

**TOWN of SURGOINSVILLE
BOARD of MAYOR AND ALDERMEN**

**BMA Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 13th, 2024, @ 6pm**

The BMA session of the Surgoinsville Board of Mayor and Aldermen was held May 13^h, 2024, at 6:03p.m. in the Surgoinsville City Hall after public notice was published on *Town of Surgoinsville – City Hall* Facebook Page and posted at City Hall, Surgoinsville Utility District, Post Office, & Surgoinsville Public Library.

INVOCATION

Mayor Graham did the invocation and asked Alderman Hoss to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Graham requested a roll call for the record of attendance as follows:

Present

Mayor Graham
Vice-Mayor Jarnagin
Alderman Collier
Alderman Mierek
Alderman Sandidge
Alderman Bishop
Alderman Hoss

Absent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTES

- April 8th, 2024 - BMA meeting minutes: A motion was made by Alderman Hoss to approve the April minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Alderman Collier. The voting was unanimous in favor to approve the minutes as written.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- Police Chief James Hammonds read his April 2024 Police report. Mayor Graham read the Fire Department Report for April 2024. Bobby Hickman read the Maintenance for April 2024. The April 2024 *Daily Vehicle Inspection Checklist* for each vehicle was emailed to each Board Member for review. Sewer Report provided for April 2024. A motion was made by Alderman Hoss to approve the April reports as presented. The motion was seconded by Alderman Collier. The voting was unanimous in favor of approving the reports as written.

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS

- No Financial Reports were available.

VISITORS

OLD BUSINESS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- Consider the second & final reading of Ordinance No. 172-2024 which is an ordinance to adopt the 2021 edition of the International Property Maintenance Code. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Jarnigan to accept Ordinance No. 172-2024. The motion was seconded by Alderman Bishop. A roll call vote was obtained and was unanimous in favor of approving.
- Consider the second & final reading of Ordinance No. 173-2024 which is an ordinance to adopt the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024, and Ending June 30, 2025. Alderman Collier voiced that the elected officials were put in these roles to ensure efficiency & accuracy within each department of the town. Alderman Collier voices that an increased tax rate will require the Board Members to call employee's hand at downfalls. A motion was made by Alderman Bishop to accept Ordinance No. 173-2024. The motion was seconded by Alderman Hoss. A roll call vote was obtained and was unanimous in favor of approving. After discussion among the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, an increase in Tax Rate to 1.10 will be implemented for FY2025.
- Consider the fees for scheduled vendor events at Riverfront Park. This item was tabled.
- Consider AirMedCare Network Membership for Employees. This item was tabled.
- Discuss invoice received for DOT Inspection Certification. Attorney Joe May voiced the Inspector qualifications included within Title 49, Subtitle B, Chapter III, Subchapter B, Part 396. Attorney Joe May was unable to identify any such certification within Tennessee. There are online courses available to provide education on annual inspections. Attorney Joe May confirmed that employee Donnie Morrison's 30 years of experience in this area meets the qualifications. Alderman Mierek inquired about the company listed within this invoice, MD Road Service & Repair. Alderman Mierek states that she had attempted to Google this business with no results. Maintenance Supervisor, Bobby Hickman, states that he knew Marion Doolittle, the individual that created this invoice through MD Road Service & Repair, through Bob's Enterprise's. Bobby Hickman states that Marion drives a truck with Bob's Enterprise's. Alderman Collier asked Donnie Morrison, the employee that was to obtain his DOT Inspection Certification from Marion Doolittle, a few questions regarding this training. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Jarnigan that payment not be rendered for this invoice as services were not provided to the Town. The motion was seconded by Alderman Hoss. A roll call vote was obtained and was unanimous in favor of approving.

COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS

COUNCIL REQUESTS

- Alderman Collier asked Bobby Hickman, Maintenance Supervisor, the number of Work Orders that have been completed from January to present. Bobby states that none have been completed and that he will start tomorrow. Alderman Collier stated that these are necessary to effectively manage employees. Alderman Collier asked Bobby Hickman if any employee has used the maintenance garage to work on a personal vehicle. Bobby stated “No”, then proceeded to say that his personal truck was in the garage but only during his break. Alderman Collier asked Bobby Hickman if he had ever locked anyone out of the Maintenance Department building. Bobby stated “No”. Alderman Sandidge confirmed that the door was locked and he was unable to enter. Alderman Collier asked Bobby Hickman about a garbage can that had previously been reported as ordered. Bobby states that he did not tell this to the Board. Alderman Collier reports that he has rewatched the film of this meeting and confirmed that the information provided was inaccurate. Alderman Collier asked Bobby Hickman if he smoked in the Town’s buildings or vehicles. Bobby Hickman admitted he had. Alderman Collier referred to a prior conversation on this topic and included Vice Mayor Jarnigan that this had already been addressed; however, Bobby continues to smoke in Town owned vehicles/buildings. Alderman Collier noted that Bobby Hickman is disrespectful to the Board and that this is one of department supervisors. Alderman Collier inquired about a normal workday within the Maintenance Department on a Tuesday when there are 2 employees that are not on the trash truck. Bobby states that those 2 employees are not sitting around. Alderman Collier voiced a lack of confidence in Bobby’s leadership and management skills. Mayor Graham states that he will look into this concern. Alderman Bishop states that the Board needs to look into realigning employees.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Maintenance Manager, Bobby Hickman, states that he received communication today from Church Hill Elementary School asking if the Town would be interested in taking our Garbage Truck to their school on Friday for Touch A Truck Program. Board Members agreed that there were no issues with this.

ADJOURNMENT

The BMA Meeting was dismissed at 6:48 pm.

ATTEST:


Merrell Graham, Mayor


Megan Gentry, Recorder