

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF KENTON
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING JANUARY 3, 2023

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in a regular scheduled meeting January 3, 2023 at the city hall.

Those in attendance were Mayor Danny Jowers, Alderpersons Tim Johns, Sheila Barnes, Wade Simpson, Jesse Griggs, Harold Banks, Glenn Zarecor and Recorder Shayna Jackson.

Prayer was led by Harold Banks.

A motion was made by Jesse Griggs, seconded by Tim Johns, to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, to pay the monthly bills. Motion carried.

Mayor Jowers called for any citizen's grievances and there were none.

Charlotte Jackson approached the Mayor and Board on behalf of the Gibson County Marching Pioneers Winter Color Guard. Ms. Jackson stated that this is the first year that they have been able to have a winter color guard but do not have a facility to practice in. They would like permission to use the Kenton gym to practice up to 3 times a week for 2 weeks. Also, they have a heavy tarp size banner that they would like to leave out open on the gym floor for the whole time. The main concern of the board is liability insurance; but Ms. Jackson stated that all the color guard are covered under the school's policy. A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to grant permission for use of the gym upon the city receiving a copy of the certificate of liability. Motion carried.

Mayor Jowers reported that in December's meeting we failed to vote on the position of Vice Mayor; so the floor was opened for nominations. Tim Johns nominated Wade Simpson to continue on as Vice Mayor and Jesse Griggs seconded it. Mayor Jowers asked if there were any other nominations and there were none. Wade Simpson was reappointed to Vice Mayor by acclamation.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, to accept the first and final reading of Resolution 2022-13 to adopt the consultant selection policy recommended by TDEC. Motion carried.

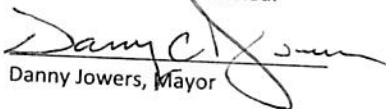
A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to accept the 2nd and final reading of Ordinance 2022-12 increasing court costs from \$110 to \$125. Motion carried.

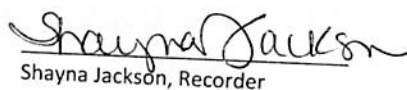
During the extreme cold weather over the Christmas holiday, several utility customers had pipes to burst. Our current adjustment policy only allows for the sewer portion of the bill to be adjusted to normal average consumption. Mayor Jowers would like to know if the board wishes to grant him the authority to adjust the water and sewer to what a normal bill would be and each would be considered on a case by case basis. Adjusting the water usage would actually mean to write this portion off and report it as a loss. After a brief discussion was had, it is the wishes of the board to allow Mayor Jowers to adjust for water leaks as he deems fair.

Wade Simpson asked if it would be possible to have lights on the utility truck for when the street and water departments get called out at night. Mayor Jowers reported that he is looking into getting a response trailer.

The fiscal year 2021-2022 financial audit will be filed with the state on 01/15/2023.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, for the meeting to adjourn. Motion carried.


Danny Jowers, Mayor


Shayna Jackson, Recorder

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF KENTON
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING FEBRUARY 7, 2023

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in a regular scheduled meeting February 7, 2023 at the city hall.

Those in attendance were Mayor Danny Jowers, Alderpersons Tim Johns, Sheila Barnes, Wade Simpson, Jesse Griggs, Harold Banks, Glenn Zarecor and Recorder Shayna Jackson.

Prayer was led by Jesse Griggs.

A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Wade Simpson, to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, to pay the monthly bills. Glenn Zarecor did question the invoice for the water meters for Mason Hall. Mayor Jowers explained that Mason Hall has received a grant to install meters in their area but have to be partnered with a municipality. They are reimbursing the city back for all materials. Motion carried.

Mayor Jowers called for any citizen's grievances and there were none.

Cowart Reese & Sargent's auditor, Chole Humphrey, presented the FY 2021-2022 audit to the Mayor and Board of Alderman. She first stated that they had been short staffed and apologized for the audit being late. She reported that the financial statements presented fairly and the city's financial condition is strong. The Water & Sewer Fund posted a positive net income which included grant proceeds so this number will decrease next year. We received audit findings of: inadequate segregation of duties & expenditures in excess of appropriations in the State Street Aid Fund but it was under \$2,000. Overall everyone was pleased with the audit.

Mayor Jowers announced that Scott Reeves has opened the old motel next to Food Rite and therefore the city must levy a privilege occupancy tax. There was a brief discussion regarding Section 10 of Ordinance 2023-1; so the Mayor said that he would follow up with MTAS. A motion was made by Jesse Griggs, seconded by Tim Johns, to pass the first reading of Ord. 2023-1 with the understanding that the section in question will be addressed at the next meeting. Motion carried.

Mayor Jowers expressed his concern regarding the cost associated with constructing two ballfields for the LPRF grant. He recommends amending the original request and only do one field. With this being a 50% match grant, we will have to borrow the money for our part and the interest rates are high at the moment. He asked for the board to consider what they feel would be the best option moving forward and there would be further discussion at the next meeting.

Jesse Griggs reported that the fire department has applied for a grant to purchase (2) automated external defibrillators and this will be at no cost to the city.

Harold Banks reported that the police department has applied for the Violent Crime Intervention Grant which allows for the purchase of cameras and computers for cars.

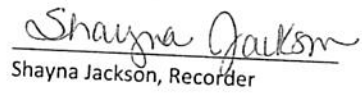
Glenn Zarecor asked if Mayor Jowers would contact Daniel Musgrave with Northwest TN Development District regarding the BCBS Grant for playground equipment. Glenn stated that he has been unsuccessful in getting Mr. Musgrave to return his calls. Also, the north-west corner of the gym is sinking and needs to be looked at.

Recorder, Shayna Jackson, asked if the Mayor & Board would allow her to deposit six months of the Auto Registration (City Sticker) revenue into the State Street Aid Fund. This revenue is usually deposited into the General Fund and designated to be used for the capital outlay note for paving. At this time, State Street Aid does not have enough money to make the \$10,471.28 capital outlay note payable due 08/01/2023. A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, to allow six months of Auto

Registration revenue to be deposited into State Street Aid. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, for the meeting to adjourn. Motion carried.


Danny Jowers, Mayor


Shayna Jackson, Recorder

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF KENTON
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING MARCH 7, 2023

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in a regular scheduled meeting March 7, 2023 at the city hall.

Those in attendance were Mayor Danny Jowers, Alderpersons Tim Johns, Sheila Barnes, Wade Simpson, Jesse Griggs, Harold Banks, Glenn Zarecor and Recorder Shayna Jackson.

Prayer was led by Harold Banks.

A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Wade Simpson, to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to pay the monthly bills. Motion carried.

Mayor Jowers called for any citizen's grievances and there were none.

Before passing on the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2023-1, Mayor Jowers asked again if all were in agreement about removing the section that states "**Compensation to the hotel:** The hotel may deduct 2% from the amount paid to the city." All were in favor of striking that section. A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, to pass Ord. 2023-1 which levies an occupancy hotel/motel privilege tax on the 2nd and final reading. Motion carried. The Mayor said that this revenue can only be spent for tourism development so everyone should be considering how to use in the upcoming budget.

Tri-Star Energy, LLC purchased Little General and will be taking over the store on April 1, 2023. They have submitted applications and paid fees for a standard business license and beer license. Chief Buchanan reported that he had performed a background check and it came back clear. A motion was made by Jesse Griggs, seconded by Wade Simpson, to approve their beer application and issue a permit. Motion carried.

Mayor Jowers updated everyone regarding the LPRF project. He met with engineer, Joni Bailey, and she is revising the application so that the scope of the work will only include one ballfield. TDEC has asked her to submit a revised budget as well. There was no discussion from the board.

March is the free pick up month for household items and RaeKar has a dumpster dropped behind the gym for the residents to use. Also, debris from the storm will be picked up and the fee will be waived.

The Mayor reported that he is still trying to negotiate cutting cost for the sidewalk grant. The Gibson County Mayor is going to attend April's meeting which will give the board the opportunity to ask if the county would consider allocating monies to offset some of the cost.

Jesse Griggs stated that the fire department received \$1,000.00 from Texas Gas and he expressed his gratitude for their donation.

There was a brief discussion about the north side of the gym sinking; so Mayor Jowers said that he would contact Ram Jack to inspect this.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, for the meeting to adjourn. Motion carried.


Danny Jowers, Mayor


Shayna Jackson, Recorder

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF KENTON
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING APRIL 4, 2023

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in a regular scheduled meeting April 4, 2023 at the city hall.

Those in attendance were Mayor Danny Jowers, Alderpersons Tim Johns, Sheila Barnes, Wade Simpson, Jesse Griggs, Harold Banks, Glenn Zarecor and Recorder Shayna Jackson.

Prayer was led by Danny Jowers.

A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Wade Simpson, to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Wade Simpson, to pay the monthly bills. Motion carried.

Mayor Jowers called for any citizen's grievances and Lenny Banks asked why the city did not pick up the brush in March. Mayor Jowers reported that the backhoe is being repaired and that is the reason for the delay.

The last time Kenton's Occupational Safety & Health Program Plan was updated was 2016 and the city is required to update every (7) years. Recorder Shayna Jackson presented Ordinance 2023-2 and asked if the Mayor and Board wanted to rename Nathan Spencer as the Safety Director. A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to rename Nathan Spencer as Safety Director and to accept the 1st reading of Ord. 2023-2. Motion carried.

The State of Tennessee is requiring that all utilities adopt a cybersecurity plan by July 1, 2023. Ordinance 2023-3 is adding cyber security and sensitive information sections to the town's personnel policies and procedures. A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to accept the 1st reading of Ord. 2023-3. Motion carried.

Gibson County Mayor, Nelson Cunningham, was asked to attend this meeting but was not able to come due to a family emergency.

There was a lengthy discussion concerning how soon the saferoom should be opened when there is a possible threat of a tornado. Mayor Jowers stated that it should only be opened when an immediate threat has been reported and on March 31st Kenton was not under a warning. Although the warnings were for the south part of Gibson County, Central Control sounded the tornado siren for Kenton. He feels that sounding the siren too soon when the warning is not cone specific will eventually cause residents to believe that it is a false alarm. The saferoom has to be staffed with an officer while opened and the city does not have the personnel for an officer to remain there while the town is not being patrolled. Mayor Jowers said that he does care about the residents of this town and their safety; so he will reach out to the Gibson County Sheriff's Department to see if they could possibly help with security during these situations.

The Mayor reported that TDEC approved to reevaluate the LPFR grant to construct one ball field. The fire department is concerned that this will effect the helicopter landing zone but it will not.


Harold Banks reported that the police department is down one officer and not sure for how long. In March, the police issued several warning letters to residents with abandoned cars. Mayor Jowers asked Chief Buchanan to make sure that his officers start enforcing the curfew for juveniles in town.

Tim Johns got a price of \$95.00 for concrete steps to be put in front of the storage building at the police department. No action was taken.

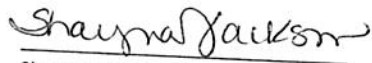
Nathan Spencer presented quotes for water treatment chemicals from Hawkins and from Southeastern Tank (see attached). A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to continue to purchase chemicals from Hawkins. Motion carried.

Nathan Spencer reported that there was an electrical fire at the well but has been fixed. He would like permission to contact National Water Service for them to inspect and permission was granted.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Jesse Griggs, for the meeting to adjourn. Motion carried.



Danny Jowers, Mayor



Shayna Jackson, Recorder

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF KENTON
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING MAY 2, 2023

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in a regular scheduled meeting May 2, 2023 at the city hall.

Those in attendance were Mayor Danny Jowers, Alderpersons Tim Johns, Sheila Barnes, Wade Simpson, Jesse Griggs, Harold Banks, Glenn Zarecor and Recorder Shayna Jackson.

Prayer was led by Jesse Griggs.

A motion was made by Jesse Griggs, seconded by Wade Simpson, to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, to pay the monthly bills. Motion carried.

Mayor Jowers called for any citizens grievances and there were none.

Recorder Shayna Jackson stated that it is time to contract to audit for the FY 2022-2023 and expressed that she would like to continue to work with Cowart Reese Sargent. She reported that their quote for this year would be \$20,950.00. This is up from last year due the new chart of accounts crosswalk fee which is mandatory for audit year ending in June 30, 2023. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to contract Cowart Reese Sargent to audit FY 2022-2023 for \$20,950.00. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Wade Simpson, to accept the 2% TCRS actuarial employer rate. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, to accept the 1st reading of Ordinance 2023-4 amending the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to accept the 1st reading of Ordinance 2023-5 for fiscal year 2023-2024 budget. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Wade Simpson, to accept the 2nd and final reading of Ordinance 2023-2 updating the Safety & Health Plan for our town. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, to accept the 2nd and final reading of Ordinance 2023-3 that adds cyber security to our personnel policies & procedures. Motion carried.

The Mayor reported that several letters have been sent to residents concerning abandoned cars and property maintenance and stated that progress has been made. He reported that the street department has been working on the flower beds and upkeep of all city owned properties.

Mayor Jowers presented the members of the board with copies of a mural of a white squirrel that he would like to see displayed in the lot next to Kenton Drug. This artwork will be done by Benny Zaricor and would be mounted on a frame and lighted. Since this would be advertisement for our community the cost of the project can be paid with Obion County Tourism money.

Glenn Zarecor asked if Ram Jack had been contacted about the problem at the gym and Tim Johns said that he would give them a call. Glenn asked if we could budget in the upcoming fiscal year to replace the mulch at the playground and board agreed.


Harold Banks and Chief Buchanan presented Mr. Ronnie Johnson with a card and thanked him for the donation he made to the police department. His donation was used to purchase concrete steps for the storage building behind the police station. Harold reported that we have hired a new part time officer named Rodney Mitchell and Larry Farley is still out due to illness.

A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to approve the purchase of a storage building in the amount of \$8,000.00 to be used by the fire department. This will be paid for with the ARPA Grant money. Motion carried.

Tim Johns stated that the lines for the parking area downtown need to be repainted. Mayor Jowers said that he will have the Street Department to work on this soon.

Mayor Jowers reported that the flashing school zone light was damaged because of the high winds and he has filed this on our insurance. The cost to replace is approximately \$3,500.00.

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Jesse Griggs, for the meeting to adjourn. Motion carried.



Danny Jowers, Mayor



Shayna Jackson, Recorder

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF KENTON
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING JUNE 6, 2023

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in a regular scheduled meeting June 6, 2023 at the city hall.

Those in attendance were Mayor Danny Jowers, Alderpersons Tim Johns, Sheila Barnes, Wade Simpson, Jesse Griggs, Harold Banks, Glenn Zarecor and Recorder Shayna Jackson.

Prayer was led by Harold Banks.

A motion was made by Jesse Griggs, seconded by Wade Simpson, to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to pay the monthly bills. Motion carried.

Mayor Jowers called for any citizens grievances and there were none.

Mayor Jowers asked for the board to review the current vacation policy. Some employees are not taking their vacation time and wanting to sell it back to the city which means they will get paid over 52 weeks in a fiscal year. He would like this to be discussed at the next meeting on the 20th.

The city is still awaiting the certified tax rate from the state so therefore a special called board meeting will be set for June 20th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss and finalize the budget ordinances. Mayor Jowers reported that the board will need to consider possibly raising the water and sewer rates for the next fiscal year. He stated that the rates have not been raised since 2018 and need to be reviewed.

On June 1, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at city hall, bids were opened for the 2020 LPRF Ballfield Improvements to the City Park. Only two bids were submitted and unfortunately due to the current economy they were both over budget. Mayor Jowers reported that the lowest bid was around \$400,000 and feels that it will be difficult for the city to match that. He has contacted TDEC about changing the scope of the project to do some playground equipment and ADA compliant upgrades.

Nathan Spencer reported that the city is having an issue with a well and the cost to rehab and repair will be around \$110,000.00. Mayor Jowers asked if the board wanted to cash out one of the certificate of deposits that the water & sewer fund has or borrow against one of them. He checked with Simmons Bank and it would be 3% interest if we borrowed against our C.D. A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Jesse Griggs, to borrow against our C.D. at Simmons Bank. Motion carried.

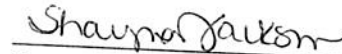
John Baker came before the Mayor and Board on behalf of the Kenton Volunteer Fire Department. He informed them that the fire department had been awarded the FY2022 AFG grant to purchase air packs. The total grant approved budget for this project is \$120,900.00 with federal match of \$115,142.85 and city's match being \$5757.15. Mr. Baker also stated that the grant writer will be sending an invoice for \$5757.15 as well. The Fire Department has applied for a truck but he had no updates for the board at this time.

Ram Jack did meet with Nathan Spencer to look at the corner of the gym that is sinking but they have not reported back to the city on their assessment of this problem.

Glenn Zarecor stated that he would like for the storage container to be moved from the gym parking lot before the 4th of July activities; so Mayor Jowers will contact the Ministerial Association about this. Also, the city's website needs to be looked at and updated because some of the information is not correct.

A motion was made by Jesse Griggs, seconded by Tim Johns, for the meeting to adjourn. Motion carried.


Danny Jowers, Mayor


Shayna Jackson, Recorder

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF KENTON
REGULAR SPECIAL CALLED MEETING JUNE 20, 2023

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in a special called meeting June 20, 2023 at the city hall. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss & finalize the FY 2023-2024 budget.

Those in attendance were Mayor Danny Jowers, Alderpersons Tim Johns, Wade Simpson Jesse Griggs, Harold Banks, Glenn Zarecor and Recorder Shayna Jackson. Sheila Barnes was absent.

Prayer was led by Jesse Griggs.

A motion was made by Jesse Griggs, seconded by Wade Simpson, to accept the 2nd & final reading of Ord. 2023-4 amending the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023. Motion carried.

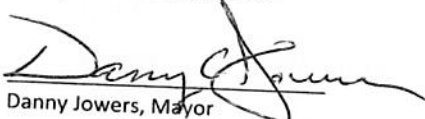
A motion was made by Tim Johns, seconded by Wade Simpson, to accept the 2nd & final reading of Ord. 2023-5 for fiscal year 2023-2024 budget. Mayor Jowers opened the floor for discussion. He stated that this budget reflects that we adopt the certified tax rate from the state for Obion County and that the tax rate for Gibson County would remain the same at \$1.4883. He also proposes that this budget will reflect an increase in the water per 1,000 gallons from \$3.80 to \$4.00 and the sewer per 1,000 gallons from \$3.00 to \$4.00. This will generate an additional \$38,000.00 in revenue. After there was no further discussion, motion carried.

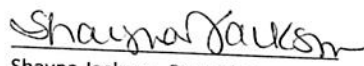
The Mayor asked the board for their input on the vacation policy. A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, to allow an employee to sell back up to 1/2 of their vacation within a year upon submitting a request of intent by May 31st. This will help when preparing the budget. Motion carried. A motion was made by Jesse Griggs, seconded by Tim Johns, to grant the Mayor permission to approve any unused vacation to carry over or to bank in sick leave that will convert to leave for retirement. This motion also removes the cap off of sick leave. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Jesse Griggs, seconded by Tim Johns, to accept the 1st & final reading of Resolution 2023-6 approving the local share of \$5757.15 for the FY 2022 AFG grant to purchase air packs for the fire department. Motion carried.

Next regular scheduled meeting will be July 11, 2023 at 6:00.p.m

A motion was made by Wade Simpson, seconded by Tim Johns, for the meeting to adjourn. Motion carried.


Danny Jowers, Mayor


Shayna Jackson, Recorder