**CITY OF GUTHRIE**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**July 9, 2024, 7:00pm**

Present Absent

Council Members Linda Smith

Harry Green

Norma Williams

Russ Longhurst

Pam Turner

Chad Johnson

Mayor Covington called the meeting to order at 19:07 hours. There was a quorum present.

**Public Comments:** Marilyn Sue Frogue expressed concerns regarding the upcoming vote to change the tourism ordinance to allow for quarterly payments. She has served on the Tourism Commission since its creation and stated that quarterly payments vs monthly from large entities will be extremely detrimental to their budget. Andrea Milkowski, owner of Longhurst and Ladell’s, countered stating monthly payments is hard on her due to their limited staff. She pays all of her tax bills quarterly and it would help to do this the same way. Zollie Rose made a suggestion that the ordinance have a tiered payments schedule allowing for quarterly payments for restaurants grossing up to a certain amount. Mrs. Frogue agreed that they could potentially do that and said the commission will convene and come up with a dollar amount to present back to the council.

**Reading Minutes:** The minutes were read by the City Council Members for the meeting on June 11, 2024. A motion to accept was made by Linda Smith and seconded by Chad Johnson. This motion carried unanimously.

**Financial Report:** The June 2024 financial reports were read by the City Council Members and approved as read. A motion to accept the report was made Russ Longhurst and seconded by Chad Johnson. This motion carried unanimously.

**Fire Report:** none

**Utility Report:** Benn Stahl gave the report, and it is attached. Items presented for council vote were as follows:

* 1. TJ Harris needs sewer taps for 4 units at 3rd and Green- a motion to accept was made by Russ Longhurst and seconded by Linda Smith. This motion carried unanimously.
  2. Jonathan Blick needs 3 sewer taps and extensions in South Guthrie. Calvin Ligon has 8 units needing taps and extensions in South Guthrie. A motion to approve the extensions with the taps to be voted on at a later date was made by Chad Johnson and seconded by Harry Green. This motion carried unanimously.
  3. A motion was made to approve the bid for the new Utility Truck from Pennyrile Ford for $44,456.68 by Chad Johnson and seconded by Harry Green. This motion carried unanimously.

Chad Johnson asked about the drainage issue on 2nd Street down by the Police Department. Benn Stahl said that he had gotten a quote and presented it to the council but it was never voted on because there was no money and the City did not get the grant. Benn also stated that drainage is something that needs to come up in conversation and money allocated for in a budget.

**Police Report:** Chief Blumel gave the report, and it is attached. He mention that Tyler Honeycutt was back working for Guthrie Police Department.

**Engineering Report-** Mike McGhee gave the report and it is attached.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

1. **Surplus Property on State Street-** the city held a bid opening for a lot on State Street a few years ago but no bid was accepted at the time. A motion was made to reopen this for new bids by Harry Green and seconded by Russ Longhurst. This motion carried unanimously.
2. **1st Reading Ordinance 2024-5 An Ordinance Amending The Text Of Ordinance 110.55 To Adjust The Frequency That Restaurant and Lodging Owners/Operators Are Required To Report Gross Sales and Pay Fees to The Guthrie Tourism Commission From Monthly To Quarterly-** first reading was held
3. **Adding Mary Slack to bank accounts-** new employee Mary Slack needs to be added to all checking accounts in the city’s name. A motion to accept was made by Russ Longhurst and seconded by Chad Johnson. This motion carried unanimously.
4. **1st Reading Ordinance 2024-6 An Ordinance Amending Section 110.28 Of The Code Of Ordinances Of The City Of Guthrie, Kentucky To Change The Period Of the Return And Payment Required To Be Made On Account Of Deductions By The Employers From Salaries, Wages And Other Compensation Of Employees From Monthly To Quarterly-** this was tabled to next meeting
5. **Executive Session-KRS 61.810 ( c) *Discussions of proposed pending litigation****.* – A motion to enter into closed session because discussions in public could hinder decisions was made by Harry Green at 20:39 hours. This was seconded by Russ Longhurst and carried unanimously. A motion to exit closed session with no action taken was made at 20:53 by Harry Green and seconded by Chad Johnson. This motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Harry Green to engage Sturgill, Barker & Maloney from Lexington to represent the city along with PREA in a suit against PREA, Guthrie and Trenton. The bill will be paid in full by PREA. This motion was seconded by Russ Longhurst and carried unanimously.

**Mayor’s FYI-**

**Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn at 20:54 hours was made by Russ Longhurst and seconded by

Harry Green. This motion carried unanimously.

1 hours 47 minutes

Minutes by Alison Blumel, City Clerk Jimmy Covington, Mayor