



City of Fort Wright

409 Kyles Lane | Fort Wright, KY 41011 | www.fortwright.com | 859.331.1700

City of Fort Wright Caucus Meeting Wednesday, June 21, 2023 – 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The Caucus Meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM by Mayor Dave Hatter following the close of the Special Council Meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENTS/GUESTS

There were no citizen comments.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Sperti Drive Development – Dave Heidrich – Mr. Heidrich addressed Council, following up on the information he presented in January, saying final drawings were released on May 15th and there will be no changes to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's initial proposal for the Dudley Road redirection. He said they also updated the drawings to remove the existing right-in/right-out onto Madison Pike.

There was discussion about the frontage road requirement, and it was noted that the City's ordinances only suggest a frontage or service road, but do not require it. There was also discussion about development opportunities and challenges if the state's design moves forward.

Mr. Heidrich requested the City's engagement with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and the city of Edgewood to understand what is necessitating this design. Mayor Hatter advised the City would put together a resolution to state they prefer the S-curve design and do not want the curb-cut onto Madison Pike removed.

Code Enforcement Overview – Rob Himes, PDSKC Codes Administrator – Mr. Himes started by saying that the process PDS' Code Enforcement Staff follows is written in Kentucky statutes, specifically in KRS 65.8801. He presented a graphic that outlines the code enforcement process from complaint to case closure. Mr. Himes stated every complaint is taken seriously and followed up on to determine if violations are present and then the process begins with a notice of violation mailed to the property owner. He emphasized that code enforcement is about voluntary compliance, meaning his office cannot force anyone to fix anything as it is all civil processes.

Mr. Himes said he and Mr. Bethell speak regularly regarding issues that are occurring in the City and their status. He noted that Fort Wright has one of the lowest percentages of code enforcement citations in Kenton County, mainly because most cases reported to his office and Mr. Bethell are abated and corrected before the citations need to be issued.

Mr. Himes also reviewed for Council the PDS One Stop Shop, which includes all of the benefits the organization provides to the City, including: zoning and permitting, infrastructure and planning, and code enforcement.

Battery Hooper Park – Ms. Bailey advised that Council requested to revisit discussions on Battery Hooper Park and plans for the property following last month's discussion of funding and needs around the City. Mayor Hatter advised there are essentially three options to consider: continue to do nothing; make a substantial investment in park infrastructure; or sell the property.

After discussion, it was decided that the City would request CT Consultants update their previously-presented subdivision plans to protect and incorporate the historical nature of the battery. Additionally, the City would work with one of the local civic clubs to see what options may lie in those areas.

Tot Lot Garden – Ms. Bailey advised there were plantings that originally belonged to Fern Storer moved from Battery Hooper Park to the area around Fort Tot Park on the City Building grounds. She said a sign was created to memorialize the planting area in Ms. Storer’s name, but that needed to be removed because Council is the only entity that can name or memorialize in the City.

Council agreed to memorialize Ms. Storer with a decorative plaque in the garden area.

Ms. Bailey provided an update on the planned Sonic restaurant, saying the stage one plan has been approved and she anticipates no issues with moving forward to stage two.

Ms. Bailey advised Dunkin’ has been approved for their variance requests through the Board of Adjustment and she anticipates demolition of the site in the next 30 days, with plans for the restaurant to be open by late August.

It was announced that Tom Jacober, former member of City Council and long-time volunteer for the City, died recently.

There was discussion on the gateway signage, of which installation has begun, and signage that will be placed at the Fort Henry Drive reconstruction to tell residents how much the City is spending on the project.

Ms. Bailey advised the Council Meeting scheduled for July 5th will be cancelled and a Special Council Meeting will take place prior to the Caucus Meeting on July 19th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for an Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE CAUCUS MEETING

Councilman Wall made a motion to adjourn the Caucus Meeting. Councilman Wessels made a second. Ms. Russell called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes
Councilman Collins	Yes
Councilman Wall	Yes
Councilman Weber	Yes
Councilman Wessels	Yes
Councilwoman Witt	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Hatter, Mayor

Attest:

Maura Russell, City Clerk