

**ATHENS CITY COUNCIL: REGULAR SESSION, MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2020, 7:00 P.M.**

Athens City Council met in Regular Session at the above hour with the following members present: Clodfelter, Crowl, Grace, Kotses, Risner, and Smedley.

Also present: President Knisely, Mayor Patterson, Auditor Hecht, and Law Director Eliason.

Grace moved to appoint Debra Walker to serve as Clerk of Council; Crowl seconded. Appointment was approved unanimously.

Risner moved the selection of Chris Fahl to serve as President Pro Tem; Crowl seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

Kotses moved the selection of Jeff Risner to serve as Acting President Pro Tem; Smedley seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

Risner moved to designate Lisa Eliason to serve as Parliamentarian; Clodfelter seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

**DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:**

Grace moved approval of the minutes of the Regular Sessions of City Council held December 2 and 16, 2019, and the Special Session held December 9, 2019; Kotses seconded. Minutes were approved as presented by a 4/0/2 vote; with Clodfelter and Smedley abstaining.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**President Knisely** announced a public meeting for the Farmers Market on January 16, at the Community Center from 6:00-8:00 p.m., with a snow date on January 23.

**Council Member Risner** reported that Columbia Gas is conducting installation work on Mulligan Road between Hickory and Curtis, to continue for approximately one month. There will be one-lane traffic only and he recommends finding an alternative route during business hours.

**Council Member Crowl** reported that Member Jessica Dalzell of the Environment & Sustainability Commission prepared a report on plastic bag use in the City of Athens in response to Resolution 12-16, which declared plastic bag use an environmental concern, and tasked the Commission with providing data on both single-use plastic bags as well as reusable bags. Ms. Dalzell's report will be provided to the Council, including her recommended methods to decrease single-bag usage based on her research. He also noted that the next Environment & Sustainability Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Building's first floor Conference Room.

**Council Member Kotses** announced that the Athens City School District will hold its next Board meeting on January 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the Athens High School auditorium.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

**Law Director Eliason** presented her 2019 Annual Report (see attached).

**Auditor Hecht** encouraged the Council Members to reach out to her with any financial questions.

**Mayor Patterson** reported that Columbia Gas is also going to be doing work on Fort Street from Congress to 44 Fort. Traffic will be detoured around that area.

Cable Lane will also be closed for berm work, limited traffic only, from Woodside to 39 Cable Lane.

The Richland Avenue Pedestrian Passageway construction will begin March 2, continuing through September 11, 2020. Northbound traffic on Richland will be detoured onto Shafer Street.

Andrew Chiki is the City's new Deputy Service-Safety Director. Also, Colton James has accepted the position of Head Landscaper.

Service-Safety Director Stone will be deploying this year to the Middle East and while he is on active military duty, Police Chief Tom Pyle will be serving as Interim Service-Safety Director.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS:**

Risner moved to accept the November, 2019, Credit Card Transactions; Grace seconded. Motion was approved by a 5/0/1 vote; with Clodfelter abstaining.

Grace moved to confirm the Mayor's reappointment of Brandon Thompson to the Recreation Advisory Board; Crawl seconded. Reappointment was approved unanimously.

At approximately 7:25 p.m. Crawl moved to Adjourn the meeting; Grace seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

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President of Council

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Council