Regular Meeting of the Cornersville Board of Mayor and Aldermen March 7, 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 Sgt Wesley Vick.

- 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 discussion, and there was none. Luna called for a vote, and all voted in favor of the motion.
- 5. Approval of the Minutes: Kerber made a motion to approve the minutes as 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: None
- 7. Ordinance 24-312 Short Term Rentals Second Reading: Kerber made a motion to adopt Ordinance 247-312 Short Term Rentals. 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.
- 8. Ordinance 24-315 Hotel/Motel/Occupancy Tax Second Reading: Brandon stated he had discussed the ordinance and what it entails with some businesses. He stated Marshall County already has a 7% tax and should this ordinance pass, it would add another 4% to the businesses. Businesses were opposed to the new tax. He stated Marshall County has given the town \$1,500 the last two years from their tax dollars collected, which can only be used for tourism. Brandon stated the board cannot include or exclude certain types of rentals and wishes to abolish this ordinance. There was no motion to adopt Ordinance 24-315 therefore it died for lack of a motion.
- 9. PILOT Program for The Tennessean Travel Stop: Brandon stated the appraisal for the property is \$5.4 million. He stated the Cornersville Industrial Development Board approved the PILOT for The Tennessean Travel Stop. He stated other revenues coming in are sales tax, wholesale liquor tax, wholesale beer tax and liquor by the drink tax. Brandon reiterated the owner cannot sell the property or business for 5 years under the PILOT Program and will have to tender the deed to the Cornersville Industrial Development Board. He stated if the business were to fail,

the owner still must pay the property taxes he owes to the Town of Cornersville until the PILOT Program is over. Johnson made a motion to accept the Cornersville Industrial Development Board's recommendation to award The Tennessean Travel Stop the PILOT Program. 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.

10. Resolution 24-316 Appoint Billy Ostermann as Delinquent Tax Attorney for 2022 Property Taxes: Kerber made a motion to accept Resolution 24-316. 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.

11. Other Business:

- a. Liquor by the Drink Tennessean Travel Stop: Brandon stated the town is now receiving revenue from the State of Tennessee for the sales of liquor by the drink. He stated the Tennessee Department of Revenue called to verify The Tennessean Travel Stop is within the town limits of Cornersville.
- b. Brandon thanked Marshall County for \$25,000 of recovery funds to the Cornersville Fire Department.
- c. Brandon stated the State of Tennessee has awarded the Cornersville Fire Department a non-matching grant in the amount of \$37,440. He stated Chief Fox would like to use these funds to purchase more SCPAs. Brandon stated he will be looking into the best way to use these funds for the fire department.
- d. Brandon thanked the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and town employees for the work completing the 2024 Special Census. He stated it has been turned over to South Central Development District for verification. He stated the census numbers are 27% more than in 2020, which is a large increase.
- e. Brandon stated the East Hill/Underwood/Polk streets construction is 95% complete and paving should start in a few weeks.

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

Mayor or Vice Mayor

Town Administrator/ Recorder

1.78

Date