

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in regular session March 12, 2019 in Selmer City Hall. Mayor John Smith and four of the Board of Aldermen were present as follows: John Austin, John Finlayson, J.T. Hawkins, and Johnny Norris. Troy Moore was absent.

The meeting opened with prayer by Jackie Suggs followed by the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag of America led by Kim Holley.

Motion by Johnny Norris and seconded by John Austin to accept the minutes. All four present voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnny Norris and seconded by John Finlayson to accept the financial statement. All four present voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by J. T. Hawkins to approve an additional \$8,000 to finish drainage issues on the surface side of the bridge on South 4th Street. Motion seconded by John Finlayson. All four present voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnny Norris to adopt the Initial Resolution determining to issue not to exceed one million six hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$1,675,000) of General Obligation Bonds of the Town of Selmer, Tennessee. Motion seconded by John Finlayson. All four present voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by John Finlayson to adopt a Resolution authorizing the sale and providing the details of not to exceed two million six hundred twenty five thousand dollars (\$2,625,000) General Obligation Bonds, Series 2019 of the Town of Selmer, Tennessee and providing for the levy of ad valorem taxes. Motion seconded by John Austin. All four present voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnny Norris to approve the request of Selmer Utilities Department to purchase the old AT&T Building for the amount of \$62,500.00 located on South 3rd St. Selmer, Tn. Motion seconded by J. T. Hawkins. All four present voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by J. T. Hawkins to approve the request of the Street & Sanitation Department to disburse up to \$15,000.00 for the purchase of two used vehicles. Motion seconded by John Finlayson. All four present voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by John Finlayson to adopt a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute and submit an application with the appropriate assurances to the State of Tennessee, Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Program Management requesting fiscal year 2019 CDBG funds in the amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 plus any eligible Three Star bonus allowance for a Sewer System Improvements Project. Motion seconded by J. T. Hawkins. All four present voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnny Norris and seconded by John Austin to adopt on first reading an Ordinance amending the text of the Selmer Municipal Zoning Ordinance adding nonprofit Transient Lodging requirements in the B-1 (General Business) District. All four present voted yes after protests were made by the surrounding neighbors stating that they did not want it in their neighborhood. Jimmy Whittington and persons from Jesus Cares addressed the issue in favor of allowing the home to be at 452 Cherry Ave. Motion carried. First Reading Passed.

Teresa Johnson was the first to address the board with many concerns. Ms. Johnson stated numerous times that she did not want this type housing in their neighborhood and that she had many concerns including her father who had dementia possibly letting them in the house. She and area residents adjoining it were not given an opportunity to say if they wanted it beside them. She felt that the entire plan had been thrust upon them and that none of the "Jesus Cares" group could guarantee the area residents safety.

Ms Johnson had many safety concerns and questioned, "Why put it in our neighborhood when we don't want it?" "Why is this being pushed on us?"

Jackie Suggs on behalf of "Jesus Cares" told a story of how forty mentally challenged people went to Nashville in 1970 to get the legislature to allow Group Homes in

residential areas as we now have today. Mr. Suggs stated, "This will be a bridge home, a second chance place for these people." "These same misconceptions and concerns were in 1970, but they made very good neighbors!" Jimmy Whittington stated that we are looking to place people! J. T. Hawkins stated that these are the same people that are on the street!

Michelle Roach Gause another adjoining resident had many questions and pointed out that this home would not be for a family who was trying to stay together or had gotten down on their luck, but that these males who would be there were there by their own choices! "These are people who have chosen to live this way!" "A group home is different!" She was further concerned that if house rules were broken and the person had to be removed, would they be put out in her back yard joining the property or what was the plan? Area residents across the street Ina Garrett and Ann Prather were present. Ina Garrett stated that her grandchildren were often at her home and that she did not want these people near them. "I am not comfortable with it!" She also urged Jimmy Whittington to put this home somewhere else and suggested in the Industrial Park. Whittington answered that it was not zoned properly to allow the housing. Again area residents reminded that the zone could be amended just as was being done in this situation. Teresa Johnson said "We don't have issues in our neighborhood!" "No one can guarantee our safety and we do not want this!" Each voiced safety concerns and concluded that what "Jesus Cares" was attempting to do was a good thing but that they did not want it in their door! "There are so many things that can not be controlled!" The roll was called as shown above and the first reading passed.

Meeting Adjourned.

Beer Board Meeting.

The Selmer Beer Board met following the March 12, 2019 meeting of Mayor and Board of Aldermen in Selmer City Hall.

Present were Mayor John Smith. Board members present John Austin, John Finlayson, J. T. Hawkins and Johnny Norris. Troy Moore was absent.

Motion by Johnny Norris and seconded by John Austin to approve a Beer Permit Application for Jennifer M. Jones at "The Alley Sports Bar and Grill, LLC." located at 275 Mulberry Ave., Selmer, TN to sell beer for on premise consumption.

All four present voted yes.

Motion carried.

Permit Granted.

Meeting Adjourned.