

City of Erin  
Regular Board Meeting  
February 2, 2021

The City of Erin Board of Mayor and Alderman met in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 beginning at 6:00 pm at the Erin City Hall. Those present included: Alderman Wesley Mitchum, Lisa Moore, Betsy Ligon, Cecil Baggett, Jackie Parchman, Jennifer Warren, Paul Gooden, and Ted Carson. Others present included: Angela Neilson-Recorder, Chief Mark Moore, Officer Rick Gordon, Officer Josh MacDonald, Sheriff Kevin Sugg, Senator Bill Powers, Liz Buttermore-Houston County Herald, Jackie Wyatt, Attorney James Stevens, Danny Warren, Andy DeMersmann, Stratton Lewis, Trent Hearndon, Sean Wright, Connor Eppes, A. Cathey, and Misty Shortt, Hunter Lair and Kalyn Neilson.

Mayor Paul Bailey was present and presiding.

This meeting is live streamed on YouTube as required by Executive Orders set forth by Tennessee Governor Bill Lee due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Senator Bill Powers gave the opening prayer.

Mayor Bailey called the meeting to order.

Motion to approve the January 2021 minutes was made by Gooden, second by Warren. Roll Call vote as follows: YES- Mitchum, Moore, Ligon, Baggett, Parchman, Warren, Gooden, Carson. Motion carries.

Communications from the Mayor:

- Sewer Plant Project has not issued a Notice to Proceed as of yet.
- Sewer Line Relocation has been completed.
- Water Plant Lagoon Project begin date has been postponed due to weather.

Committee Meetings:

Planning Commission – Otis Kelly request to rezone property located at 4842 E. Main Street, Erin, TN.

- Do not spot zone.
- Planning Commission gave a variance for conditional use.
- Will allow the family that has moved in to stay, then will revert back to a commercial zone once the tenant vacates.
- Referred to Board of Zoning Appeals.
- Public hearing will be held prior to Board of Zoning Appeals meeting.

New Business:

Chief Mark Moore introduces new officers, Rick Gordon and Josh MacDonald. They completed 12 weeks in the Police Academy, and returned back to work immediately. Chief Moore relays a “Thank You” to the Board for allowing both officers to attend the academy back-to-back.

Motion to approve the sale of Maintenance Department items was made good by Carson, second by Moore. Roll Call vote as follows: YES- Mitchum, Moore, Ligon, Baggett, Parchman, Warren, Gooden, Carson. Motion carries.

1. Backhoe- CAT 2x2 Model 416B VIN #8ZK01637/ Serial #5HK09210
2. Truck- Chevy 2002 1500 ½ ton VIN #1GCEC14W02Z304042
3. Truck- Ford 2000 F150 4x4 VIN #1FTRF17WXYNC11386
4. Scrap Meters

Motion to apply for a Rural Development Equipment Grant with a City match of 25% at \$62,500 with grant funds totaling \$250,000 – for a total project amount of \$312,500.00. This Grant will be funded in the next budget year. Items will include police, fire, and maintenance equipment. Motion made by Ligon, second by Gooden. Call vote as follows: YES- Mitchum, Moore, Ligon, Baggett, Parchman, Warren, Gooden, Carson. Motion carries.

Mayor Bailey recognized the City of Erin Fire Department for the historic “Accent’s by Bonnie” fire that happened on January 18, 2021 around midnight. One of the biggest concerns was the surrounding properties – the Houston County Library, Brakes Hunting and Fishing, and TECs main transmission line for telephone and internet – none of which were damaged in the process. The City of Erin also acknowledged the City of Tennessee Ridge and Houston County Fire Departments, Stewart County Fire Department, Houston County EMS along with the City of Erin Police Department, The Houston County Sheriff’s Department and the City of Erin Water Department for the aid that was provided.

Chief Warren spoke stating this has been a challenging year: We have had two historic fires – Shamrock Apartments and Accents. The biggest fear was a fire downtown, with buildings over 100 years old in such close proximity. Other fires mentioned were the shoe factory where City Hall sits today and the College Street Apartments. Chief Warren stated that he could not thank the Department enough. The City of Erin Fire Department implemented the training and knowhow to protect the other properties once this attack on the fire (at Accents) went into defense mode. People laughed when the City of Erin Fire Department purchased a Ladder Truck – but without this truck, Downtown Erin would have burned for probably three days. The collaboration of training and other agencies assistance saved Erin. Chief Warren thanked again the City of Erin Police Department, the Houston County Sheriff’s Department, Stewart County Fire Department, Houston County EMS and the City of Erin Water Department. Chief Warren also acknowledged the “first in crew” – Sean Wright, Conner Epps, Stratton Lewis and Matt Stephens from the TN Ridge Fire Department. Chief Warren stated that those guys followed his orders without question and commended their bravery. Mayor Bailey stated that “we appreciate all of you and when you make the Chief look good, you make the Mayor look good”.

#### Police Report:

Chief Mark Moore provided the police report for the month of January as follows:

- Total calls answered- N/A
- Citations- 69
- Arrests- 12
- Accidents- 5 (two with injuries)

#### Fire Report:

Chief Danny Warren provided the fire report for the month of January as follows:

- Responded to 3 wrecks
- Responded to 2 fire alarms
- Responded to 2 gas leaks

- Responded to 2 brush fires
- Responded to 1 commercial structure fire
- Responded to 1 EMS assist
- Responded to 1 industrial equipment fire
- Responded to 1 special rescue
- No municipal burn permit applications were received
- Insurance Services Office (ISO) has contacted us, and will be conducting their 5-Year Public Protection Classification (PPC) this spring. A community's PPC is a rating of fire protection, dispatching capability and water delivery capability. OUR current PPCX is a 6/6x. Our previous rating was a 7/7x.
  
- Chief Danny Warren addressed the issue of individuals driving over fire hoses which is a violation of State Law. It happens frequently. One section of 4' supply line costs just under \$900.00. A ruptured hose could compromise water supply to firefighters in a structure conducting firefighting activities. This is not only costly, but could put lives in further danger.

Motion to adjourn made by Parchman, second by Warren. All said YES.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Paul Bailey, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Angela Neilson, Recorder