

## Meeting Minutes

July 28, 2025

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater met in their regular monthly workshop on July 28, 2025 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Angie A. Kyle called the meeting to order with Commissioners present being: Branham L. Lovingood, Sam Moser, Alan Richeson, JoAnna Jinks and James H. Stutts. City Attorney John Cleveland was present. A quorum was present.

Fire Chief John Anderson announced Sweetwater has been rated an ISO class 3. He praised the firemen and all who were instrumental in attaining this rating. He noted that Sweetwater is in the top 8% in the state of Tennessee as a class 3 department.

City Administrator Jessica Morgan advised the board that the Parks Director position would likely be filled internally and that five employees had applied. She stated that those interviews would start this week.

City Attorney John Cleveland updated the board on the TMG tax sale process. He stated he had just received a reply from Ms. Freed's attorney stating they did not agree with the submitted amount of taxes owed. He stated next steps would include a Special Clerk & Master report followed by a hearing with the Chancellor before the sale could take place.

She updated the board on pending litigation.

The City Administrator advised the board that we are working on the year-end process and would have a full report in the August workshop. She also advised our Moody's rating remained an AA3 which tells lenders we are a safe credit risk and reflects strong financial management.

The City Administrator advised the board that she expects grant administration to be more time-consuming going forward due to the fact that more grants are being monitored and the monitoring process is more extensive.

The City Administrator advised that the updated Internal Controls Manual would be voted on in the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting as well as two ordinances to update the purchasing policy and adoption of a food and beverage policy. She noted the inclusion of policy regarding city assets which will prohibit the City from lending assets to other groups or individuals.

The board discussed the location of the Community Center. They agreed that an even swap with Nick Bishop was not advantageous to the City and they did not want to initiate an appraisal of the Bishop property. They agreed to go forward with the original plan of renovating the old SUB building using the current architectural plans.

Mayor Kyle reviewed the upcoming agenda for August.

No action was taken.

The workshop was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. and reconvened for a strategic planning session after a short break.

Lacy Beasley of Retail Strategies spoke to the board explaining the benefits of hiring a firm to market the City to retailers.

The board then discussed challenges and long-term planning including infrastructure. They discussed forming a committee to find available land for future parks and recreation use.

No action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

This the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
RECORDER