

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

June 25, 2020

6:30 P.M.

The Murray City Council met in regular session on Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. via video with Mayor Bob Rogers presiding.

Council Members Present: Jeremy Bell, Wesley Bolin, Linda Cherry, Rose Elder, Danny Hudspeth, Monty McCuiston, Dan Miller, John Mark Roberts, Alice Rouse, Pat Seiber, Terry Strieter, Burton Young

Council Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Ron Allbritten, Danna Clayton, City Attorney Warren Hopkins, Jeff Liles, Jim Osborne, Eric Pologruto, Marisa Stewart, Zach Warren, Kim Wyatt

Mayor Rogers called the meeting to order and welcomed Council members and guests.

After a moment of reflection, Rose Elder led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The minutes of the Council meeting of June 11, 2020 were presented for approval. **Mr. Roberts moved for approval; seconded by Dr. Strieter. All members present voted Aye.**

Mayor Rogers stated the City has received several questions regarding recycling. He stated he will appoint a committee to address the concerns of recycling and to make a recommendation to the Council on how the City can continue to offer the service.

Mayor Rogers recognized Ron Allbritten. Mr. Allbritten stated that recycling has been shut down since the end of March, and shared the concerns and issues with recycling.

Mayor Rogers issued a plea to the citizens to not let their guard down regarding COVID 19. He stated Calloway County had sixteen new cases last week. Mayor Rogers stated our numbers have been lower because everyone is doing what is recommended, and in order to keep the numbers low, he urged the citizens to remain diligent in doing what is recommended.

Mayor Rogers recognized Public Works Committee Chair, Danny Hudspeth. Chair Hudspeth reported the Public Works Committee had a meeting prior to the Council meeting, with one item on the agenda: the FY 2021 paving bid. He stated the committee unanimously voted to accept the low bid from Murray Paving for the FY 2021 paving. **Mr. Hudspeth moved for approval; seconded by Mr. Bell. All members present voted Aye.**

Resolution 2020-009 a resolution authorizing the filing of a Coronavirus Relief Fund ("CRF") application for reimbursement of incurred expenses in CRF funds with the Department for Local Government ("DLG"); authorizing and directing the City of Murray Mayor to execute any documents which are deemed necessary by DLG to reimburse the City; and authorizing the Mayor to act as the authorized correspondent for reimbursement.

Mayor Rogers recognized Mr. Osborne. Mr. Osborne stated the City received notice from the Department of Local Government that there will be federal funds available based on the population of each city and county. He stated the resolution authorizes the Mayor to file an application for the

reimbursement of incurred expenses during the pandemic. **Mr. Roberts moved for approval; seconded by Ms. Rouse. All members present voted Aye.**

Resolution 2020-010 a resolution requesting the Calloway County Fiscal Court take necessary action and seek all required approvals to expeditiously remove and relocate the “Confederate Soldier” statue located on the northeast corner of the Calloway County Courthouse property for its preservation.

Ms. Elder read the resolution in its entirety.

Dr. Miller stated the statue of Jefferson Davis, a Kentucky born leader of the confederacy, has been removed from the state capital. He stated Charleston, South Carolina, the birthplace of the confederacy, recently removed the statue of John C. Calhoun, who was a political figure for the confederacy, and was responsible for the firing on of Fort Sumter. Dr. Miller stated if those two cities can take those statues down, then certainly the Fiscal Court needs to remove the statue of Robert E. Lee, who never stepped foot in Calloway County or the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Mr. Hudspeth stated he believes this is the right thing to do and now is the time. He recognizes that taking the statue down will not change all hearts, but he hopes it will give a ray of hope for generations to come, that we are trying to do the right thing, and trying to live together to make the world a better place.

Dr. Young stated he is very proud to be a citizen of a community that will tackle a difficult issue in the right and civil way. He stated he is proud of the Council for recommending to the Fiscal Court the removal of the statue.

Dr. Strieter stated it's been 100 years. He stated this historical monument can be moved, and it will still be a historical monument. He stated the courthouse is not the place for the statue, and the Council knows that and hopes that the Fiscal Court will learn that. Dr. Strieter stated he mentioned the issue on his Facebook page. He stated he had 5,200 comments, with an overwhelming amount in favor of moving the statue.

Mr. Bolin stated he has been so moved by the thoughtful emails and responses from members of the community and from visitors, who are from all walks of life. He stated from the hundreds of emails he has received, he can count on one hand the number that want the statue to remain. He wants the people to know their messages are appreciated and their voice is valued. Mr. Bolin stated he is proud to vote for the resolution.

Ms. Seiber stated she wants everyone to know that she does read all emails even if she doesn't respond to each one, and she appreciates the feedback.

Ms. Rouse stated there is a difference between removing and destroying. She feels by passing the resolution, the Council is recommending that the statue be removed and preserved, and that is an honorable decision.

Ms. Elder moved for approval or Resolution 2020-010; seconded by Dr. Strieter and Mr. Hudspeth.

Mayor Rogers called for a roll call vote.

Ayes: Mr. Bell, Mr. Bolin, Ms. Cherry, Ms. Elder, Mr. Hudspeth, Mr. McCuiston, Dr. Miller, Mr. Roberts, Ms. Rouse, Ms. Seiber, Dr. Strieter, Dr. Young

Nays: None

Mayor Rogers commended the committee for the work on the resolution, stating it was an example of how decisions should be made. He stated he was proud to see the committee work together, and it makes him proud to see the Council take a stand, and be unanimous in the commitment on what the Council thinks is the best for the City.

Resolution 2020-011 a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign agreement # 20*590 with the Commonwealth of Kentucky on behalf of the City of Murray.

Mayor Rogers recognized Mr. Osborne for an explanation. Mr. Osborne stated Ms. Stewart is available by web-ex audio if anyone has any questions. He stated this resolution authorized the Mayor to sign the contract for the wayfinding signs and to begin the bid process. **Mr. Bell moved for approval; seconded by Ms. Rouse. All members present voted Aye.**

Ordinance Number 2020-1797 (first reading) an ordinance enacting and adopting a supplement to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Murray, Kentucky.

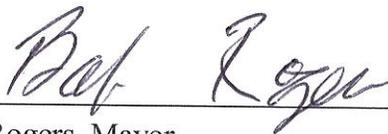
Mayor Rogers recognized Mr. Osborne for an explanation of the ordinance. Mr. Osborne stated this ordinance is for codification of ordinances through AmLegal. He stated once the ordinance is approved, the ordinances will be available online.

Mayor Rogers recognized Cemetery Committee Chair, Linda Cherry. Chair Cherry reported the Cemetery Committee had a meeting prior to the Council meeting, with one item on the agenda: Ordinance Number 2020-1798. She stated the ordinance has an increase in price but is still much more affordable than surrounding cities. She stated the committee unanimously voted to approve the ordinance and send to the Council.

Ordinance Number 2020-1798 (first reading) an ordinance amending City of Murray Code of Ordinances Chapter 91: Cemeteries, specifically §91.01, §91.03, §91.04, §91.07, §91.09, §91.11, §91.12 in order to update and clarify language contained in this chapter.

With no other business before the Council, **Mr. Roberts moved to adjourn; seconded by Dr. Strieter. All members present voted Aye.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.



Bob Rogers, Mayor

ATTEST



Dannetta Clayton, City Clerk