-in. Brandon stated he feels the current pot belly pigs in Town limits can be grandfathered-in if that is what the board wants but after passage of the ordinance, no new pot belly pigs can be brought into Town limits. Kerber raised the idea of minimum acreage for livestock. McClintock stated the basis is on nuisance because the Town does not know what livestock is where. Ostermann asked how do you know or define a pot belly pig as a farm animal or livestock and not a pet. He stated it will have to be defined of what the nuisance is in order to enforce it. He stated he has not seen or heard of any complaints the "neighbor" own a certain animal and the odor is a nuisance. He stated an ordinance about nuisance may or should be adopted instead of ownership of any type of livestock. Kerber asked if it would be better to have a permit for any type of farm animal/livestock and limit the number on a property. Johnson made a motion to suspend enforcement of Ordinance #11. Kerber seconded the motion. Luna called for a vote and all voted in favor of the motion.

McClintock made a motion to table Ordinance 23-296 Livestock in Town Limits until the August 3rd meeting. Johnson seconded the motion. Luna called for a vote and all voted in favor of the motion.

9. Other Business:

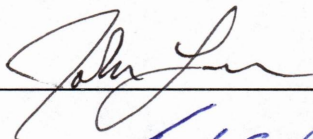
(A) Survey properties of Margaret Allen (Bubba Allen) and old water treatment plant – Brandon stated the surveys have been requested but been not received.

(B) Polk Street, E. Hill Avenue, and Underwood Street paving project – Brandon stated he has received the bids, which were twice as expensive as initially expected. The town will have to scale back some on the project. Duck River Electric has replaced the electric poles as requested. The town should be able to contract next month (August 2023) for the project.

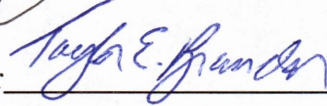
(C) Mayor Luna asked for an update of the new police vehicle. Chief Chandler stated the vehicle is currently in Birmingham. Regarding the new public works truck, Brandon stated he is waiting for the dealership to take delivery.

(D) Kerber stated she has concerns about Calaboose Park. The cats are obviously being fed, but they look very unhealthy. The animals are not spayed or neutered. She stated it is a mess. McClintock stated the town needs to clean the park.

Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Kerber seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor or Vice Mayor 

Date 06 July 2023

Town Administrator/ Recorder 

Date 7/6/23