

**MINUTES OF THE WORKSESSION OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL
OF THE TOWN OF SMYRNA
ON AUGUST 24, 2023**

The Town Council of the Town of Smyrna, Rutherford County, Tennessee, met in a work session at 5:00 p.m. on August 24, 2023, at Town Hall to discuss various agenda items. The following Town Council Members were present:

H.G. Cole
Tim Morrell
Racquel Peebles
Gerry Short
Steve Sullivan
Mayor Mary Esther Reed
Vice-Mayor Marc Adkins

In addition to the members of the Town Council, various staff members, citizens and members of the media attended.

Prior to discussion of agenda items, Sister City Committee Chairperson, Marc Michaelson, presented the Council with the Mayor-to-Mayor gift and the City-to-City gift from Zama, Japan upon their recent return from our students' trip.

The Town Council next discussed various items for consideration and addition to the September 12, 2023 regular meeting agenda.

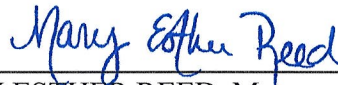
A slide show relative to the Town Court was presented before Council and meeting attendees for the purposes of informing citizens, in person and virtually, of various aspects of the Court. Town Attorney, Jeff Peach, first reviewed slides pertaining to the Town Charter and the structure of the Court as defined therein. Town Manager, Brian Hercules, next presented slides relative to Court financials for years 2022 and 2023. Following, Police Chief Jason Irvin spoke as to his concerns with staffing, safety, and liability placed upon the Town's police department through maintaining the Town Court's general session jurisdiction.

Town Attorney, Jeff Peach, next spoke as to the legal opinion sought out from MTAS and the options before the council as it pertains to a charter change relative to the Town's Court and its concurrent general sessions jurisdiction if they choose to go forward with a change for the purposes of judicial economy and efficiency. After further discussion, Town Manager Brian Hercules presented the Council with further monetary estimates for future Court expenses based upon the options before Council. Following the presentation and further discussion, the Town Council requested that Town Attorney, Jeff Peach, place Exhibit B version of the proposed Charter amendment relative to the Courts at the September council meeting. Said amendment would remove the Town Court's general sessions jurisdiction effective immediately upon

passage of the amendment if approved through the Charter amendment process, but would allow for the current elected officials to fulfill their current terms as Municipal Court Clerk and Municipal Judge. Upon the expiration of the terms of the Clerk and Judge, the Clerk position would become an employee designated position and the Town Judge would be appointed by the Town Council.

After further discussion, without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

TOWN OF SMYRNA, TENNESSEE



MARY ESTHER REED, Mayor

ATTEST:



AMBER HOBBS, Town Clerk