

**CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2018**

Mayor Hatter opened the caucus meeting at 6:00 PM with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

The following members answered roll call: Mr. Dave Abeln, Mr. Adam Feinauer, Mr. Mike Hoerlein, Mr. Scott Wall, Mr. Bernie Wessels, Ms. Margie Witt.

Also present for the meeting were: City Administrator Ed Butler, City Attorney Todd McMurtry, Police Chief Marc Schworer, Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe, Public Works Director Jeff Bethell, and City Clerk Susan Ellis.

There were no Citizen Comments.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Wall second by Mr. Feinauer to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2017 Council Meeting. Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; Mr. Wessels abstaining; no one opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Hoerlein second by Ms. Witt to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2017 Caucus Meeting. Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wessels, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Hoerlein second by Mr. Wessels to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2018 Council Meeting. Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wessels, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

Approval of the minutes for the January 5, 2018 Special Council Meeting was tabled.

Motion by Mr. Feinauer second by Ms. Witt to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2018 Special Council Meeting. Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Wall, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; Mr. Hoerlein and Mr. Wessels abstaining; no one opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Abeln second by Mr. Wall to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2018 Meeting. Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; Mr. Wessels abstaining; no one opposed. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Order 6-18 appointing Jason Matthews as the Fire Training Officer in the Fire Department

Mr. McMurtry read the Executive Order. Motion by Mr. Wessels, second by Mr. Feinauer to approve. Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wessels, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

Chief Schewe reviewed Jason's history with Fort Wright and Point Pleasant. Jason will be heading up the training position and will also be getting into inspections. He is a positive good fit with the city. Jason introduced himself and expressed appreciation for the opportunity.

Executive Order 7-18 appointing members to the Fort Wright Economic Development Board

Mr. McMurtry read the Executive Order appointing Dave Abeln, Adam Feinauer, Bernie Wessels, and Margie Witt to a 4-year term. Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Wessels to approve.

Mr. Feinauer asked if there was any concern about a 4-year appointment when council members only have 2-year terms. Mr. Butler responded that appointees do not need to be elected officials.

Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wessels, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

Executive Order 8-18 reappointing Frank Henn to the Joint Code Enforcement Board.

Mr. McMurtry read the Executive Order appointing Frank Henn to a 3-year term. Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Wessels to approve. Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wessels, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

Executive Order 9-18 reappointing members to the James A. Ramage Museum Board

Mr. McMurtry read the Executive Order appointing Linda Hornsby, Jeannine Kreinbrink, Richard McCormick II, and Kathleen Romero to a 3-year term. Motion by Mr. Abeln, second by Mr. Wall to approve. Mr. Butler clarified that these are all reappointments. Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wessels, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

Resolution 2-18 declaring as surplus a Ford Pick-up truck assigned to the Fire Department.

Mr. McMurtry read the Resolution. Motion by Mr. Wessels, second by Mr. Feinauer to approve.

Chief Schewe commented that the vehicle will be at the City Building available for inspection. The snow play is working. The vehicle will be listed on GovDeals.com on 2/8/2018. Mayor Hatter requested an email link for posting on social media. The vehicle had been struck by another driver and had not been repaired.

Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wessels, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

First Reading of Ordinance 2-18 an ordinance repealing Ordinance 5-05 – Madison Pike TIF District

Mr. McMurtry read the Ordinance to dissolving the Madison Pike TIF district and transfer any revenue into General Fund. There has been no economic development and no debt service. Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Ms. Witt to approve.

Mayor Hatter commenting that the TIF will expire in 2020. The money has been going into a separate fund and just sitting there. It no longer makes sense to maintain the separate accounting.

Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wessels, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

First Reading of Ordinance 3-18 an Ordinance dissolving the Fort Wright Tree Board and establishing an Annual City Tree Inventory

Mr. McMurtry read the Ordinance which would result in amending the Fort Wright Code of Ordinances. Responsibility would be placed on the Public Works Department. Mr. McMurtry outlined changes: implementation of a tree inventory, prioritization of trees presenting a danger and removal of them. Allowance would be made based upon time and budget. Public Works would provide annual update. The City Council would vote on trees to be removed based upon recommendation from Public Works. Mayor Hatter referenced the tragic accident at Lookout Heights Civic Club. The Tree Board has not met since the 90s. This would be a more proactive way to address trees on public property that may be dangerous. Motion by Mr. Abeln, second by Mr. Wall to approve. Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wessels, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

ISSUES LIST REVIEW

Mayor Hatter referenced the list in the Council Meeting Packets and asked for any additions.

Mr. Feinauer brought up the suggestion of a lobby camera. Mr. Butler said it would be discussed at next Caucus Meeting

Mayor Hatter stated that the City would be moving forward with Two Factor Authentication (2FA) for anyone accessing the network or email system. All staff and council members will be required to use 2FA. He strongly urged everyone to use 2FA as it makes it much more difficult to hack into accounts. Mr. Butler will be sending out instructions for setting this up.

Mayor Hatter stated that the new website very close to being complete. There will be an unveiling at the next caucus meeting and then a specific launch date will be determined.

Ms. Witt spoke on the beautification of the City overpasses. They are working with state encroachment permits. There has been a change of staff at the state level. She is hoping to plant trees in the spring. Mr. Wall asked who was selecting the trees. Ms. Witt will be making the selections. The State wants smaller and easily breakable trees in case of a vehicle hitting them. Ms. Witt would prefer something more resilient.

Mayor Hatter asked for any other addition to the list to be sent to Mr. Butler.

CITIZEN COMMENTS RECEIVED

Thank you from Joyce Woods for her Retirement gifts and celebration.

Email from Amy Wendt recognizing how well the Fort Wright streets were maintained during the winter weather.

Letter from Sue Eilers thanking the Police Department for the vacation check.

Letter from Louis McClure to the Police Department for the vacation check.

Recognition from Roger Schwartz of Officer Arnsperger who followed up when his car trunk had been left open.

Email thank you from Jim Antell for the active shooter event.

Several other letters and emails showing appreciation for the active shooter event.

Email from Austin Ford thanking Sergeant Colwell for meeting with him and for protection.

Letter from Ms. Elkus to the Police Department for the Christmas gifts.

Text message recognizing Officer Keller for a vehicle stop.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Butler reported that the sign project is continuing to move forward. Installation is expected by late March or early April.

The City Engineers will be back out evaluating the streets in late February or early April.

The next caucus meeting will include zoning discussions and the Z21 project.

Mr. Butler recognized the Public Works team for their work with the weather events. The City has received no complaints. Mayor Hatter also thanked the team and asked them to keep up the good work.

Beginning preparations are being made for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Legal: Mr. McMurtry reported a low-level need for legal. He provided updates on the pension lawsuit. Covington, Erlanger, and Independence have joined the lawsuit. So far, we have won out. The discovery process will be happening soon and should determine if our argument is correct. A more detailed discussion will take place in closed session.

They are preparing mailings for past year delinquent taxes. Mayor Hatter suggested including a reminder that they are able to pay online. Ms. Ellis stated the need to include a statement on the billings that the bank would be charging a convenience fee for paying electronically.

City Clerk: City Clerk Susan Ellis provided updates on tax collections for Bank Deposit Taxes, Property Taxes, Personal Property Taxes, and Insurance Premium Taxes. Public Service Certifications are starting to come in and she will be converting the current billing system to something more streamlined and less time consuming.

Assistant City Clerk Patty Wilsey has completed her training and is now a certified Passport Acceptance Agent.

The Northern Kentucky Municipal Clerks Association is hosting the Kentucky Municipal Clerks Association Spring Conference on April 25-27, 2018. They are looking for donations for door prizes and the silent auction.

Public Works: Public Works Director Jeff Bethel reported that winter has kept the department busy dealing with snow, ice, and pot holes. They have been working on equipment maintenance, building maintenance, and running electric for the new message board. They have also been picking up trash as time allows. They will be moving ahead with the 5-year street plan once the winter weather is over so that all weather-related damages can be assessed.

Mr. Feinauer asked if SD1 was doing work on Amsterdam? Mr. Bethell replied yes. Mr. Wessels inquired about salt storage from a couple years ago saying former Public Works Director Tim Maloney had referenced excess salt in the storage bin and that the highway department would be reimbursing. Mr. Bethel and Mayor Hatter responded that they had not heard anything about it. At one point several years ago there was too much in there but it has been used.

Fire/EMS: Chief Steve Schewe reported that the Fire Department had had a rough 3rd quarter with equipment. Everything now is in good operational order. The new truck is about ready to be put into full service.

Police: Chief Marc Schworer thanked Public Works for all they had been doing which makes the Police Department's job easier. The Active Shooter Class held in January had 31 attendees. Officers Griffin and Keller provided the presentation on crime prevention. Rob Black donated refreshments. Chief Schworer felt the calls was a success.

Sexual harassment training was completed with the City Staff in January.

Officer Taylor Bellau starts at the Academy on Monday for approximately 23 weeks of training.

Officers Griffin, Colwell and Vonderhaar would be teaching a Women's Self Defense in February. Another Active Shooter Class is scheduled for March 28, 2018.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Hatter reminded everyone that City communications are posted on social media through Facebook and Twitter.

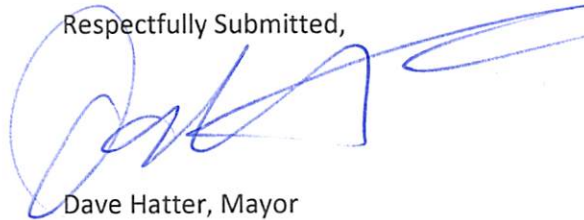
Ms. Witt provided details about the 4th Annual Clean Up Fort Wright Day scheduled for April 21, 2018. The event begins at the City Building at 9 AM. Donuts, free t-shirt, and lunch will be provided. She thanked Mr. Bethell and the Public Works Department for their work on streets. She is looking forward to the Self Defense Class. She also reported that the Fort Wright Garden Club would be meeting tomorrow night and picking trees to plant on Earth Day, April 21, 2018.

Mr. Feinauer gave a shout out to Public Works for great work on the roads. He also gave a shout out to the Police Department and Officer Hampton for the great job when his son's car was sideswiped. He said they went beyond just taking a report. Chief Schworer found the vehicle and it is now in the hands of insurance company. He said this doesn't typically happen on a hit and run. Fish fries will be starting Feb 16th. Mr. Feinauer and Mayor Hatter both cautioned about the danger of walking on roads in dark clothes in the dark.

Motion by Mr. Abeln, second by Ms. Witt to adjourn the regular meeting to Executive Session pursuant to KRS.61.810, Paragraphs (b) & (c). Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln, Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, Mr. Wessels, and Ms. Witt voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Dave Hatter, Mayor

Attest:



Susan Ellis, City Clerk