



City of Fort Wright

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

Fort Wright Caucus Meeting

June 18, 2025

6:00p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order immediately following the Special Budget Meeting at 6:16p.m. by Mayor Dave Hatter, followed by the pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Kerrie Holland, City Clerk called the role.

Mr. Dave Abeln	Not Present
Mr. Jason Collins	Present
Mr. Scott Wall	Present
Mr. Jay Weber	Present
Mr. Bernie Wessels	Present
Ms. Margie Witt	Present

Also present were CAO Jill Cain Bailey, City Attorney John S. Brooking, Police Chief Jonathan Colwell, Fire Chief Steve Schewe, Public Works Director Jeff Bethell, City Clerk Kerrie Holland.

CITIZEN COMMENTS/GUESTS

Guests – Resident, Steve Myers, Resident, Eric Wilking, Resident and member of Glengarry HOA Board, Donna Ross.

ITEMS TO DISCUSS:

Police Department Cruiser Replacements FY 25-26

Purchasing replacement cruisers during FY 25-26 were discussed and comparisons were given based on the research and information from Chief Colwell. Some of the options that were presented were Dodge Durango, Ford F150, Ford Explorer, and Chevrolet Tahoe. It was concluded that the department had no usage needs for a pickup truck as in the Ford F150. The Chevrolet Tahoe and Ford Explorer were substantially more expensive, and the police package would have to be added. It was brought forth to purchase the Dodge Durango since they were the least expensive, best performing and already had the police package included. If the city

went with new 2024s, they were available as early as the end of June 2025. If the city went with new 2025s, they would be available after Christmas 2025. Mayor asked if there were any objections with Chief Colwell moving forward on the purchase of replacement vehicle for the Police Department. There were no objections.

Board of Ethics Update

CAO met with the Ethics Board; they are allocated \$5,000 attorney fees in ORD 09-2024, if the need would ever arise for one due to an ethical complaint. They have placed Attorney Greg Voss on retainer for \$500/yr and \$200/hour. He will represent the board w/complaints that have been filed. Attorney Voss is to participate in training with the Board Chairman and will also attend meetings.

Mowing of Public ROW and other City Owned Property

Public Works has been mowing a number of ROW in the city for many years. There is not an ordinance in place requiring property owners to maintain/mow the ROW in front of their property. It has been proposed to have an ordinance stating the property owners are required to maintain the ROW with definitions of required maintenance. It was also discussed as to what the cutting/mowing times currently are set to. Council agreed that current mowing start times cannot be 7:00am. Resident and Glengarry HOA Board Member, Donna Ross spoke as to what the current Glengarry HOA violation guidelines were. She stated grass that is anything over 8" tall is in violation and all rock walls, weeds and landscaping needs to be kept clean, cut back, and mowed.

Additional Items of Discussion

Mayor added that he received an invitation to attend the Ky Highway Department's meeting regarding the Brent Spence Bridge project, and he was unable to forward to anyone else to attend. He was able to view the video of the bridge design unveiling and he hasn't heard anything about the impact on the city.

CAO Bailey contacted Stacey from the KYTC for updates-no reply yet. Mayor has heard nothing back from KYTC about the proposed sound barriers on I75; Resident Steve Myers said he believed the sound barriers were all good to proceed.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Margie Witt made the motion, and Councilman Wessels made the second. Ms. Holland called the role.

Mr. Dave Abeln	Not Present
Mr. Jason Collins	YES
Mr. Scott Wall	YES
Mr. Jay Weber	YES
Mr. Bernie Wessels	YES
Ms. Margie Witt	YES

MOTION PASSES

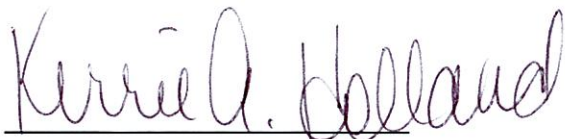
Meeting officially adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Due to July's City Council Meeting being rescheduled to July 18, 2025, the next City Caucus Meeting is scheduled to be held August 20, 2025 @ 6:00p.m. – City Admin. Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Hatter, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kerrie A. Holland, City Clerk