

## Town of Walden

### Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2023

#### PUBLIC HEARING – BEER BOARD APPLICATION FROM KAREN STONE AND CIVIC LEAGUE

Mayor Lee Davis opened the Public Hearing and invited comments or concerns from citizens. There were none. The public hearing was adjourned.

ALDERWOMAN ANGELA CASSIDY MOVED TO APPROVE THE BEER PERMIT APPLICATION BY THE CIVIC LEAGUE, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

#### PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #2023-356 ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

Mayor Lee Davis opened the Public Hearing and invited comments or concerns from citizens. There were none. The public hearing was adjourned.

It was noted that the tax rate will remain at \$0.535 per \$100.

#### PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #2023-356 GRANTING THE APPROVAL OF ABANDONMENT OF UNOPENED BLOCK OF BRANTLEY LN AS RECOMMENDED BY THE WALDEN PLANNING COMMISSION

Mayor Lee Davis opened the Public Hearing and invited comments or concerns from citizens. There were none. The public hearing was adjourned.

#### CALL TO ORDER OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

The interested citizens listed on the sign-in sheet attached were present at the Walden Town Hall meeting.

#### PRAYER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Stacy Stewart opened the meeting with a prayer. Attorney Sam Elliott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### ROLL CALL

Stacy Stewart called the roll and noted the presence of Mayor Lee Davis, Vice Mayor Lizzy Schmidt, and Alderwoman Angela Cassidy. Town Attorney Sam Elliott was also present.

#### APPROVAL / CORRECTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MAY 9, 2023, SECONDED BY ALDERWOMAN ANGELA CASSIDY, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

#### REPORTS

##### 1. POLICE

Hamilton County Sheriff's Deputy Julian Chambers gave the report. He noted 90 calls on the mountain to date since May 13. These calls included neighborhood watch checks, trees down, home alarms, etc... Deputy Chambers also noted 13 traffic stops resulting in nine warnings and four citations, as well as 18 arrests.

## 2. FINANCIAL

The financial report, given by Stacy Stewart, is attached as an exhibit to these minutes.

## 3. CODES

No report.

## 4. WRES

Bill Thornton, Board Chairman for the Walden's Ridge Emergency Service, gave the report for May service calls. There were 32 total calls: 12 emergency medical, 11 assist-to-citizens, 8 fire, and 1 rescue. There were also two mutual aid calls from other jurisdictions.

Mr. Thornton also reported a successful volunteer recruitment, with 7 new members joining the service. He closed by noting that volunteers are always welcome and that training will be provided.

## 5. CIVIC LEAGUE

The Civic League report, given by Carolyn Longphre, is attached as an exhibit to these minutes.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 1. PROPOSED RESOLUTION #2023-593 EXTENDING THE MORATORIUM ON ISSUANCE OF BUILDING PERMITS IN A DESIGNATED AREA OF THE TOWN OF WALDEN.

Alderwoman Angela Cassidy suggested to extend the moratorium until the Board of Mayor and Aldermen bring the Zoning Ordinance into alignment with the Land Use Plan. Attorney Sam Elliott suggested the wording: "...Zoning Ordinance, adopted in accordance with the Land Use Plan, becomes effective."

ALDERWOMAN ANGELA CASSIDY MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #2023-593, AS AMENDED, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

### 2. PROPOSED RESOLUTION #2023-594 RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH SOUTHEAST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT FOR PLANNING COMMISSION AGENCY SERVICES.

Town Administrator Mariah Prescott noted that the contract with SETD was recently reevaluated, and the current cost has been reduced to \$17,885 from \$30,000.

VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #2023-594, SECONDED BY ALDERWOMAN ANGELA CASSIDY, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

### 3. PROPOSED RESOLUTION #2023-595 RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH REPUBLIC SERVICES OF CHATTANOOGA FOR GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES.

Both Town Attorney Sam Elliott and Town Administrator Mariah Prescott approved the content and form of the renewal contract.

MAYOR LEE DAVIS MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #2033-595, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

4. PROPOSED RESOLUTION #2023-596 DESIGNATING WPC AS DESIGN REVIEW BOARD FOR ONE YEAR.

Aldерwoman Angela Cassidy who is also a member of the Walden Planning Commission, suggested that this agenda item be postponed.

MAYOR LEE DAVIS MOVED TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON THIS AGENDA ITEM AT THE AUGUST MEETING, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

5. PROPOSED RESOLUTION #2023-597 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH HAMILTON COUNTY FOR THE USE OF OVERTIME POLICE.

Mayor Lee Davis noted that this MOU is not yet ready, so there cannot be a vote. This agenda item is also tabled until the August meeting.

6. CONSIDERATION OF ROADS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE EXPENDITURES FOR SLOW DOWN TN CAMPAIGN MAILINGS.

VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT MOVED TO APPROVE THE ROADS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE EXPENDITURES, SECONDED BY ALDERWOMAN ANGELA CASSIDY, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

7. CONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE RAINWATER BARREL PROGRAM AND LIST OF EXPENDITURES.

ALDERWOMAN ANGELA CASSIDY MOVED TO APPROVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE EXPENDITURES, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

8. CONSIDERATION OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE LIST OF EXPENDITURES.

VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT MOVED TO APPROVE THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE EXPENDITURES, SECONDED BY ALDERWOMAN ANGELA CASSIDY, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

9. STACY STEWART NOTARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

Town Recorder Stacy Stewart has completed the requirements to become a Notary Public for Hamilton County, TN. The Board of Mayor and Alderman agrees to offer this service to all residents of the county for no charge.

10. PIE RUN ANNOUNCEMENT.

Mayor Lee Davis noted that the Pie Run has been held annually for 35+ years. It is sponsored by the Chattanooga Track Club and will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in October. The start and finish will

occur at Pruett's. Walden's Ridge Emergency Service and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office will work in conjunction with the CTC for the safety of all participants.

**11. SHORT-TERM VACATION RENTALS UPDATE.**

Mayor Lee Davis introduced this agenda item, noting that there are very strong feelings in the community both for and against the allowance of STVRs. He further noted that much discussion still needed to occur. This item is tabled until a future meeting.

**12. CONSIDERATION OF ADVERTISING RFP FOR PUMPKIN PATCH VENDING MACHINE LEASE.**

Mayor Lee Davis suggested that we look into water-bottle refill stations instead. This item was tabled until a future meeting.

**13. CONSIDERATION OF CURB CUT PERMIT FOR 2214 ALTURA DRIVE.**

Mayor Lee Davis noted that Town Engineer Mack McCarley has approved this curb cut.

VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT MOVED TO APPROVE THE CURB CUT APPLICATION FOR 2214 ALTURA DRIVE, SECONDED BY ALDERWOMAN ANGELA CASSIDY, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

**14. ANY OTHER NEW BUSINESS.**

There is no other new business.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**1. FINAL READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE #2023-355 ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024.**

VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT MOVED TO APPROVE THE FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE #2023-355, SECONDED BY ALDERWOMAN ANGELA CASSIDY, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

**2. FINAL READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE #2023-356 GRANTING THE APPROVAL OF ABANDONMENT OF UNOPENED BLOCK OF BRANTLEY LN AS RECOMMENDED BY THE WALDEN PLANNING COMMISSION.**

ALDERWOMAN ANGELA CASSIDY MOVED TO APPROVE THE FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE #2023-356, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR LIZZY SCHMIDT, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

**3. ANY OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

There is no other unfinished business.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITIZENS**

1. Ms. Carolyn Longphre noted that she has heard several complaints about getting on to Taft Highway from side roads in Walden, and she asks for the board to seek a solution. Mayor Lee Davis stated that the Town is looking into contracting with a traffic engineer to address this issue.

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Davis.



Respectfully submitted:  
Stacy Stewart



Approved:  
Mariah Prescott, Town Administrator



Approved:  
Lee Davis, Mayor