

**Regular Meeting of the
Cornersville Board of Mayor
and Aldermen
January 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**



Those Participating: Mayor John Luna, Alderman Sherry McClintock, Alderman Mary Johnson, Alderman Doris Arthur, Alderman Janice Kerber, Town Attorney Billy Ostermann, 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:** Johnson made a motion to approve the financials as presented. Kerber seconded the motion. Luna asked if there was any other 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 presented. McClintock 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:** Michael Logelin, 2705 McConnell Road, complimented the Town of Cornersville for the speed limit signs around curves on Coleman Road. Barbara Logelin, 2705 McConnell Road, appreciates the speed limit signs because she walks along Coleman Road. She stated she is very concerned of the amount of littering along Coleman Road and has picked up several items while walking. She would like to have all litter picked up.
7. **Ordinance 23-310 Subdivision Fees – Second Reading:** Kerber made a motion to approve Ordinance 23-310 Subdivision Fees on Second Reading. 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.
8. **Resolution 23-311 – Resolution to apply for Transportation Planning Grant:** Brandon stated this grant is for up to \$200,000 with a 10% match. He stated he does not think the Town of Cornersville will receive that much because the grant is normally for much larger cities. He stated South Central Development District needs a Resolution to get the process started for the grant. Ostermann stated at this point the Resolution is to only accept the grant; not to fund the grant. McClintock asked if this grant would be available at the Underpass at Ostella/Hatchett Hollow Road as well. Brandon stated the grant is for the Central Business District and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen would have to redefine the boundaries of the Central Business District. McClintock and Johnson also discussed Cornersville High School being across the highway.

Students walk under the railroad underpass to get to and from school. Johnson made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-311 allowing Brandon to apply for a transportation planning grant. Arthur seconded the motion. Luna asked if there was any other discussion, and there was none. Luna called for a vote, and all voted in favor of the motion.

- 9. Ordinance 23-312 Short Term Rentals:** Brandon stated he needs more clarity and needs to do a little more research on this ordinance. He stated the Hotel/Motel Tax is something completely different and will have to be a separate ordinance or be dove tailed into this ordinance. He stated he needs to learn more about which properties qualify under the “grandfather” portions of the statute. He asked the board members how they would like to charge the owners, i.e. application fee amount, annual renewal fee amount, etc. Arthur asked if the owners will have to have permits. Brandon stated the Business Permit is given from the county because the Town of Cornersville does not have one. McClintock asked exactly what “grandfathered in” is. Ostermann stated, if the owners have already been operating before the ordinance was adopted, they would be allowed to still be open as he has read in the state statute. He stated the owners will still have to complete an application and pay the fee as well as pay the renewal fee. Arthur asked if the property should be inspected by an employee of the town before the renewal and Brandon stated yes, it would be required to be inspected. Ostermann stated this ordinance has nothing to do with building codes. It is only an inspection to warrant the owners are abiding by this ordinance. Brandon wants more guidance from the board on how they want this ordinance written. Brandon stated he understands they want a \$250 application fee, \$100 annual renewal fee, and will look into the Hotel/Motel Tax. Johnson made a motion to table the First Reading of Ordinance 23-312 – Short Term Rentals until the February 1, 2024 meeting. Kerber seconded the motion. Luna asked if there was any other discussion, and there was none. Luna called for a vote, and all voted in favor of the motion.

10. Other Business:

- a. Brandon gave a report on the debt obligation.
- b. Block Grant Sidewalk: Brandon stated the Town of Cornersville was awarded a \$280,000 Block Grant for a sidewalk going in front of Cornersville Elementary School. He stated he has applied for this grant 6 or 7 times. He also stated he wants to allow the elementary school children to place handprints on the sidewalk.
- c. Luna stated he wants to set up a workshop for all the projects and prioritize them and the expected growth of the community for the next one, three and five year forecasts. The meeting was set for Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 6:00pm at Town Hall.
- d. Brandon gave the annual report from Fire Chief Matt Fox who was unable to attend.
- e. Brandon read a Thank You card from the family of Jimmy Wolaver for flowers the Board sent.
- f. Johnson asked about the progress for the sale of the land occupied by the old Water Treatment Plant.
- g. Brandon stated the Gospel Music Fellowship Association with Mark Startin is wanting to hold a benefit singing at Cornersville High School in March to benefit the Cornersville Police Department for the purchase and distribution of toys for children.

Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Kerber seconded the motion. Luna called for a vote, and all voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor or Vice Mayor John M. Luna

Date 1/4/24

Town Administrator/ Recorder Taylor E. Brandon

Date 1/04/24