

Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2025

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater met in their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Angie Arp Kyle called the meeting to order with Commissioners present being: Branham L. Lovingood, Sam Moser, Alan Richeson and James H. Stutts. Commissioner JoAnna Jinks was absent. City Attorney John Cleveland was present. A quorum was present.

No one was present to make a public comment on actionable items.

Commissioner Richeson moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of August 4, 2025 and workshop of August 25, 2025. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed. The motion was carried.

After the Recorder's report, Commissioner Moser moved to approve the distributions for the month of July, 2025. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed. The motion was carried.

A public hearing was opened to take comment on Ordinance No. 1053 to amend Title 5, Chapter 4 of the Municipal Code amending the purchasing policy, Ordinance No. 1054 to amend Title 5 of the Municipal Code Adopting a Food and Beverage Expenditure Policy, and Ordinance No. 1055 to amend the zoning map of the City of Sweetwater, Tennessee by rezoning parcel 102.03 on Map O33 from the R-2 (High Density Residential) District to the C-3 (General Commercial) District. No written or oral comments were given. The hearing was closed at 5:06 p.m.

In Old Business Commissioner Lovingood moved to approve Ordinance No. 1053 to amend Title 5, Chapter 4 of the Municipal Code amending the purchasing policy on second and final reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call voting, the Ayes were Commissioners Lovingood, Moser, Richeson and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Stutts moved to approve Ordinance No. 1054 to amend Title 5 of the Municipal Code Adopting a Food and Beverage Expenditure Policy on second and final reading. Upon Roll Call voting, the Ayes were Commissioners Lovingood, Moser, Richeson and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve Ordinance No. 1055 to amend the zoning map of the City of Sweetwater, Tennessee by rezoning parcel 102.03 on Map O33 from the R-2 (High Density Residential) District to the C-3 (General Commercial) District on second and final reading. Upon Roll Call voting, the Ayes were Commissioners Lovingood, Moser, Richeson and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

In New Business Mayor Kyle administered the following Oath of Office to Eddie Thompson as the Parks and Recreation Director.

Oath of Office

**I do solemnly swear
that I will support the Constitution
of the United States and of the State of Tennessee
and the Charter and ordinances
of the City of Sweetwater,
and that I will faithfully discharge
the duties of the office
to which I have been appointed,
and which I am about to assume.**

Commissioner Stutts moved to approve a Resolution to authorize an actuarial study for a TCRS benefit for public safety employees. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System

A RESOLUTION to authorize and appropriate funds for an actuarial study of the cost associated with granting a hazardous duty supplemental benefit to certain public safety officers pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-212.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-36-212 provides that members of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (“TCRS”) who are employed as public safety officers (as defined below) are eligible to receive a hazardous duty supplemental benefit, in addition to the member’s retirement allowance, if:

- (1) The member meets the eligibility requirements for retirement;
- (2) The member has at least twenty (20) years of creditable service in the retirement system as a public safety officer;
- (3) The member retires on a service retirement allowance or early service retirement allowance pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 36, and does not retire under disability retirement pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 36, Part 5; and
- (4) The chief governing body of the political subdivision passes a resolution authorizing an actuarial study to determine the liability associated with providing the hazardous duty supplemental benefit and accepting responsibility for the costs of the study; and

WHEREAS, for purposes of Section 8-36-212 and this resolution, a “public safety officer” means a full-time, salaried employee of a political subdivision who is a (i) sheriff, (ii) sheriff’s deputy, (iii) police officer, (iv) chief of police, (v) any other law enforcement officer with the political subdivision whose primary responsibility is the prevention and detection of crime and apprehension of offenders, (vi) a correctional officer or (vii) firefighter; and

WHEREAS, to authorize the hazardous duty supplemental benefit, the chief governing body of the political subdivision must pass a resolution authorizing the benefit and paying the estimated increased pension liability (i) in a lump sum or (ii) through an increase in the employer contribution rate of the political subdivision for the next fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) following the adoption of the resolution or (iii) through amortizing the amount over a period of time not to exceed ten (10) years from the date of the adoption of the resolution; and

WHEREAS, to determine the estimated increased pension liability, it is necessary the chief governing body of the political subdivision adopt a resolution authorizing and paying for the cost of an actuarial study to determine the estimated liability associated with authorizing the hazardous duty supplemental benefit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Board of Commissioners (“Governing Body”) of
(Name of Governing Body)
the City of Sweetwater, Tennessee (“Political Subdivision”) hereby authorizes and appropriates funds for
(Name of Political Subdivision)

an actuarial study of the liability associated with authorizing the hazardous duty supplemental benefit assuming the Governing Body elects to fund the estimated increased pension liability under one of the following scenarios (NOTE: THE BASIC ACTUARIAL STUDY INCLUDES THE COST OF DETERMINING THE LIABILITY FOR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING PAYMENT SCENARIOS):

- (1) Paying the amount in a lump sum.
- (2) Paying the amount through an increase in the Political Subdivision’s employer contribution rate for the next July 1 – June 30.

(3) Paying the amount through amortizing the amount over a period of time not to exceed ten (10) years from the date of the adoption of the resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there is hereby appropriated from the general funds of the Political Subdivision such amount as is required to pay for the cost of the actuarial study. Upon receipt of the actuarial study results, the Political Subdivision shall pay the cost for the study from the funds herein above appropriated to TCRS, or as otherwise directed by the TCRS Board of Trustees.

STATE OF TENNESSEE

COUNTY OF MONROE

I, _____, clerk of the Governing Body of the Political Subdivision do hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of the foregoing resolution that was approved and adopted in accordance with applicable law at a meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2025, the original of which is on file in this office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and the seal of the Employer.

As Clerk of the Board, as aforesaid

SEAL

Commissioner Lovingood moved to approve a Resolution to participate in the PE Partners Safety Grant with a 50% match. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed. The motion was carried.



**MODEL RESOLUTION
FOR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
THE CITY OF SWEETWATER
TO PARTICIPATE IN
the "*Safety Partners*" Matching Grant Program**

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of the employees of the City of Sweetwater is of the greatest importance; and

WHEREAS, all efforts shall be made to provide a safe and hazard-free workplace for the City of Sweetwater employees; and

WHEREAS, Public Entity Partners seeks to encourage the establishment of a safe workplace by offering a "*Safety Partners*" Matching Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sweetwater now seeks to participate in this important program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF Sweetwater, TENNESSEE the following:

SECTION 1. That the City of Sweetwater is hereby authorized to submit application for a "*Safety Partners*" Matching Grant Program through Public Entity Partners.

SECTION 2. That the City of Sweetwater is further authorized to provide a matching sum to serve as a match for any monies provided by this grant.

Resolved this 2nd day of September in the year of 2025.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Recorder

Mayor Kyle advised the Board that the Library is updating their bylaws and that a copy was included in their packets for review. She advised no action need be taken as it is within the Library Board's authority to adopt their bylaws.

Mayor Kyle advised the board that we have been awarded a Tourism Enhancement Grant for the Biggs House. The amount is unknown at this time.

Jon Campbell gave the board an update on the possible acquisition of Sweetwater High School. He advised the Monroe County School Board had asked \$1.5 million for the school and that the Sweetwater Board of Education be responsible for repairing the roof on the round building. He also advised they wanted a response by September 10th.

Commissioner Richeson moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed.

No further action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

This the 2nd day of September, 2025.

Mayor

Attest: _____

Recorder

