



City of Fort Wright

409 Kyles Lane | Fort Wright, KY 41011 | www.fortwrightky.gov | 859.331.1700

City of Fort Wright City Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, January 7, 2026 6:00p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hatter called the City Council Meeting to order at 6:00p.m., followed by The Pledge of Allegiance and moment of Silence. City Clerk, Kerrie Holland called the Role.

Mr. Jason Collins	Present
Ms. Donna Ross	Present
Mr. Scott Wall	Present
Mr. Jay Weber	Present
Mr. Bernie Wessels	Not Present
Ms. Margie Witt	Not Present

Also present were Mayor Hatter, City Attorney John Brooking, Police Chief Jonathan Colwell, Public Works Director Jeff Bethell, City Clerk Kerrie Holland, and Finance Clerk Nyoka Johnson.

CITIZEN COMMENTS/GUESTS

NONE

AGENDA AMMENDMENT

Mayor asks for a motion to amend the agenda to discuss and reappoint the OKI primary and alternate representatives. With no further discussion, Councilman Weber made a motion to approve; Councilman Wall made a second. Ms. Holland called the roll.

Councilman Collins-Yes; Councilwoman Ross-Yes; Councilman Wall-Yes; Councilman Weber-Yes;
Councilman Wessels-Not Present: Councilwoman Witt-Not Present

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Councilman Weber asks to discuss the cell phone tower push from the state house to take the location control of the cell phone tower from the cities to the state for control. Councilman Weber makes a motion to amend the agenda to add the discussion ; Councilwoman Ross made a second. Ms. Holland called the roll.

Councilman Collins-Yes; Councilwoman Ross-Yes; Councilman Wall-Yes; Councilman Weber-Yes;
Councilman Wessels-Not Present: Councilwoman Witt-Not Present

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

MINUTES

Minutes from the November 5, 2025 City Council Meeting

Councilman Collins made a motion to approve minutes as written; Councilman Weber made a second. With no further discussion, Ms. Holland called the roll.

Councilman Collins-Yes; Councilwoman Ross-Yes; Councilman Wall-Yes; Councilman Weber-Yes;
Councilman Wessels-Not Present: Councilwoman Witt-Not Present

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Minutes from the November 13, 2025 Special Council Mtg

Councilman Wall made a motion to approve minutes as written; Councilwoman Ross made a second. With no further discussion, Ms. Holland called the roll.

Councilman Collins-Yes; Councilwoman Ross-Yes; Councilman Wall-Yes; Councilman Weber-Yes;
Councilman Wessels-Not Present: Councilwoman Witt-Not Present

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Minutes from the November 19, 2025 City Caucus Meeting

Councilman Weber made a motion to approve minutes as written; Councilman Collins made a second. With no further discussion, Ms. Holland called the roll.

Councilman Collins-Yes; Councilwoman Ross-Yes; Councilman Wall-Yes; Councilman Weber-Yes;
Councilman Wessels-Not Present: Councilwoman Witt-Not Present

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Minutes from the December 3, 2025 City Council Meeting

Councilwoman Ross made a motion to approve minutes as written; Councilman Wall made a second. With no further discussion, Ms. Holland called the roll.

Councilman Collins-Yes; Councilwoman Ross-Yes; Councilman Wall-Yes; Councilman Weber-Yes;
Councilman Wessels-Not Present: Councilwoman Witt-Not Present

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Kenton County Community Redevelopment Fund Agreement

Mayor Hatter explains the purchase area to be affected by the redevelopment fund agreement; Mayor reads the agreement aloud. Mayor Hatter explained the purpose of the OKI board and the nomination process. Open conversations in regard to the importance of moving forward with redevelopment plans take place. Councilwoman Ross mentioned that the addition of Christ

Hospital is a wonderful addition to the city and the surrounding area. OKI is giving a 60/40 grant. The City will be spending approx. \$400,000 on the project.

Mayor Hatter asks for a motion to approve the appointment of the OKI board. Bernie Wessels – Primary; Donna Ross- Alternate. With no further discussion, Councilman Collins made a motion to approve; Councilman Wall made a second. Ms. Holland called the roll.

Councilman Collins-Yes; Councilwoman Ross-Yes; Councilman Wall-Yes; Councilman Weber-Yes; Councilman Wessels-Not Present: Councilwoman Witt-Not Present

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Councilman Weber explains the need for a resolution to be submitted to the State Representatives in opposition of having the State take control over the city's decisions for Cell Tower placement.

Mayor asks for a motion to draft a cell tower placement resolution. Councilman Weber made a motion; Councilwoman Ross made a second. Ms. Holland called the role.

Councilman Collins-Yes; Councilwoman Ross-Yes; Councilman Wall-Yes; Councilman Weber-Yes; Councilman Wessels-Not Present: Councilwoman Witt-Not Present

MOTION CARRIED 4-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Weber/Finance-Mentioned the statistic that every 1 out of 10 Adults in the United States is now a millionaire.

CAO REPORT

CAO Bailey – Not is attendance – Report was sent in packet for review prior to meeting; Mayor Hatter states there was nothing of precedence in report to be further discussed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Administration-Tax related payments are dwindling down. We've received an abundance of returned mail from property tax bills. Nyoka – 96.25% of Property Tax Bills Collected. 86.21% of Tangible Taxes Collected. Not too many outstanding still.

Police Department- Chief Colwell - 2 Cram the cruiser events-were held @ Walmart and NKY Bargain Outlet – all collections were donated to CHNK & to a local Fort Wright family. Ky Generals Grant – ballistics vest, plates, shields-cost \$13,000 City was able to get them for no cost due to the grant.

Fire Department-Chief Schewe-Justin Brinkman retiring from his F/T position and as a result has to retire from his P/T position with Fort Wright, he has been employed with Fort Wright for 23 years. Chief Schewe filled the F/T position this past week, and as a result all F/T positions are filled. Firetruck is back and working. New ambulance – researching between large and medium duty chassis, attending a show in March to help educate and decision.

Public Works-Jeff Bethell – Hired F/T PW laborer to replace Mike Hoerlein; Current start date is January 20, 2026. Mayor Hatter thanks the public works team once again for the outstanding job they continue to do.

Legal Counsel-NONE

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fort Wright resident Mary Hanson sent in a letter of praise to the PW team.
Mayor Hatter mentions that the audit process conducted by Chamberlin Owens is finishing up and will be in soon for review.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

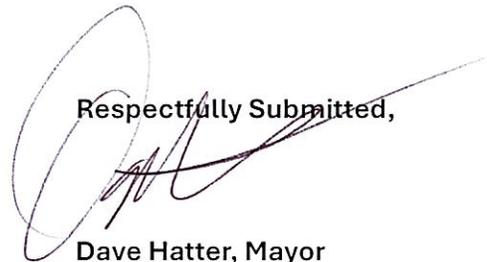
With nothing further on the agenda to discuss, Mayor Hatter asks for a motion adjourn. Councilman Collins made a motion; Councilman Wall made a second. Ms. Holland called the role.

Mr. Jason Collins-Yes; Ms. Donna Ross-Yes; Mr. Scott Wall-Yes; Mr. Jay Weber-Yes; Mr. Bernie Wessels-Not Present-Yes; Ms. Margie Witt-Not Present

MOTION CARRIES 4-0

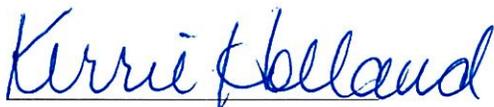
The next city Council Meeting is Scheduled for February 4, 2026 @ 6:00p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dave Hatter, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kerrie Holland, City Clerk