

**TOWN OF DANDRIDGE, TENNESSEE
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
Regular Meeting
8 September 2020**

Per Executive Order No. 16 issued by Governor Bill Lee on March 20, 2020, the provisions of the Tennessee Open Meetings Act were suspended, to the extent necessary, to allow governing bodies to meet and conduct essential business by electronic means, as opposed to in person at the same location. The Town of Dandridge Board of Mayor and Aldermen determined that meeting electronically was necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of citizens of Dandridge and Jefferson County, due to COVID-19.

The September 8th meeting was accessible to BMA, the media, and the public by electronic means via a video conference meeting via Zoom.

Public access to the meeting was limited as there was no physical location for the meeting in order to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare.

To join the meeting by computer, simply use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86164630653> (this may require a quick download of the zoom application to your computer)

To join the meeting by phone, simply dial the following number: 929-436-2866.

Follow the prompts, entering your meeting ID, followed by the # symbol.

Meeting ID: 861 6463 0653#

I. PUBLIC HEARING

- Off Premise Beer Permit Application, Dharmishthaben A. Khatri (Rainadil LLC), 672 Hwy.92 S
No comments

II. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The Dandridge Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BMA) met in a regular session via a video conference meeting via Zoom in Dandridge, Tennessee on Tuesday, the 8th day of September 2020.
- B. Mayor GEORGE GANTTE was present and presiding and called the meeting to order.

III. ROLL CALL

- A. A roll call of the BMA was conducted with the following members responding:
 - Mayor GEORGE GANTTE
 - Alderman MIKE CHAMBERS
 - Alderman JEFF DEPEW (arrives at 6:11)
 - Alderman JESSICA ELDER
 - Vice-Mayor TODD KESTERSON
 - Alderman MIKE NELSON
 - Alderman MARIANNE REESE
- B. A quorum being present, the following business was conducted and entered on the record:

IV. READING OF THE MINUTES

It came on a motion by Alderman ELDER, seconded by Alderman REESE, to approve the Regular Session minutes of the August 11, 2020 meeting as written.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman NELSON	Abstain
Alderman ELDER	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

V. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None presented.

VI. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, REMONSTRANCES, AND COMMUNICATIONS

None presented.

VII. BUSINESS PRESENTED BY THE MAYOR

None presented.

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT BY THE TOWN RECORDER

<u>Bank Balance:</u>	<u>BMA Acct:</u>	\$2,310,539.09	<u>Drug Fund Balance:</u>	\$ 41,946.89
			<u>DVFD Balance:</u>	\$322,394.36

IX. PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- **Resolution No. 20/21-03** Authorizing the Town of Dandridge to Participate in the James L Richardson “Driver Safety” Matching Grant Program

50/50 matching grant up to \$2,500, to be used to purchase computers for the police department.

It came on a motion by Alderman NELSON, seconded by Alderman ELDER, to approve Resolution No. 20/21-03.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman ELDER	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

X. OLD BUSINESS

None presented.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- Grant Approval (State of TN Dept of Safety & Homeland Security, Enforcement of TN Driving Under the Influence Laws) – Police Dept. – 100% \$15,000

\$7,500 to be utilized for alcohol saturation patrols, \$7,500 to be utilized to purchase computers

It came on a motion by Alderman REESE, seconded by Alderman CHAMBERS, to approve the grant approval.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman ELDER	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- Discuss/Consider DVFD Fire Boat Repair

The fire boat is currently getting repairs done to the transom at Norwood Boat Repair in Seymour TN after a log strike on Douglas Lake. The insurance company paid \$27,500 on the boat damages, but the repairs to the transom are estimated at only \$10,500. Have checked with White Pine Marine about replacing the old twin 150hp 2-stroke motors with a single 4-stroke motor. White Pine Marine has a new 250hp 4-stroke Mercury motor with full factory warranty. White Pine Marine is willing to place the new motor and all the necessary equipment to make the boat water ready for \$19,500. White Pine Marine is willing to take the old surplused twin motors and try to find a buyer and drop the total project price by \$2,000. The boat repair project would total \$17,500.

It came on a motion by Vice-Mayor KESTERSON, seconded by Alderman REESE, to surplus the two old motors to White Pine Marine and approve the purchase and installation of a new 250 hp 4-stroke Mercury motor by White Pine Marine.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman ELDER	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- Discuss/Consider Knuckleboom Truck Repair

There was a recent incident involving the knuckleboom truck that resulted in the truck being placed in an out of service status. Two repair quotes have been received:

- Premier Truck Group \$19,711.26
- Worldwide Equipment Truck and Trailer \$21,285.32

Quotes for a new knuckleboom truck:

- CMI Equipment Sales (Freightliner) \$147,757.00
- Stringfellow, Inc. (Peterbilt) \$162,517.00

It came on a motion by Alderman CHAMBERS, seconded by Alderman NELSON, to appropriate up to \$165,000 as an emergency purchase from fund balance for the Town Administrator to negotiate if the truck is deemed totaled by the insurance company.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman ELDER	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

- Special Event/Parade/Road Closure Request – Back the Blue/Red Festival (Thomas Crompton, CSA II’s Rebel Corner), Saturday, October 3, 2020, 8:00-5:00 (East Main/Gay St to East Main/Meeting St)

Concerns: police/fire being involved in a paraded event with many attendees in light of the current COVID19 pandemic. Small department and volunteers that are critical to operations. The town is not in a position to afford potential unnecessary exposure. It is critical that our personnel be healthy to continue service and operation to town taxpayers.

Alderman NELSON: we cancelled Music on the Town due to the current pandemic. It would be hard to approve another festival with the current pandemic.

Alderman Kesterson: I have to agree with Nelson on this issue, I whole heartedly support our guys and girls out there protecting our freedoms and protecting our citizens, I think they are doing a great deal right now and wouldn't want to be in their shoes at all under the circumstances that we're seeing in our nation. But I do agree with Mike, we cancelled the events, Scotts Irish is cancelled, Music on the Town, and my view is that we probably should just hold true and probably not allow any events this year, just to be fair to everyone and not show any favoritism that might be the smartest thing to do is just have all events put off until January 1st and then we'll go back and see how we look the coming year. Hopefully, I pray, that we'll be in better shape than we are right now with all the issues.

Mayor Gantte: Todd, are you putting that in a form of a motion?

Kesterson: I can put that in a motion, I didn't know if anybody else had anything that they wanted to say or what before we ended discussion, but I'm happy to do that.

Mayor: I'll accept that and then if we get a second then we'll have more discussion.

Alderman Chambers: second

Mayor: Motion and second on the floor, is there further discussion? (George repeats motion, but is overtalk with M.Nelson and cannot make out George's repeated motion)

Alderman Nelson: If he wants to come back next year and try in the spring even, I could support that, if the covid thing is better, cause I definitely want to see the police department and fire department supported well.

Mayor: I will add that I know that Carson has shared with me that several businesses in the past few months have taken stuff to the police department and I know we've had other businesses take stuff to the fire department, so anytime a business or someone would like to help them out as far as taking food or sandwiches, buying pizza, whatever, to the police department or fire department, I know that its more than welcome, is that correct Carson and Andy?

Carson: Yes Mayor

Andy: That's correct on the fire department side too.

Mayor: Thank you and please know that we do appreciate each fire department member and every police department member and every employee of the town of Dandridge for what they do do, they do a great job.

Carson: Thank you Mayor

Andy: Thank you Mister Mayor

Mayor: Thank you. Is there any further discussion?

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman Chambers	AYE	Alderman Nelson	AYE
Alderman Depew	NO	Alderman Reese	AYE
Alderman Elder	AYE	Mayor Gantte	AYE
Vice-Mayor Kesterson	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed 6-1, with Alderman DEPEW voting NO, and was so ordered.

- Special Event/Parade/Road Closure Request – Battle of Dandridge (Bryce, 10th TN Regiment Irish Volunteers), Saturday, April 3, 2021 (East Main/Gay St to East Main/Church St)

Mayor Gantte: BMA, this is a request for April 3, 2021, I know that we just basically said that there would be nothing til January 2021, I don't know exactly how long it would take to get everything organized for this date, but I don't know if it would be better for us to wait until January to see what the covid 19 and the pandemic is at that time, it's not that we don't want things in town, but we do want to adhere to safety and health precautionary measures. This is in front of you for action if you so desire.

I'll entertain a motion if someone would like to make one.

Is there any motion?

Hearing no motion, the item dies for lack of a motion.

XII. DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

- Chief of Police – Carson Williams: nothing to report
- DWMF Superintendent – Mike Norton: no response
- Public Works Superintendent – Donald Whaley:
 - Continuing cut backs on Hwy. 92
 - Trying to keep brush caught up
 - Trying to keep up on Class IV pickups
 - Hauling dirt to new bathroom location at the dock/boat ramp
- Fire Chief – Andy Riley:
 - Ladder truck has been returned to service after being out of service for a few weeks
 - Continuing to answer calls

- Fire Department volunteers are out and about conducting fire hydrant water flows
- Anticipate a score review with ISO next year
- Parks/Rec – Chris Shockley:
 - Moving forward for fall sports (basketball, SJLL, and Bronco’s football)
- Building Inspector/Codes Enforcement – Terry Reneau:
 - August was another good month for permits
 - Planning Commission just approved the first phase of Bootleggers (warehouse)
 - Planning Commission also just approved a site plan for the old Dandridge Elementary School building
- Town Administrator – Matt Rudder:
 - Form CT-0253 “Report on Debt Obligation” is presented re: \$1,374,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020 at 1.70% interest for 11 years to mature in 2031 (refunded debt on FODAC)

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS

None presented.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

It came on a motion by Alderman NELSON, seconded by Alderman REESE, that the meeting of September 8, 2020 be adjourned.

A roll call was asked for and the BMA responded as follows:

Alderman CHAMBERS	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
Alderman DEPEW	NO RESPONSE	Alderman REESE	AYE
Alderman ELDER	AYE	Mayor GANTTE	AYE
Vice-Mayor KESTERSON	AYE		

On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and was so ordered.

George Gantte, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cathy Dixon Town Recorder

MINUTES-BMA-090820