

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in regular session April 11, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. in Selmer City Hall. Mayor John Smith presided with all five Board of Aldermen as follows: Nicky Atkins, John Austin, John Finlayson, J.T. Hawkins and Johnny Norris.

Mayor Smith specially recognized Asst. Attorney General Bob Gray's students from UT Martin's U.S. Government & Politics class.

The meeting opened with prayer by Derrick Bodiford followed by the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag of America led by Mr. Bryan Huff.

Motion by Johnny Norris and second by J.T. Hawkins to accept the minutes. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by John Finlayson and seconded by Nicky Atkins to accept the financial statement. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Department reports were given.

Men from an area within the city limits were concerned that where they lived called Starla Lane was not ever paved. The development had not been accepted as a city street because it did not meet the criteria required for a street to be accepted by the town. Attorney Abernathy was going to review the history in what was needed for acceptance. It was believed that Dennis Moore had been the developer. Street Superintendent Raymond Ouellette explained that he would look into what he could do to assist these residents.

Motion by John Finlayson and seconded by Nick Atkins to authorize Mayor Smith to execute on behalf of the Town of Selmer a quitclaim deed on the old factory property in Bethel Springs to the Town of Bethel Springs. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Nicky Atkins asked that Chief Burks suspend Officer Ted Roberts with pay pending the outcome of the present TBI investigation due to being advised by MTAS and a lady with the TBI that allowing him to continue working as a police officer with knowledge of a pending investigation could be a possible liability to the town. Mr. Atkins stated that he felt this was, "just common sense and that the issue was a serious deal". " We cannot keep getting lawsuits because of stupidity"!

Attorney Terry Abernathy stated that when the issue came up with Officer Roberts he immediately viewed the video and talked with Asst. Attorney General Gray and was advised to take no action until the TBI investigation was completed. Chief Burks based upon this advice took no action and Attorney Abernathy further said that the Board did not have the right to take job action. Attorney Abernathy stated that he had never conducted an investigation and did not intend to, but that Chief Burks decision was not in concrete and that he could change his mind if desired. Attorney Abernathy further complemented Mr. Atkins upon his comments that he felt were well expressed. John Finlayson explained that Nicky Atkins wanted Chief Burks to relook the issue. Chief Burks agreed.

Meeting Adjourned.