

Friendsville Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
May 1, 2025
Friendsville City Hall
Minutes

Present:

Mayor Steven Cardwell	City Attorney Rob Goddard
Vice Mayor Sandra Bell	Building Official Barry Ottinger
Commissioner Margaret Maze	City Engineer Bob Colvin
Commissioner Shane Rogers	Janet Walton
Commissioner Jonathan Newberry	Dana Bentz
City Recorder Janet Ledbetter	Debbie Bentz
City Administrator Kim Rogers	Steve Palmer

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.
2. Janet Walton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Janet Walton also led the invocation.
4. Roll call: Maze- present; Bell- present; Cardwell- present; Newberry- present; Rogers- present.
5. Motion to approve minutes from April 3, 2025 meeting by Commissioner Rogers, second by Commissioner Maze. Motion passed.
6. Approval of minutes from March 6 commission meeting: was a typo on the agenda.
7. Non-agenda items from the public: none
8. Other business not on the agenda: Vice Mayor Bell mentioned that she had been receiving calls from citizens along Collie Cove Ct. regarding a huge pothole. Kim Rogers told her that employees had planned to patch it, but it started raining before they could get to it. She said they would get it filled as soon as possible. Commissioner Rogers said he was glad to return to the City

Hall for meetings and praised the employees for doing such a good job on the building remodel.

9. Discussion:

First reading of Ordinance No. 2025-02: FY 2025-2026 Budget: Motion to pass on first reading by Commissioner Rogers, second by Commissioner Newberry. Motion passed.

Tractor discussion with Sourcewell: Kim Rogers had been checking quotes with government contracts for a new tractor with a side mower. The first one had been almost \$200,000, which included a long arm, and she had been checking on financing through Tennessee Municipal Bond fund, which hadn't replied with a quote at that time, and NCL Government Capital, whose numbers were cost prohibitive. She had planned to put an ad in the newspaper for long arm mowing twice a year. Vice Mayor Bell asked if she had gotten a quote from Blount County, and Kim replied that the city had not had good luck working with the county, so she was looking elsewhere. She said Louisville possibly is open to working with the city because they have two long arm mowers. However, the city would still need a tractor with a side mower that would also pull the bushhog. Those tractors have been quoted from \$128,000 to \$131,000, which would be more affordable. The Board had told Kim in a past meeting to sell the current tractor, since it wasn't big enough for a side mower. It sold for \$18,000. She also sold the long arm that went with the skid steer that they are no longer leasing, and it sold for \$9,000. Motion to go to bid for long arm mowing by Commissioner Newberry, second by Commissioner Rogers. Motion passed.

10. Tabled Discussion: N/A

11. Staff Reports:

Codes: The Board looked over Barry Ottinger's report.

Planning: Did not meet in April but have a called meeting scheduled for May 15. Zoning Ordinance amendments will be discussed regarding the zoning of Cryptocurrency mining companies and adult entertainment facilities. Arcadia's plans for a behavioral health center will be discussed.

Streets: Potholes will be filled as weather permits.

Grants: The sidewalk bids were scheduled to be advertised for the HUD grant. The pavilion will be going out for bids for the LPRF grant. For the HUD sewer grant, the homeowner will have to pay to hook up their electrical and hook up to the grinder pump, but the grant will pay for the pumps. Kim had spoken with Mattie at Community Development Partners about the ARPA/TDEC grant since the county had returned the money that was slated to pay for grinder pumps for current sewer customers. She was told that the city could ask for that money back, which was over \$1,000,000. The county had returned the funds because the project couldn't meet their in-house deadline, but TDEC had its own deadline, which is still in the future.

Financial updates: The board looked over the financial reports for the General and Street Funds.


Administration: Kim mentioned that the city had received a cybersecurity grant for \$49,000.

Events: none planned.

Parks & Recreation: The ball games had been rained out, so they had been having games during practice nights to make them up.

12. Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Rogers, second by Commissioner Newberry. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.


Mayor Steven Cardwell


City Recorder Janet Ledbetter