

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in regular session October 13th, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in Selmer City Hall. Mayor David Robinson and all five Aldermen were present as follows: John Finlayson, Paul Simpson, Edward Smith, John Smith, and Lloyd Tennyson.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Jetta Forsythe followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag led by John Graham of 8th grade Selmer Middle School.

The Minutes were approved.

Motion by Lloyd Tennyson and seconded by Paul Simpson to accept the Financial Statement. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Morris Carothers of Adamsville introduced Richard Archie from Jackson, Tn. Mr. Archie representing Tennessee Firearms Association quoted Federal and State laws concerning the right to bear firearms. Mr. Archie made statements that were applauded by a large percent of the audience wishing to carry guns in the parks and public places for persons who are licensed to carry guns. David Nance and Brian Fox each spoke relating other different points also applauded by the audience in behalf of the plea to overturn Selmer's recent ruling to disallow guns in the park. Johnny Hollis questioned why anyone wanted to carry guns in our park relating that he had worked in all areas of high crime in Memphis, Tennessee and never once needed a gun. Rev. Homer Watson questioned twice the request to carry guns in the park relating that it did not matter who it was," licensed or thug, when people carry guns its trouble!" Aldermen John Smith disagreed with Rev. Watson and complemented and expressed appreciation for all the excellent points of view made concerning the right to bear firearms to protect themselves as the law now allows.

Motion by John Smith to lift the ban which disallows guns in the Selmer Park and city owned Properties. Motion seconded by John Finlayson.

John Finlayson—yes, Paul Simpson—No, Edward Smith—No, John Smith—yes, Lloyd Tennyson---No. Motion failed.

Dr. Eason addressed the Board concerning his request not to issue a beer permit to Wal-Mart. He stated that his father also a doctor was killed in a wreck caused by a drunk driver approximately 47 years ago this month.

Motion by Edward Smith to pass on 2nd Reading an ordinance amending the text of the Selmer Municipal Zoning Ordinance by defining Halfway Houses; allowing such operations and sanitariums as special exceptions in Special Impact Industrial Districts only, with specified criteria required. Motion seconded by Paul Simpson. All five voted yes. Motion carried. Amended ordinance referred back to Municipal Regional Planning Commission for adoption.

Motion by Edward Smith to approve the Parade Permit application submitted by Selmer Park & Recreational Department to have the Veterans Day Parade. Motion seconded by Lloyd Tennyson. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

The Christmas parade permit application was up for approval when David Forsythe from the audience related that where the children lined up on the Hwy was much more dangerous than allowing guns in the park and asked that a safer place be used for point of beginning. Everyone seemed to agree that this might be a safety hazard and needed change!

Motion by John Smith that the Christmas Parade Permit application by the Selmer Jaycees be approved with the understanding that participates will be lined up in the park instead of on the road. Motion seconded by Paul Simpson. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paul Simpson designating Court Avenue as "ROCKABILLY BOULEVARD", this granting an honorary title only, with no change to current addresses. Motion seconded by Lloyd Tennyson. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Judge Bill Webb relating his military history, World War II, American Legion, Honor Guard, asked if due to the resolution not allowing guns in the park and city owed properties if the participants and equipment used in the Veterans Day Parade will have a problem. He was assured that they would not!

The meeting was adjourned.

Beer Board was called into session.

Selmer Beer Board

The Beer Board was called into session by Mayor David Robinson, following the October 13, 2009 regular 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting. All Board members were also present as follows: John Finlayson, Paul Simpson, Edward Smith, John Smith, and Lloyd Tennyson.

Amanda Miller presenting the beer application for Wal-Mart was present.

Aldermen Paul Simpson read excretes from a Supreme Court case ruling in the 1960's whereby Collierville, Tennessee was allowed to uphold the denial of a beer permit based on what might possibly be similar reasoning. Aldermen John Smith asked Ms. Miller why Wal-Mart had let the last permit lapse. Amanda Miller explained that the Regional Vice President had changed and that the present one wished to change and try selling beer. Ms Miller added that she did not wish to sell beer at all and further suggested putting the issue to sell beer on referendum and making Selmer dry so she wouldn't have to deal with selling beer. Jetta Forsythe addressed the Board stating that the citizens of Selmer did not want it and suggested that a letter be written from the Mayor and Aldermen, in the event that they did obtain a beer permit, telling Corporation Headquarters that Selmer did not want it and asking them to reconsider and withdraw the permit if granted.

The question was called on the Wal-Mart beer permit application. Roll Call as Follows: John Finlayson---yes, Paul Simpson---No, Edward Smith---No, John Smith---No, Lloyd Tennyson---No. Application Failed.

Aldermen Simpson had a brief conversation with Attorney Abernathy concerning the need to place a time limit within the beer ordinance for exercising the option to sell beer after the beer permit is approved stating that much could change within a sixty day period. Attorney Abernathy advised that he would look into drawing up the desired action for the amendment.

Meeting Adjourned.