

**TOWN OF DANDRIDGE, TENNESSEE  
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN  
Regular Meeting  
10 November 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 November 10<sup>th</sup> 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/89407672087?pwd=TXlHYlFxTUJlZlEWkF2Rm9CUUQ4QT09>

*(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: 894 0767 2087# Passcode: 843964*

**I. 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 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020.
- B.** Mayor GEORGE GANTTE was present and presiding and called the meeting to order.

**II. ROLL CALL**

- A.** A roll call of the BMA was conducted with the following members responding:
  - Mayor GEORGE GANTTE
  - Alderman JEFF DEPEW
  - Alderman JESSICA ELDER
  - Vice-Mayor TODD KESTERSON
  - Alderman MIKE NELSON
  - Alderman MARIANNE REESE

ABSENT: Alderman MIKE CHAMBERS

- B.** A quorum being present, the following business was conducted and entered on the record:

**III. READING OF THE MINUTES**

It came on a motion by Alderman ELDER, seconded by Alderman REESE, to approve the Regular Session minutes of the October 13, 2020 meeting as written.

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

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

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

**IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

None presented.

**V. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, REMONSTRANCES, AND COMMUNICATIONS**

None presented.

**VI. BUSINESS PRESENTED BY THE MAYOR**

- Mayor Gantte recommended that all full-time employees receive a \$125 bonus and all part time employees to include firemen receive a \$65 bonus due to no employee appreciation activities during the past year because of the corona virus pandemic.
- Consideration of a December meeting

**VII. FINANCIAL REPORT BY THE TOWN RECORDER**

<u>Bank Balance:</u>	<u>BMA Acct:</u>	\$2,178,601.70	<u>Drug Fund Balance:</u>	\$ 21,114.44
			<u>DVFD Balance:</u>	\$251,861.11

**VIII. PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

- First Reading of **Ordinance No. 20/21-03** Amending the “Zoning Map of the Town of Dandridge” a Component of the “Zoning Ordinance” from a R-1, Low Density Residential District to an A-1 Agricultural District (937 East Cross Road, Map 76H, Group F, Parcel 10)

It came on a motion by Alderman REESE, seconded by Alderman ELDER, to approve Ordinance No. 20/21-03 on first reading.

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

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

On a roll call vote, the motion failed due to a tie vote, and was so ordered.

- First Reading of **Ordinance No. 20/21-04** Amending the “Zoning Map of the Town of Dandridge” a Component of the “Zoning Ordinance” from a B-2, General Commercial District to a R-1 Low Density Residential District (226 E. Meeting Street, Map 68K, Group E, Parcel 11)

It came on a motion by Vice-Mayor KESTERSON, seconded by Alderman DEPEW, to approve Ordinance No. 20/21-04 on first reading.

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

Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
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.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

None presented.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

- Appointment to Regional Planning Commission  
(Mark Chambers term expires 12/1/20)

It came on a motion by Alderman DEPEW, seconded by Alderman ELDER, to approve the re-appointment of March Chambers to the Dandridge Regional Planning Commission.

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

Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
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.

- Discussion & Consideration of Change Order #2 for Phase IV Waterline Replacement Project

*A 122' section of cast iron pipe at Patterson Street and Nichols Road was not originally included in the Phase IV project bid. The 122' of cast iron pipe will be replaced with 6" PVC pipe to include a 50' bore at an additional cost of \$4,830.*

It came on a motion by Alderman DEPEW, seconded by Alderman NELSON, to approve the change order in the amount of \$4,830.

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

Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
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.

- Discussion & Consideration of 2020 Employee Christmas Holiday Work Schedule

It came on a motion by Alderman DEPEW, seconded by Alderman NELSON, to give employees December 24, 2020 as a paid holiday along with half a day off on New Years Eve, December 31, 2020.

*Alderman NELSON suggested that since BMA have mostly given December 24<sup>th</sup> to employees as a holiday, to update the Employee Handbook to reflect December 24<sup>th</sup> as a paid holiday instead of repeatedly approving each year.*

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

Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
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.

- Discussion & Consideration of Employee Christmas Lunch

*Concern of having all employees in one place at one time in light of the current Covid19 pandemic and suggest to postpone such event. In lieu of no employee appreciation events being held during 2020, Mayor Gantte recommended that all full-time employees receive a \$125 bonus and all part time employees to include firemen receive a \$65 bonus.*

It came on a motion by Alderman DEPEW, seconded by Alderman REESE, to approve the bonuses as recommended by the Mayor.

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

Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
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.

- Discussion & Consideration of Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony

*In the 9/8/20 BMA meeting it was decided to not allow any events for the remainder of 2020 due to the current Covid19 pandemic. Since the town has small departments, it would be critical if employees became sick in being around large crowds.*

It came on a motion by Alderman DEPEW, seconded by Alderman REESE, to have the Christmas Parade and the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

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

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

On a roll call vote, the motion failed 2-4, and was so ordered.

**XI. DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES**

- Public Works Superintendent, Donald Whaley –
  - Heavy into leaves, brush and trash
- DWMF Superintendent, Mike Norton –
  - John Turner has about 85% done and headed up Nichols Road
  - Getting meters changed over
  - Hopewell section has been finished in house via renting a rock hammer and tied in
  - Hart Road water tank is about 85% complete
  - Patriot Drive water line project should begin this week. Sharon Drive is almost complete. Lack the road bore at I40 and Hwy.92
  - Pump stations
- Fire Chief, Andy Riley –
  - Very appreciative of recent grant received from the Jefferson Foundation
  - Continuing hydrant flows throughout the town
- Parks/Rec, Chris Shockley –
  - Also appreciative of the East TN Foundation for rewarding grant. Will purchase new cardio equipment.
  - Basketball signups continue until 11/28 (186 have thus far signed up, compared to 438 last year)
  - Conducting field maintenance
- Town Administrator, Matt Rudder –
  - Job well done to grant recipients
  - New backhoe will take about 3-4 months to build
  - Charter and AT&T cable lines have been moved over to the new downtown pole replacement project. Service Electric will be in town next week to remove the wooden poles. AEC is waiting on brackets to mount new lights.
  - Guardrail issues via accidents on state highway that TDOT will repair.
  - Will provide updated Local Option Sales Tax numbers as soon as they are available.

**XII. MISCELLANEOUS**

Swearing In Ceremony for those recently re-elected will be held on December 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Vice-Mayor will be elected at the December BMA meeting.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

It came on a motion by Alderman NELSON, seconded by Alderman ELDER, that the meeting of November 10, 2020 be adjourned.

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

Alderman DEPEW	AYE	Alderman NELSON	AYE
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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
George Gantte, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathy Dixon Town Recorder