

Civic Corner: Board of Aldermen Recap

By Ricki Garrett, PhD, Alderwoman at Large



Since our May 17 Board of Aldermen meeting was probably the shortest in recent history, I will take this opportunity to share some information from our Board of Aldermen Work Session, as well as other updates. Two items came before the Board during the Work Session. The first was a report by one of our citizens regarding chronic flooding at her home and neighborhood. She provided the Board with pictures and video, as well as an engineering report with recommendations on possible solutions. The Board often hears about flooding problems in Clinton, and that is the reason that we have moved forward with requesting assistance from the Corps of Engineers on a city-wide study of the various streams in the city. The City is hampered in its assistance to individual homeowners, but we hope this study will give us a roadmap for work we can do that will provide the most assistance, without increasing problems in other areas of the city. The Board is also looking at ways to enhance regular maintenance of City-owned ditches and other infrastructure in order to assist with flooding problems.

The other issue before the Board at the Work Session was a change in our zoning laws that would allow for short-term rentals in the Olde Towne area of Clinton and the regulations that would govern that change in zoning. Many citizens do not know that Clinton does not allow Airbnb and other short-term rentals currently in the city. This issue arose out of a requested development of railroad cabooses in Olde Towne that would serve as short-term rentals. Director of Community Development Roy Edwards presented the draft regulations to the Board, and the Board Members spent hours making recommended changes, in the event the zoning change to allow short-term rentals passes. The Board will take up the zoning change and regulations first before addressing the request for the caboose development. Citizens are encouraged, as always, to let the Planning and Zoning Board and the Board of Aldermen know how they feel about any of these proposals.

In the Board Meeting Tuesday night, the Board heard an update from Main Street Director Tara Lytal about past and upcoming Main Street events. Fresh at Five begins on June 7, operating every Tuesday through August 16. Red Brick Roads, hosted jointly with the Chamber of Commerce, will be held Friday and Saturday, August 26-27.

The Board also approved an additional police office recruit and hires for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Finally, the City of Clinton is also welcoming *Thacker Mountain Radio Show* back on Saturday, June 18, at 6 p.m. at Alumni Hall at Mississippi College, hosted by the Arts Council of Clinton.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Space will be provided in each issue of The Clinton Courier to the Board of Aldermen for a recap of each meeting. Aldermen are asked to volunteer to provide this recap for the Courier.



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