

**City of Greenbrier
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2015**

Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

1. Call to Order by Mayor Dawson at 7:02 PM at Greenbrier City Hall
2. Roll Call

Present: Alderman Jeff DeLong
Alderman Billy Ray Dorris
Alderman Carol Fagg
Alderman Steve Higdon
Alderman Larry Stroup
Mayor Bonnette Dawson

Absent: Alderman Bill Deaver

Also Present: City Attorney Bill Vernich
City Superintendent Tommy Maitland
City Recorder Rachel Slusser
Police Chief Kenneth Smith
Fire Chief Kyle Hamill

3. Prayer – Alderman Larry Stroup
4. Pledge to flag
5. Adoption of the Agenda

It was moved by DeLong, seconded by Dorris, to adopt.

Vote: 6-0
Yes: DeLong, Dorris, Fagg, Higdon, Stroup and Dawson
No: None
Absent: Deaver

Motion Passed. (Voice Vote)

6. Approval of Minutes of the February 2, 2015 regular scheduled board meeting

It was moved by Fagg, seconded by Stroup, to approve.

Vote: 6-0
Yes: DeLong, Dorris, Fagg, Higdon, Stroup and Dawson
No: None
Absent: Deaver

Motion Passed. (Voice Vote)

7. Presentations/Memorials

Mayor Dawson presented Kyle Hamill as Employee of the Month.

8. Communications from the Mayor and Aldermen

Mayor Dawson has the following communications:

- The audit for the City has just been completed by the new audit firm we hired last fall Parker & Parker from Goodlettsville. They issued detailed financial statements and gave the City an unqualified opinion which is the best you can get in an audit. They did make some suggestions that we will be addressing within the next few weeks. They recommended some policy changes and additions also.
- Aldermen mark your calendars for Saturday, April 11 for our second annual planning meeting. It will be held at my office in Old Hickory. Gary Jackel from MTAS will once again be our facilitator.
- The board will remember in the February meeting the Retail Strategies partnership was discussed and voted down. I received information last Friday after our pre-session about a new proposal they have made for Greenbrier, Cross Plains, and Coopertown. As you know, we have a little over \$10,000.00 in escrow of hotel/motel tax revenues available to be used for business development. The new option is for the 3 cities mentioned above is: For new/expanded retail space within the corporate limits of Cross Plains, Greenbrier and Coopertown, Retail Strategies will receive a recruitment bonus calculated as \$1.00 per square foot for (that is 2,500 sf=\$2,500.00) with payment due 45 days after the official open date of the retailer/project. The first year of a 3 year contract the Robertson County Economic Development Board will contribute \$15,000, Realizing Robertson's Future \$15,000, and the City of Springfield \$28,000. Years 2 and 3, the Economic Development Board will contribute \$7,500, Realizing Robertson's Future \$7,500, and Springfield \$25,200. This is a significant reduction in cost overall from the first proposal we had. Their research reflects the fact that an average fast food restaurant is about 2,500 sf and an average grocery store is 30,000 sf. They will be attending a large meeting with industry leaders in May of 35,000. This will be an excellent time for Retail Strategies to promote Robertson County. Due to the revised proposal, they are extending the deadline of having an executed contract to participate to March 27th. When we move into new business we will discuss this.
- We will be making some budget adjustments probably at the next meeting. The Police Dept. is over; however, when we approved the budget we did not have our new chief in place. We have had some expenditures upgrading the department, and they have used them wisely and we are seeing the results.
- Just a note – tonight at 9:00 on the Travel Channel Greenbrier will probably be part of a special on the whiskey industry in Tennessee.
- The Metropolitan Planning Organization which Greenbrier is a member of is being challenged by a state representative. He doesn't like the makeup of the board and is presenting legislation to change it. If it passes, Greenbrier, Springfield, White House, Portland, Millersville, Goodlettsville, Fairview along with others would lose their vote. Robertson County Mayor Howard Bradley would have 2 votes representing all of us.
- Snowbird confirmed to me today he will be in the Christmas Parade on December 12.

Alderman Dorris asked if the City had any snow equipment to clear the roads. Superintendent Maitland said the only thing the City has is a backhoe with a scraper. He also informed the Board that the City will be bidding out a backhoe in the next several weeks. The new backhoe will have the capabilities to have snow removal attachments.

9. Communications from the City Attorney

City Attorney Vernich reported to the Board that he is in the process of collecting old water bills/accounts. He has received payment on some of these.

10. Reports from Committees and Department Heads

There were no reports.

11. Old Business

There was no old business

12. New Business

- a. Change the due date of water bills to the 20th of each month, Effective 05/01/15

It was moved by Stroup, seconded by DeLong, to approve.

Discussion: We are going to a new billing vendor. Your water bills will come in a sealed envelope. It will be a full page which will allow the City to give more information to the citizens of upcoming events or important notices. The postal service has become very difficult to deal with. The vendor will be responsible for printing and mailing the bills as well as our tax notices.

<u>Vote:</u>	6-0
Yes:	DeLong, Dorris, Fagg, Higdon, Stroup and Dawson
No:	None
Absent:	Deaver

Motion Passed. (Roll Vote)

- b. Personal days for the police department

It was moved by Stroup, seconded by Dorris, to approve.

Discussion: The Police Department had always observed 2 personal days; with the recent addition of Martin Luther King Day and President's Day as holidays, they will now have only one personal day just like the rest of the City employees.

<u>Vote:</u>	6-0
Yes:	DeLong, Dorris, Fagg, Higdon, Stroup and Dawson
No:	None
Absent:	Deaver

Motion Passed. (Roll Vote)

- c. Retail Strategies

It was moved by DeLong, seconded by Stroup, to accept new proposal by Retail Strategies that we pay that will pay \$1.00 per square foot for any business they in. The fee will be paid out of the hotel motel tax revenues.

Discussion: Mayor Dawson said that she knew some had a concern that we would pay out all the monies they had proposed for us with no guarantees. At least with the proposal we don't pay unless they find something for us.

Vote: 5-1
Yes: DeLong, Dorris, Higdon, Stroup and Dawson
No: Fagg
Absent: Deaver

Motion Passed. (Roll Vote)

d. Finance

1. Adjustments to water and sewer account - \$ 787.10

It was moved by Higdon, seconded by Dorris, to approve.

Vote: 6-0
Yes: DeLong, Dorris, Fagg, Higdon, Stroup and Dawson
No: None
Absent: Deaver

Motion Passed. (Roll Vote)

13. Adjournment

It was moved by Stroup, seconded by DeLong, to adjourn.

Vote: 6-0
Yes: DeLong, Dorris, Fagg, Higdon, Stroup and Dawson
No: None
Absent: Deaver

Motion Passed. (Voice Vote)

MEETING ADJOURN [7:21 PM](#)

Mayor Bonnette Dawson

Attest: _____
City Recorder