



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

Mayor Hatter opened the council 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, and Ms. Margie Witt.

Also present for the meeting were: City Attorney Kyle Winslow, City Engineer Mark Brueggemann, Police Chief Marc Schworer, Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe, Public Works Director Jeff Bethell, and City Clerk Susan Ellis.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. Judy Dedden of Reeves Drive addressed the Council regarding coyote sightings. In the past 18 years they have been a rarity, but the past three weeks has experienced regular sightings. The coyote does not appear to be afraid. When letting her 35-pound dog out, she has witnessed a coyote sitting and staring at them. The first time this occurred the coyote was approximately 30 yards away. The second time, 24 yards away. The most recent time, the coyote was on the other side of the driveway and would not be shooed away. The coyote started walking toward them. She picked up her dog and got in house. She had previously hired a tracker to get rid of squirrels and she called him regarding the coyote. He told her most likely the coyote was interested in her dog. Similar issues are happening in Indian Hill and people are losing their cats and dogs. She stated that she felt an obligation to communicate to residents. Mayor Hatter agreed that there are plenty of coyotes in Fort Wright. Chief Schworer stated that he would contact Indian Hill but that the police officers cannot shoot coyotes. Mayor Hatter asked about what KY law says about hunting coyotes. Mr. Wessels responded that they just changed the law. Coyotes can be hunted 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, however, the City has restricted firearms. Mayor Hatter commented that bows could not be used as the City Ordinance does not allow any projectiles. Trapping was questioned. Mr. Wessels referred to the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Website for more information. Mayor Hatter stated that Kenton County Animal Control is not equipped to deal with coyotes. Mr. Butler conferred. Ms. Dedden recommended keeping dogs on leashes and carrying an air horn especially during dawn, dusk, and at night. Mayor Hatter suggested that we can resend the email that had previously been sent out regarding coyotes. He said that Council should investigate to possibility of eliminating projectiles from the ordinance. Mr. Wall commented that he would more worried that animal displaying that type of behavior Ms. Dedden described could be sick or have rabies. He asked if that would that be handled differently. Chief Schworer commented that in the case of a raccoon, deer, or rabid animal the police use special bullet with safety qualities. Mr. Butler's recommendation was to call the police. If an animal does not run away, it is an obvious threat that can be dealt with.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Hoerlein, second by Ms. Witt to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2018 Special 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.

Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Abeln to approve the minutes of the February 7, 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.

Motion by Mr. Wall, second by Mr. Wessels to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2018 Caucus Meeting. Roll call vote taken, Mr. Abeln and Ms. Witt abstained; Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Hoerlein, Mr. Wall, and Mr. Wessels voting in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

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

Mr. Butler stated that this had been discussed at the last Caucus meeting and at the last Economic Development Committee meeting. He continued that the area had developed organically without the TIF. The money in that fund has been accumulating and is not being used. There is no debt. Those money would be moved into the General Fund which would unrestrict those funds.

Mr. Winslow read the Ordinance. Motion by Mr. Abeln, second by Mr. Wessels to approve.

Mr. Butler commented that annually the City does a budget adjustment. This change would be reflected in Budget Amendment at the end of this fiscal year.

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.

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

Mr. Butler recapped that this action was a result of tragic incident not on city property. Identifying unhealthy trees for removal is a safety issue. This ordinance puts the responsibilities back under City Council and Public Works. Mayor Hatter commented that the Tree Board had not met in years. This ordinance would offer a more expedient and efficient way to deal with these issues as the City can move more quickly under this structure rather than through a

board. Coincidentally, Ms. Dedden who had spoken earlier regarding the coyote issue, had been involved with the Tree Board and provided some history.

Mr. Winslow read the Ordinance. Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Ms. Witt 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.

Resolution 3-18 in support of Senate Resolution 172

Mayor Hatter commented that Jay Weber, a resident on Sentinel had reached out to him and to Mr. Wessels to take look at sample resolution which would allow properly trained school staff to carry firearms on school property.

Mr. Winslow read the Resolution. 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.

Resolution 4-18 declaring as surplus various items of unnecessary property

Mayor Hatter commented that this was to dispose of outdated office equipment and a Dodge Charger which had previously been in service with the police department.

Mr. Winslow read the Resolution. Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Abeln 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.

Resolution 5-18 a resolution ceasing the City of Fort Wright's participation in the State Telecommunications Distribution Fund

Mr. Butler reported that prior to 2005 the method of collecting franchise fees off cable tv was locally handled through the telecommunications board. In 2005, a statute centralized that function in Frankfort. The courts have recently ruled it is now an option to reverse how it is done. The impact of change has been evaluated for each city. For the City of Fort Wright, this reversal will add approximately \$15,000 to the budget as well as provide the possibility of other additional future revenues. City Attorneys, Mr. Todd McMurtry and Mr. Kyle Winslow have reviewed the template ordinance for those choosing to move forward. TBNK would be involved in the collection process. Mayor Hatter was very favorable. Mr. Wessels asked if this would address internet based TV. Mr. Butler responded that it does potentially, referencing future possible revenues. He recommended addressing this issue first and then moving on to other items down the road.

Mr. McMurtry read the Resolution. Motion by Mr. Feinauer, 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.

Discussion regarding the Sidewalk Improvement Plan for Fiscal Year 2018.

Mayor Hatter provided some history. For many years the ordinance stated that the property owner was responsible for the sidewalk. For those where the curb gutter is integral with street, when the street repair was done it resulted in the sidewalk being fixed for free. In other areas when the street was repaired, the sidewalk was not, thus resulting in unfairness to the property owner. It has been determined that this is the City's responsibility. A street inventory has been obtained. This is also a method to reduce liability to the City.

Mr. Butler continued saying that in accordance with policy, the Community Improvement Committee reviewed the plan. Precision Concrete Cutting completed the inventory and developed zones for repair. Mr. Butler, Public Works Director Jeff Bethell and the Community Improvement Committee met to provide recommendations. Repairs are planned to begin this current fiscal year on Zone 3 which is the East Henry Clay side of city. The cost is \$45,000 to repair all trip hazards that Precision Concrete Cutting can fix. Zone 3 is divided into two sections. Part will be completed this fiscal year, and part will be completed in the next fiscal year with completion by this summer. Approval is needed to move forward with developing a contract with Precision Concrete Cutting for first part of Zone 3. Mr. Feinauer commented that Precision Concrete Cutting has done a really good job with their demo and that it was a "win win" in that it takes away trip hazards and makes the sidewalks look better. Mr. Bethell will be out with the engineer reviewing the street inventory for issues Precision Concrete Cutting cannot fix. Mr. Wessels asked if there had been an estimate for complete replacement of the affected sidewalks? City Engineer Mark Brueggemann responded, no, and continued that this is a fantastic program. The City of Alexandria has been involved with it. It is an economical approach to prolonging the life of the sidewalk and an excellent maintenance strategy. The cost to remove and replace a sidewalk is dramatically more. A sidewalk that is not experiencing load can last a long, long time. Mayor Hatter added that the sidewalks can be repaired quickly and expensively and resolve liability issues. Mr. Wessels asked how thick are new sidewalks. Mr. Brueggemann answered 4 inches with those adjacent to driveway aprons being 6 inches. Mr. Wessels then asked about parking that is occurring on integrated sidewalks. Mayor Hatter recommended to enforce no parking regulations in those areas. Mr. Butler remarked that the funds have been allocated and that Council needs to go officially on record so this plan can move ahead.

Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Hoerlein 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 asked everyone to refer to list provided in the meeting packet.

Mr. Butler reported the following:

- Cameras were installed in the lobby last week.
- Two factor authentications for email access has been completed.
- There would be TIF review meeting of Economic Development Authority related to the Dixie TIF.
- Public Works has run the electric for the new city sign. It is expected to be installed in early April.
- The redesigned website will launch on March 12, 2018. There may be a short lapse in accessibility during the 9:00 AM transition.

Mr. Feinauer asked if the new sign would be wireless. Mr. Butler replied yes.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

- A card and gift was received from the Besslers following Office VonHandorf stopping by when their son's interior car light was left on.
- Steve & Carol Smith sent the Police Department a thank you for the many times they check on their house.
- Chief of the Fire Department in Taylor Mill thanked the fire department for their assistance.
- Mike & Josie thanked the Fire Department for their assistance.
- A thank you was received from the Abeln family after the passing of a family member.
- Mr. Hoerlein commented and thanked Mr. Bethell for taking care of a massive pothole located on a state road.
- Mr. Wessels recognized the Public Works Department for picking up leaves. Ms. Witt agreed and commented that it was noticeable.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Butler stated that much of what he had to report on was covered during the issues review portion of the meeting.

There is a Public Meeting tomorrow at 6 PM regarding Amsterdam road project. Letters have been sent out to property owners concerning right of ways. Work on water main has started. Notifications have been sent out in email and posted on the website. Surrounding cities that may be affected have also been notified. Mr. Feinauer asked if there would be a police presence on Morris road during the first few days? Chief Schworer confirmed there would be.

Mr. Brueggemann stated that following the work on the water main, then Duke Energy will be working on the gas main, then power poles, and next year the roadway construction will take place. It is a narrow road and there is a lot of work that has to happen.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police: Chief Marc Schworer reported that both new cars have come in and one is already out on road. The second one will be delivered on Friday and should be on road within 10 days. Officers Colwell, Griffin, Vonderhaar along with Ms. Amy Schworer conducted a self-defense class for 20 ladies. It was a big success. Rob Black provided refreshments. There will be another Active Shooter class on March 28, 2018 at the City Building. There is an Active Shooter class on March 14, 2018 at Little Links. Sometime in April, St. Agnes wants to do an Active Shooter drill. Officers Cowell and Griffin and Chief Schworer complete ALICE training today. They are now able to teach it to schools and organizations. Mr. Hoerlein indicated that he had received comments from two people regarding the subject line in emails sent out advertising the classes. He suggested starting the subject with the word "class" rather than "active shooter". Mr. Butler responded that he would reword those announcements. Chief Schworer ended with reporting that Officer Bellau, Fort Wright's newest recruit who is currently at training is doing well.

Fire/EMS: Chief Steve Schewe reported that Jason Matthews has been on duty for a month and is working out quite well. He fit in right away. The pickup truck has been sold and the Fire Department received more money out of it than book value. Chief Schewe recognized City Clerk Susan Ellis and Assistant City Clerks Gina Casey & Patty Wilsey for reorganizing and cleaning up the copy room. Mr. Butler commented that he forgot to mention this and that Public Works Director Jeff Bethell along the others has been doing a fantastic job purging things.

Public Works: Public Works Director Jeff Bethell reported that Public Works has been busy cleaning out the catch basins and patching pot holes this month. Last week the worked on a city-wide trash pickup on the main roads. Met with Mr. Marty Hellman of CT Consultants regarding the street project and things moving along.

City Clerk: City Clerk Susan Ellis provided updates on tax collections. The Norther Kentucky Municipal Clerks Association is still looking for door prize and silent auction donations. Passport fees will be increasing to \$35 on April 2, 2018. Accounts payable check runs are now being done weekly instead of bi-weekly. Significant progress has been made in reorganizing the records closet and clearing out old records per retention guidelines.

Legal: City Attorney Kyle Winslow reported that delinquent tax letters are drafted and ready to be sent out. He would provide further updates in Executive Session.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Hatter reminded everyone of the Amsterdam meeting. He spoke of his participation in the Mayors' Chili Cookoff and how the Ludlow Senior Center also provides services to the citizens of Fort Wright. He also reminded everyone of internet safe buying zone in main parking lot at the City Building which has cameras operating 24/7.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Wessels thanked the Public Works Department again for all their work.

Mr. Feinauer remarked that he had a good time at Mayors' Chili Cookoff. He wished everyone a Happy Easter and reminded everyone of "Spring Forward" this weekend.

Ms. Witt thanked the Police Department for the Women's Self Defense Class which she highly recommended. She requested regular opportunities to practice the skills learned. Cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, April 21, 2018.

Motion by Mr. Wessels, second by Mr. Feinauer to adjourn the regular meeting to Executive Session pursuant to KRS.61.810, Paragraph (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 7:21 PM

Respectfully Submitted,


Dave Hatter, Mayor

Attest:



Susan Ellis, City Clerk