

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
01/17/07-6PM

Mayor Weaver opened the Council Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The following members answered roll call, Mr. Jeff Wolnitzek, Mr. Joe Averdick, Mr. Joe Nienaber Jr., Mr. Scott Wall and Mr. Adam Feinauer. Also present were City Administrator Larry Klein, City Attorney Pete Summe, Police Chief Dan Kreinest, Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe, Public Works Director Tim Maloney and City Clerk Joyce Woods. Mr. Dave Hatter arrived at 6:15PM.

There were no Citizen Comments.

Mayor Weaver recognized the new Council members, Joe Averdick and Scott Wall and welcomed them and stated that we are looking forward to working with them.

Motion by Mr. Nienaber, second by Mr. Feinauer to approve the minutes of the 12/06/06 Regular Council Meeting. Roll call vote taken, Wolnitzek, Averdick and Wall voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Presentation of Annual Audit FYE 2005/2006

Mr. Jim Sparrow, of Rankin and Rankin addressed Council and went through parts of the audit and explained it. He advised that he had met with Mr. Klein and the Finance Committee Chair Joe Nienaber, Jr. and Member Adam Feinauer at an earlier meeting and explained the audit report in a little more detail. Mr. Sparrow advised that the City had a good operating year and is in a sound financial position. Discussion followed.

Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. Feinauer to accept the audit as presented. Roll call vote taken, Wolnitzek, Averdick, Nienaber and Wall voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Second Reading of Ordinance 1-07-Interlocal Agreement for Countywide Enforcement Board

Mr. Summe advised he is working on the wording of this Ordinance before the next meeting. He advised we can have a first reading of an Ordinance creating a Code Enforcement Board and another Ordinance to approve an interlocal agreement joining a Countywide Code Enforcement Board, of which Fort Wright would be a member. Mr. Summe read the ordinances in summary. Discussion followed. Motion by Mr. Nienaber, second by Mr. Hatter to approve. Roll call vote taken, Wall, Averdick, Wolnitzek and Feinauer voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed. Second reading of both Ordinances will be at the next meeting in February.

Resolution 1-07-Recreational Trail Grant

Applications became open in December and are due by February 1st. Staff members at NKADD did a lot of the work and Mr. Maloney provided numbers needed to complete this grant. This Resolution is declaring the City's support for the project and the City's commitment providing the in-kind contribution of labor for the project. This is a 50/50 reimbursement project, with the City contributing labor from our employees. The total cost of this project is about \$42,000.00 and committed by the City would be \$21,334.00. With this Resolution we are declaring support of the application and commitment of our Public Works Department personnel for our portion of the grant. We hope to know in April or May if this will be funded.

Mr. Nienaber stated that we might want to consider having a budget line item for the park and a tracking mechanism on money invested in the park and documentation on work done for these grants. Mr. Klein advised we could have a Parks and Recreation Fund in next year's budget which would cover separately the South Hills Civic Club, Nature Center and the Museum and Battery Hooper Park, to track the revenue and expenses. Mr. Summe read this Resolution in summary. Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Averdick to approve. Roll call vote taken, Wolnitzek, Hatter, Nienaber and Wall voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Executive Order 1-07-Appointment of Council Committees for 2007

Mr. Summe read this Executive Order. Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. Averdick to approve. Roll call vote taken, Wolnitzek, Nienaber, Feinauer and Wall voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Open Records/Open Meetings Alert

Mr. Summe advised that just about any gathering is considered a meeting and you have to give a notice and disclosure of time and place. If any Council members, two or more meet, it is considered a public meeting and must be given proper notice. There is an acknowledgement to be signed that anyone this pertains to has to sign that they have been notified of this new ruling. Mr. Klein will distribute the form for signatures and compliance and submit documentation to the Kentucky Attorney General's Office that the City is in compliance with this statute.

Administrators Report

KY 17 Steering Committee

Regarding the rest of the rezoning of KY 17 from I-275 South, we wanted to get the process going again and this time, the meetings would be open to all of Council and have the meetings at a time that is convenient for Council to attend. There is a lot of interest in the property in this area. We will try in the next couple of weeks to get meeting dates set up.

Utility Trailer Bid award

This trailer was advertised in the City newsletter and six bids were received and awarded to Mr. Tom Flesch for \$210.00, the highest bid received.

Storm Water Asset Transfer Advisory Council

Mr. Klein was asked to serve on this Advisory Council and attended an all day open forum. He advised it was very intense and he learned a lot about storm water.

Kyles Lane to Farrell Drive Improvement Project.

Mayor Weaver sent a letter to Senator Jim Bunning with a project profile description of this that would improve Kyles Lane from Highland Pike to Farrell Drive, which is a state road. This includes widening the road and sidewalks on both sides. This would make it much safer to drive or walk to the facilities that are back off of Farrell Drive. Mr. Klein advised he met with representatives of the schools and businesses that are located there and they will also write letters in support of this project.

BP Oil Site

In the Council packet is a very preliminary site plan of the 38 acres of the BP site. This is located on either side of Howard Litzler Drive in Fort Wright. BP has been conducting testing of this property per the provisions of their permit through the Kentucky Division of Water. All tests have come up clean. They have indicated to the City that they would like to have some public use, a recreational use for this area. Mr. Klein met with an engineer from a select soccer organization regarding use of the field. The BP representatives would consider conducting a health assessment on this property with a letter from the City requesting this with no commitment on the part of the City. This would be the first step. Discussion followed. Council approves sending this letter.

Old Horsebranch Road

This road was repaved by the State which enables the City to salt the road and plow snow when needed. This road will be transferred to the City.

Civil War Museum Update

The Museum has been closed for the winter, from the middle of December to February 17th, 2007. We have had a couple of donations to the Museum from the Northern Kentucky Heritage League for \$600 and from the Covington Art Club for \$200 which we acknowledge and appreciate. Both organizations have also made contributions to the Museum in 2006.

Kenton County/Covington Dispatch Merger Update and Letter

There is a letter included in the packet from Mayor Holocher and signed by twelve Mayors regarding the combined dispatch center proposal. No response from the letter as of this date. Discussion followed. We will keep everyone updated as we hear any news.

Christmas at Battery Hooper Park—Tree Lighting and Carriage Rides

Everyone had a good time and the weather was perfect for this event. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this event, Park and Recreation Board and the Museum Board and Volunteers.

Joint Session—City Council and Vision Committee—January 27, 2007, 8:30AM
New members from both City Council and the Vision Committee will be in attendance for all to meet and discuss our City's Vision process and progress to date.

Appreciation to Floyd and Eileen Hastings for Holiday Open House for Employees
All employees were invited to an Open House on December 28th at the home of Floyd and Eileen Hastings. We really appreciate the invitation to join them for pleasant conversation and good food. They are kind and generous people and some of the most giving of their time for all City events. Thanks again to them.

2006 Governor's Impaired Driving Enforcement Awards—Officer Travis Brown
Mayor Weaver and Mr. Klein recognized Officer Travis Brown for receiving the Governor's Impaired Driving Enforcement Award. He was one of the winners in Northern Kentucky. This makes the streets of Fort Wright safer.

KLC Safety award Grant

We were awarded \$410.00 from a Safety Grant Award through Kentucky League of Cities. This went toward the purchase of a bullet proof vest and Kevlar helmet for the Police Department.

Kentucky Enquirer 2006 Top Stories

Last year our Police Department was instrumental in arresting the Blue Eyed Rapist who committed a crime in our City and other surrounding areas. This was the #2 pick for top stories of 2006 in the Kentucky Enquirer.

Wal-Mart Contributions to Shop-with-a-Cop

Each year our Police Department coordinates with other Police organizations in the area to treat area children to lunch and a shopping trip for Christmas gifts. Officer Danny Martin is the contact on our department and he does a terrific job. Donations were received from Wal-Mart, Citywide Maintenance, Buffalo Wild Wings, US Bank and their customers, through a donation box in the Bank. Mayor Weaver and his wife Margaret, Chief Dan Kreinest and Yvonne Wagner and Val Dolwick also contributed.

Council Committee Reports

Legal Matters

Ms. Classic Car Wash

Fully briefed and in the hands of the Court of Appeals

Wessels LLC vs SD1 and City of Fort Wright, et al

Fully briefed and in the hands of the Court of Appeals

Department Reports

City Clerk Joyce Woods reported that there are 47 full property tax bills due and 8 paid without penalty and interest after January 1st. That is out of a total of 2377 bills. Very busy year and we will continue to send out delinquent notices monthly. Passport sales are going well, very busy with them also.

Public Works Director Tim Maloney reported that the weather has been good and allowing work on the bus stop pads and other projects.

Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe congratulated three new members of the Fire Department, they are Gary Knight, Frances Heist and William Overman, who passed their EMT testing and are waiting to get their licenses and begin running on our crews.

There was a fire at the Lookout Motel, knocked down very fast with the help of Park Hills and Fort Mitchell Fire Departments. With the help of the Arson Task Force and the Fort Wright Police Department there was an arrest made within several hours of the fire. The empty house at 119 Kyles Lane is being used for training and a report will be given to Council when the training is completed.

Police Chief Dan Kreinest reported that a bank robbery suspect was apprehended on Dixie Highway and Orchard Road. Thanks to the fast thinking of personnel at Heritage Bank for alerting us to the situation. Detective Michael Knight was responsible for the confession from the arson suspect at Lookout Motel. There was a runaway girl located at Snappy Tomato Pizza on Orphanage Road. A male suspect was apprehended.


Mr. Averdick brought up the subject of the high rate of accidents on I-75 at the cut in the hill. Discussion followed regarding a solution to this dangerous problem.

Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. Wall to adjourn the meeting. All members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,


Gene Weaver, Mayor

Attest:


Joyce Woods, City Clerk