

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

4/6/05 – 6:00PM

Mayor Gene Weaver opened the Council meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The following members answered roll call, Mr. Adam Feinauer, Mr. Paul Hiltz, Mr. Joe Nienaber, Mr. Jeff Wolnitzek and Mr. Matt Barker. Also present were City Administrator Larry Klein, City Attorney Pete Summe, Police Chief Dan Kreinest, Fire Lieutenant Mike Harris, Public Works Director Tim Maloney, and Assistant City Clerk Jennifer Lipson. Mr. Dave Hatter was unavailable for this meeting.

Mr. Tom Cardosi addressed Mayor and City Council in regards to Sunday liquor sales. Mr. Cardosi would like the Sunday hours extended for special occasions, such as New Years, WEBN Fireworks and any other holidays that would occur on Sunday. Currently hours are until midnight on Sunday nights, but are until 2:30 A.M. on all other nights. Council would like time to review the proposal, it will be discussed further at the May 4th Council Meeting.

Motion by Mr. Hiltz, second by Mr. Feinauer to approve the minutes of the 3/9/05 Council meeting. Roll call vote taken, Nienaber, Wolnitzek and Barker voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Park Master Plan Update

Mr. Gary Wolnitzek and Mr. David Whittaker of Human Nature, Inc. addressed Council with an update of the proposed Park Master Plan. This was proposed to be implemented in 3 separate phases. Mr. Jeff Wolnitzek inquired about creating a Tot Park for the children on the park property. Currently the only tot park is on the church property.

Waste Collection

Mr. Klein advised that Rumpke's current contract is up on July 1st. Council has the option to accept Rumpke's proposal of 5 year extension to current contract, or to put it out for bid. This will be an average 4% increase in the next 5 years. Staff recommended extension with Rumpke, due to very good service that Rumpke provides to the City.

Motion by Mr. Hiltz to extend the current Rumpke contract, second by Mr. Feinauer. Roll call vote taken, Nienaber, and Barker voting in favor, Mr. Wolnitzek voted no. Motion passed.

Ordinance 5-05 – First Reading – Establishing Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District

Mr. Summe read this Ordinance in Summary. Motion by Mr. Hiltz, second by Mr. Wolnitzek to approve. Roll call taken, Feinauer, Nienaber and Barker voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed

There will be a public hearing prior to the second reading of this ordinance.

Bids on Surplus Vehicles

Mr. Klein informed Council that 2 bids were received for the surplus vehicles. Both bids received were from Pike 27 Auto Parts for the 2 1997 Ford Crown Victorias. One for \$1,155, the other for \$1,255.

Motion by Mr. Hiltz, second by Mr. Nienaber to accept the bids from Pike 27 Auto Parts. Mr. Feinauer, Mr. Wolnitzek and Mr. Barker voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Nature Center Eagle Scout Projects

The City has received two separate project proposals from Eagle Scout candidates Mr. Drew Lavey and Mr. Eric Freeman to improve the Nature Center Area. Mr. Lavey has proposed planting numerous trees and shrubs in and around the Nature Center, especially at the new lake. Mr. Freeman is proposing to clear out honeysuckle and dead trees to make a mulched trail near the creek. Stone steps will lead from the bottom to the road and benches and native grasses will be included near the peninsular area near Twin Falls.

Council has given approval for the gentlemen to proceed with their respective projects.

Administrator Report

Park Master Plan Update and Presentation

Presentation was given earlier by Human Nature, Inc.

Batter Hooper Museum Update

There is a list in packets of exhibits that are being worked on. There were 20 or 25 people in attendance at Monday night's meeting for volunteers for the museum. Some of the volunteers have experience on working in or with museums. Second meeting will be on Saturday morning.

2005 Vision Committee Update – SWOT Analysis

S - Strengths

W - Weaknesses

O - Opportunities

T – Threats

What committee came up with in a meeting. Staff meeting to come up with S.W.O.T. analysis to add to current list. Would like Council input on what they believe the City's S.W.O.T. would be. Looking to see if plan is addressing any of these.

Lorup Phase IIA and Barbara Circle Project – Public Meetings

Two meetings were held for residents of Barbara Circle. Residents received an explanation of what was going to be done, the proposed amount of time the project would take and information regarding times of inconvenience to them. There were only 2 easements needed for this project. One has been received, the second has been verbally agreed to, but the easement has not been received back yet. This project should be started within 2 weeks, and be completed by September 1st.

Lorup – Complaints have been filed for the five remaining easements. Anticipated that the process will be completed by mid May.

Old Horsebranch Road

Old Horsebranch is a residential section with 3 houses, off of Orphanage, behind Dickman's. Kentucky Highway Department wants to give this road to the City. If Fort Wright accepts the road, the Highway Department will add a layer of asphalt, prior to transferring it to the City.

Council would like to review this information, it will be on the agenda for discussion in May.

Adopt-A-Military Unit Update

First shipment was sent 2 ½ weeks ago, total weight was over 400 pounds. Letters have been sent to the churches, schools and civic groups, inviting them to participate.

ALS Update

Paramedic will be stationed at Fort Mitchell. Edgewood has declined to participate, with a smaller group, it will be more expensive overall with the remaining cities. Mr. Klein also informed Council that the unincorporated areas will have no ALS service as of July 1st.

Additional Municipal Road Aid Funds

State has authorized the sale of bonds for Municipal Road Aid funds. The amount that Fort Wright will receive will be either \$75,136 (as reported by the Kentucky Enquirer) or \$103,405 (as reported by the Kentucky Post). We have given state legislators a list of street needs, they are aware of dollar amounts Fort Wright needs.

Kyles Lane/I-71-75 Interchange Project – Toyota Motors Contribution

Toyota Motors has contributed \$32,500 toward the City's Kyles Lane/I-75 interchange stormwater demonstration project. Mr. Klein is waiting to hear back from another major corporate sponsor that has been solicited. If the second company does donate and the amount is at least \$130,000, the City will then file for the Kentucky Division of Water grant. If the money is not received, then the money from Toyota will be held until next year. If enough sponsorship is not received in that time, the money will be returned to Toyota.

Fire/EMS Department Response Times

Mr. Klein expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the Fire/EMS department for having the #1 for Time of Call to Time on Scene in February. This time has beat out all of the full-time departments too. Keep up the good work.

Amsterdam Road Improvements

Third and Final phase of this project was to be completed this year. Mayor Weaver sent a letter to Kenton County Judge-Executive Drees regarding the third and final phase of improvements to Amsterdam in Fort Wright that were begun by the County in 2001. A letter was received back stating that this could not be completed in 2005, due to significant increases in differential between estimated cost and actual costs for Kyles Lane.

Several years ago the County took out a \$10 million bond or loan for road improvement projects. Amsterdam Road was one of those projects. This may be a case of County walking away. The City will try to work with the county to get the issue resolved.

Farrell Drive and Kyles Lane

The City of Fort Wright is requesting the assistance from the state for reconstructing this intersection and repaving. The first half of Farrell Drive is a City street, the last half is the City of Covington street, and Kyles Lane is a state road. Public works has been patching potholes on Farrell Drive, pavement can be improved, but the intersection needs to be better with sight distance.

Council Committee Reports

Community Affairs

Easter Egg Hunt was good. We had an Easter bunny for the first time. They will look at having it on the Storer property for next year.

Computer Technology

Dan Kreinest informed Council that the City has purchased 2 new laptops, these are on the new encrypted wireless network.

Economic Development

Mr. Klein advised there have been a lot of phone calls and a lot of development interest on the KY 17 / Old KY 17, for information.

Finance

Mr. Nienaber has received several phone calls concerning issues with rental properties and various nuisances associated with the properties, he has also had calls regarding a large vehicle. Chief Kreinest informed Council that the large vehicle has been addressed. No report for Finance.

Legal Matters

Ms. Classic – summary judgment has been prepared and drafts sent to their co-counsels for their review, then if they have any comments with additions or subtractions.

Long Range Plan

Vision Committee has had several Meetings, and some members will be present at April 23rd budget retreat to discuss some of the items.

Personnel

No Report

Department Reports

Assistant City Clerk Jennifer Lipson had no report.

Public Works Director Tim Maloney reported that restoration continues on the Storer Property. There are some residents on Lorup who are unhappy, he will work with Sanitation subcontractor on restoration issues.


Lieutenant Mike Harris reported that the City received the 2004 Fire Grant paid for the new generator, the project is currently 80% complete. Power will be shut down on April 13th, for the switch. Submitted the grant for the 2005 Fire Grant, the department has requested money for Firefighter turnout gear and an upgrade to current Radio system.

Chief Kreinest reported that Jamie Puthoff officially retired March 31st. In the case against Michael Griffith, he was found guilty of lesser than desired charges for his drug trafficking at the Ramada Inn. There was criminal mischief damage in the Lookout Heights area – the person was arrested, there is a continuance on this case, for 30 days. Crimestoppers has been a success with the department on several cases. The St. Agnes burglary was solved and an arrest was made. \$2000 - \$3000 worth of CDs stolen from Wal-Mart, there are 2 active felony warrants on that case. Robbery at UDF – they did not get anything, counterfeit money orders at Bank of Kentucky, Burglary on Stonewell Trail, was more of a crime of opportunity, the garage door may have been open. Vehicle was recovered in downtown Cincinnati. Burglaries at Saylor & Son and at Quikstop on the same night, they also had burglaries in Edgewood and Lakeside Park. Car stolen on Barbara Circle – an arrest was made. DARE graduation today, but Chief Kreinest was unable to attend. Terror Assessment Team has been in the City this week. Friday, they will give a brief overview to department heads. Park Road – Clear Channel has been working with City, hasn't heard anything from the residents on Park Road. Flatbed parked in the area and cars for sale parked in residential area were cited and paid.

Motion by Mr. Hiltz, second by Mr. Barker to adjourn the meeting. All members voting in favor, no one opposed.

Respectfully Submitted,


Gene Weaver, Mayor

Attest: 
Jennifer Lipson, Assistant City Clerk