

MINUTES: CITY OF DECHERD BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN  
DECHERD, TENNESSEE  
DECEMBER 9, 2019

The City of Decherd Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session, December 9, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Hall Council Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR MICHAEL GILLESPIE  
VICE MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY  
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD  
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT  
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR REX CLARK

OTHERS PRESENT: Ross Peterson, Diane Hensley, Dennis Doney, Susan Smith, Rickey Arnold, Michelle Peterson, Bryan Justus, Chuck Williams, Danita Slatten, Jimmy Highers, Marcella Mc Bee, Eric Bradford, Daniel Meaker

Mayor Michael Gillespie called the meeting to order with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Decherd Board of Mayor & Aldermen dated November 11, 2019 was reviewed. Motion made by Alderman Pam Arnold and Second by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders to approve Minutes as printed.

Motion Passed Unanimously 4 – 0

Financial Report for November 2019. Motion to accept made by Vice Mayor Richard Gulley and second by Alderman Pam Arnold.

Motion Passed Unanimously 4 - 0

Department reports for the Police and Fire given by Public Safety Director Ross Peterson, Building Report given by Codes Director Dennis Doney and Water report given by the Water Superintendent Eric Bradford, Department reports were reviewed for the month of November 2019. Motion to accept Department Reports by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders and second by Alderman Pam Arnold.

Motion by Vice Mayor Richard Gulley to accept Departmental Reports as presented and seconded by Alderman Pam Arnold.

Motion Passed Unanimously 4 – 0

1. Adopted on third reading Ordinance # 423 AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AN UPDATED OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAM PLAN, DEVISE RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR A SAFETY DIRECTOR AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH PROGRAM PLAN. Motion made by ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD and seconded by ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT.

Open meeting: 7:15 – 7:17

Roll Call: VICE MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY - AYE  
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - AYE  
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT - AYE  
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - AYE

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 4 – 0

2. Accepted resignation of Recreation Committee Chairman Debbie St John and committee member John Glenn. Motion made to accept resignations by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders and second by Alderman Pam Arnold

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 4 – 0

3. First reading Ordinance # 424, An ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF DECHERD, TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 14-204(2). THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF DECHERD, TENNESSEE TO SET THE ZONING FOR A PARCEL OF LAND. HEREIN DISCRIBED FROM CITY OF DECHERD ZONING R-1 (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO CITY OF DECHERD ZONING C – 2 HIGHWAY SERVICE DISTRICT.

Alderman Pam Arnold made motion to pass n first reading Ordinance # 424 and seconded by Vice Mayor Richard Gulley.

Roll Call: VICE MAYOR RICHARD GULLEY - AYE  
ALDERMAN PAM ARNOLD - AYE  
ALDERMAN TAMMY HOLT - AYE  
ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS - AYE

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 4 – 0

4. Public Safety Director Ross Peterson stated that Engine 201 needed repairs again. Coolant issues caused by the compressor was the major issue this time. Public Safety Director Ross Peterson recommended that we buy the parts from Cummins for \$1580.02 and have Brindlee Mountain come to Decherd to make the repairs with the labor cost being \$2280.00 for a total of \$3860.02. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley ask if had to be repaired. Public Safety Director stated yes it was our main line pumper. Discussion followed about looking into replacing Engine 201 in the future. Mayor Michael Gillespie stated needed to get Engine 201 fixed and to be looking down the road.

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley made the motion to have Engine 201 fixed in Decherd for the price of \$3860.02 and second by Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 4 – 0

5. Recommendation from Planning Commission to purchase a digital sign board for City Hall. Discussion followed. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley liked Cook's Sign because it has WI FI and semi local. Mayor Michael Gillespie also stated that their bid included installation. Mayor Michael Gillespie recommended recommendation be postponed till all questions are answered.
6. Mayor Michael Gillespie read Executive Order # 001. The Mayor stated that he was not setting a precedence. There have Executive Orders issued by former Mayors in the past. Dissolvement all committees not established by Charter of Municipal Codes. Reestablish Recreation Committee. The Recreation Committee shall consist of (7) members being (5) being either citizens, property owners or business owners. Two of the members shall be the Mayor and an Alderman. The members shall be appointed for a two-year term. Vacancy will be filled by Mayor. The Mayor has authority to remove any member at his pleasure. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley ask what committees were authorized. Mayor Michael Gillespie stated Planning Commission and Cemetery Committee. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley was concerned about the status of Safety Committee. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley had concerns on the make-up of the Recreation Committee by allowing members not to be associated with the City in some capacity. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated that he didn't think the Mayor had the authority. Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders agreed. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated he would like to hear from our city attorney and MTAS. Mayor Michael Gillespie stated he was welcome to contact our attorney and MTAS. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley requested the Executive Order be postponed until the Mayor's authority to do this is determined.

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated he had one more concern that the mayor could remove an appointed member at his pleasure. Mayor Michael Gillespie stated that it was in the Charter and Municipal Code. That any existing committee member the Mayor had the authority to remove them. Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders stated he had read the Charter and could not find anything.

Vice Mayor Richard Gulley would like to have the opinion of our City Attorney and MTAS that you have the authority. Vice Mayor Richard Gulley stated that he thought it might be something done by the Board whether it takes an Ordinance laying out what committees will be chosen. Mayor Michael Gillespie stated that there was nothing in Municipal Code under Boards and Commissions except for the ones already established. Further discussion followed.

Alderman Jimmy Wayne Sanders made motion to postpone Executive Order # 001 till next meeting second by Alderman Pam Arnold.

Motion Passed Unanimously 4 - 0

The floor was opened for Citizens Concerns:

Marcella McBee was thrilled parade would be coming through downtown.

Denita Slatten commented on the neighbors around her. The property is located on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Ms. Slatten was concerned about a fence with tarp on it. She questioned if everyone was being treated the same. Ms. Slatten also made comments about city attorney and the Recreation Committee. The Board requested Codes Director Dennis Doney for his input and status on the questions raised by Ms. Slatten. Codes Director Dennis Doney explained the situation.

Mayor Michael Gillespie announced the Annual Decherd Christmas Parade would take place December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p. m.

Mayor Michael Gillespie stated there being no additional business the meeting was adjourned 7:58 p.m. with ALDERMAN JIMMY WAYNE SANDERS making motion to adjourn. Second by Vice Mayor Richard Gulley.

Motion Passed Unanimously 4 - 0

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Mayor Michael Gillespie

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rex Clark City Administrator