

**ATHENS CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF CALLED MEETING  
August 1, 2024**

The Athens City Council met in a called session on Thursday, August 1, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. with Mayor Sherlin presiding. Councilmember Curtis gave the invocation. Councilmember Witt-McMahan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Upon roll call, the following members were present:**

**Curtis, Witt-McMahan, Pelley, Eaton, Sherlin**

The following decision was made and ordered made a part of the records of the Athens City Council.

The purpose of the meeting, as issued in the "Public Notice of Called Meeting" dated July 27, 2024, was made a part of these minutes:

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF CALLED MEETING  
OF THE  
ATHENS CITY COUNCIL**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all residents of Athens, Tennessee, and to all persons interested, that a called meeting of the Athens City Council will be held at the Athens Municipal Building (Burkett Witt Council Chambers) located at 815 North Jackson Street, Athens, Tennessee, commencing at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 1, 2024.

The purpose of this meeting is to:

1. Discuss the interviews of the 5 candidates for the position of City Manager.
2. Select the top two candidates for future interviews.
3. Discuss, authorize and approve any and all matters related to the hiring of a City Manager.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Steven S. Sherlin, Mayor

**- 1 -  
CITIZENS COMMENTS**

**- 2 -  
NEW BUSINESS**

**Discuss the interviews of the five (5) candidates for the position of City Manager.**

The Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) calculated the scores based on their scoring combined with each council member's scoring.

Scoring results:

1. Randy Robertson
2. Randall Dowling
3. Scott Meszaros
4. Mark Tynee
5. Blaine Osborne

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Select the top ~~two (2)~~ three (3) candidates for future interviews.

Vice Mayor Eaton moved to amend agenda item by removing two (2) and replacing it with three (3); Councilmember Curtis seconded. Vice Mayor Eaton is in favor of having a third candidate. Councilmember Pelley is not in favor of a third candidate. Mayor Sherlin is not against three (3) interviews but feels that two (2) interviews would be sufficient. **Motion approved.**

Roll call vote:

AYES: Curtis, Witt-McMahan, Eaton

NAYS: Pelley, Sherlin

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Councilmember Curtis moved to bring in the top 3 based on their interview scores; Vice Mayor Eaton seconded.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Curtis, Witt-McMahan, Pelley, Eaton, Sherlin

- 5 -

Discuss, authorize and approve any and all matters related to the hiring of a City Manager.

Councilmember Pelley moved to pay for travel expenses for each of the three (3) candidates being interviewed; Councilmember Witt-McMahan Seconded. No discussion. **Motion approved.**

Roll call vote:

AYES: Curtis, Witt-McMahan, Pelley, Eaton, Sherlin

NAYS:

- 6 -

Vice Mayor Eaton moved to interview all three (3) candidates on the same day; Councilmember Witt-McMahan seconded. Discussion included Councilmember Pelley speaking against the motion. He would like to have only one candidate per day.

Vice Mayor Eaton withdraws motion.

Vice Mayor Eaton moved to interview all three (3) candidates on the same day with in-person interviews conducted by each council member for up to an hour each. The candidates will have lunch with the Interim City Manager, take a guided tour of the city, and attend a citizen and staff meet and greet; Councilmember Curtis seconded. No Discussion. **Motion approved.**

Roll call vote:

AYES: Curtis, Witt-McMahan, Eaton, Sherlin

NAYS: Pelley

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**Councilmember Curtis moved to discuss hiring a City Manager at the regular meeting on August 20, 2024; Councilmember Witt-McMahan seconded. Motion approved.**

**Roll call vote:**

**AYES: Curtis, Witt-McMahan, Pelley, Eaton, Sherlin**

**NAYS:**

- 8 -

**Councilmember Witt-McMahan moved to use the employment agreement presented to council; Councilmember Curtis seconded.**

**Roll call vote:**

**AYES: Curtis, Witt-McMahan, Pelley, Eaton, Sherlin**

**NAYS:**

- 9 -

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Vice Mayor Eaton moved to adjourn; Councilmember Witt-McMahan seconded.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m.

**Roll call vote:**

**AYES: Curtis, Witt-McMahan, Pelley, Eaton, Sherlin**

**NAYS:**



STEVEN S. SHERLIN, Mayor

  
MITCHELL B. MOORE, Interim City Manager