

The Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session at 7:00P.M., May 14, 2024, in Selmer City Hall. Mayor Sherry Inman and all five Board of Aldermen were present as follows: Mike Cain, John Finlayson, LaShell Moore, Johnny Norris, and Willie Sain.

The meeting opened with prayer by Street Superintendent Raymond Ouellette followed by the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag of America led by Johnny Norris.

Motion by Johnny Norris and seconded by Willie Sain to approve the April 2024 minutes. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnny Norris and seconded by John Finlayson to approve April 2024 financial statement. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by John Finlayson to tear down the building next door that was purchased approximately two years ago for the Selmer Police Department and move forward with the new construction. Motion seconded by Johnny Norris.

Upon discussion Mike Cain urged the Board not to pay cash or use the remaining ARPA funds for this expenditure. He stressed that the money could be borrowed from us and pay ourselves back. Cain stated that he had found a \$550,000 budget short fall and spending this money will cause the budget to be out \$800,000 more. John Finlayson stated that this would be a payout not deficient. Willie Sain stated that he wanted the Police Department to get what they needed, but if we can't afford this and run out of money what do we do then?

Mike Cain---No, John Finlayson—Yes, LaShell Moore---yes, Johnny Norris---yes, Willie Sain---No. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cain to approve the “Ground Lease Agreement” between the Town of Selmer and the McNairy County Board of Education, being referred to in tonight’s Agenda as the “Dixie Youth Fields” agreement and further authorizing Mayor Inman to sign it. Motion seconded by Lashell Moore. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Cain to adopt a resolution to terminate the TDOT Multimodal Sidewalk Project and pay the \$15,000 presently owed. LaShell Moore added that she wished to second this motion contingent upon the \$15,000 being paid in a timely manner. All five voted yes. Motion carried. John Finlayson was concerned, stating that this project was intended to connect a sidewalk to the park. Mike Cain again expressed, “we can’t throw money at things that seem nice”. “We don’t have the money to spend!”

Motion by John Finlayson and seconded by Willie Sain to purchase Selmer’s portion resulting in a matching cost with the County of \$24,715.28 for the needed UTM air conditioning (Cooling Tower). All five voted yes. Motion carried. John Finlayson stated that the cost is basically a wash due to being taken out of the UTM Payment.

Motion by Willie Sain and seconded by Mike Cain to approve the copier lease agreement of \$187.41 per month with Novatech to be placed in the City Hall Office area. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by John Finlayson to pay the same retirement rate of 8% as chosen in the past years to better ensure a strong retirement system and that Mayor Inman sign off allowing for submittal in their office by month end. Motion seconded by LaShell Moore. Mike Cain felt that this was too excessive and that 6% would be a nice normal. Mike Cain---No, John Finlayson---yes, Lashell Moore—yes, Johnny Norris---yes, Willie Sain---yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnny Norris to pass on first reading an Ordinance amending the text of the Selmer Municipal Zoning Ordinance by changing the submission date for submitting Site Plans from fifteen days to 30 days. Motion seconded by Willie Sain. All five voted yes. Motion carried. 1st reading passed.

Motion by Johnny Norris and seconded by Willie Sain to approve a Resolution calling for a USDA Rural Development loan and acceptance in the amount of \$1,586,000 for funds necessary for replacing the existing McNairy County Jail Sewer Pump Station and further authorizing the Town of Selmer Mayor, Sherry Inman, to take all necessary action for executing all written documents and necessary instruments as may be required as evidence of such financial assistance and operations. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Inman called for a Resolution appointing new members to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Lashell Moore had the minutes of November 20, 2021, showing that the members were to serve from 2021 to 2025 and that the five still presently serving should be given a chance to resign.

rather than being replaced if they chose to. She further expressed that the new member board list had no diversity. She asked that the Board be inclusive and show diversity. John Finlayson stated that out of respect for the existing Recreational Board members each should be asked if they wanted to serve out their terms. After much discussion a motion was made by Johnny Norris and second by Willie Sain to contact the present members and appoint five or whatever number was needed in new members to fill the 9-member Board. All five voted yes. Motion carried. Since the member representing the Board of Aldermen is a nonvoting member it was discussed that Lashelle if wanted could serve out her regular position on the Recreational Board or be the Board of Aldermen representative. She said that she would be the Board representative.

Fire Chief Carr explained that the South Fire Station needed windows replaced and that the money was in his budget to do so. Motion by Johnny Norris and seconded by Willie Sain to approve the bid price of \$11,197.54 from Neal Deedy Whitley Construction Co. for replacing windows in the South Fire Station. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Carr informed that the 2024 Rescue Squad grant in the amount of \$44,115.00 had been received. Motion by Willie Sain to approve the purchase of Chief Carr's requested Rescue Tool. Motion seconded by LaShell Moore. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Willie Sain to approve the Surplus List of Police Chief Kim Holley for selling surplus equipment and vehicles through Gov deals. Motion seconded by Johnny Norris. Motion carried.

Norman Sheffield explained that there was a problem at his Apartment Complex on Hillcrest concerning handicap parking. He reported that he had done much study of the code and violations of what could be done. He asked to allow him to volunteer to police the handicap parking. He also asked if the town was drawing interest on the money now?

Nicky Atkins on behalf of the children in the area asked if the town could go ahead and purchase (4) Basketball Poles and Goals. He had found that Academy Sports had them complete for \$449.00 each and by purchasing 4 after the discount they would cost \$427.00 and would look very nice and last. He further added that he would personally donate \$200.00 for this needed purchase. Norman Sheffield stated that he and W.J. Surratt also wanted to donate \$100.00 each on the purchase.

Recreational Director Sybil Dancer addressed the Mayor and Board stating that she wished to thank John Finlayson, Johnny Norris and Lashell Moore for all their support. She stated that over the last 22 years she had worked with incredible Mayors and Aldermen who had supported her and her ideas. "Together we have done great things for the citizens of Selmer and McNairy County." She named some of the Grants that she had received as follows: \$15,000 Downtown Grant, 2.4 million Park and Rec Grant (Splash pad, playgrounds, walking trail, Patriot Park), \$250,000 AG Grant for the Farmers Market, \$10,000 Dog Park, 90,000 Health Environment Grant, \$450,000 Diabetes Grand for the Fieldhouse and Track MCHS, and many more. She stated that she loved her job for twenty years. "The last 2 years have been very difficult for me!" "I have decided to Retire and enjoy my life with my family." She stated that, "life is short, and you don't get to do it over!" "God is leading me in a different direction." "I am so grateful for the support of the community and all the wonderful people I have encountered from the ballfields, dance classes, events programs and all the adventures I have been a part of." "It has been a blessing to me and my family to serve in this position." "My official last workday will be May 23, 2024, with an official retirement date of June 20, 2024. She thanked all her supporters, friends and especially her family, whom she said had always been on her side.

Mike Cain said that he had taken on doing the Budget thinking that he could improve it but that he was going to decide if he would continue with all the noncontrolled spending. Willie Sain stated that everyone should say we instead of I and work as a team.

Lashell Moore said many nice things about the job that Sybil Dancer had done. "Sybil, I have watched you and you have done well!" She was very complimentary of Sybil's accomplishments throughout the years. Johnny Norris stated that Sybil had taught his children and had done an excellent job and would be greatly missed. John Finlayson stated that Sybil had done so much extra stuff behind the scenes, "stuff that she never received credit for and that he honestly did not see how one person could have done it all!" "I do hope that you will feel free to help us out in the future!"

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Stacy Thompson asked Mayor Inman if she would attend Sybil's retirement party on May 22, 2024, at the Community Center from 2:00P.M. until 5:00P.M., and Mayor Inman said that she would attend. Stacy told what an outstanding good person Sybil was sighting many areas that she had seen while working with her. One thing that she told was concerning Sybil paying out of her own money for poor children to play ball when they wanted to play but did not have the money.

Larry Tomaszewski asked who the Mayor and Board had in mind for Sybil's job.

No one was named.

Meeting Adjourned.