



**City of Fort Wright Special Council Meeting  
Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Hatter. Mayor Hatter led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Absent
Councilman Feinauer	Here
Councilman Wall	Here
Councilman Wessels	Here
Councilwoman Witt	Here

Also present for the meeting were:

City Administrative Officer Jill Bailey  
City Attorney Todd McMurtry  
Police Sergeant George Kreutzjans  
Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe  
Public Works Director Jeff Bethell  
City Clerk Susan Ellis

Councilman Abeln arrived after roll call.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS/GUESTS**

**Officer Aaron Arnsperger - Governor's Occupant Protection Award**

Mayor Hatter and Sergeant Kreutzjans announced that Officer Aaron Arnsperger received the Governor's Occupant Protection Award for the number of seat belt violations he cited. He was Fort Wright's top officer in that category.

**Kathleen Romero - Battery Hooper Park & James A. Ramage Civil War Museum**

Ms. Kathleen Romero addressed the council regarding the sale of the church property next to the museum. Mayor Hatter responded that at the moment the sale will not affect the museum.

Mr. McMurtry also responded that the easement the City has should not be affected. Mayor Hatter emphasized that the Council has no plans to do anything different that would affect the park. Concern by citizens regarding the effects on the park continued with Council continuing to emphasize that there were no plans to do anything differently. One citizen suggested that the City purchase the church property. Mayor Hatter responded that there is no plan to purchase the property and cited budgetary concerns as well as concerns for the City's financial well-being. He spoke about the impact of pension costs on financial decisions and encouraged the residents to raise awareness through social media and to write the pension board, state representatives, state senators, and the governor.

#### **Tim Siegrist – East Henry Clay Traffic Concerns**

Mr. Tim Siegrist of 1309 East Henry Clay addressed the council regarding issues with traffic on East Henry Clay. He mentions the SD1 Retention pond and potential of creating a cul de sac. When the previous traffic study was discussed Mr. Siegrist reminded council that the readings from that traffic study were false because traffic continued to drive through the barriers. Mayor Hatter commented that unless the City of Covington was on board, the City of Fort Wright would not be able to explore. Mayor Hatter stated that he would reach out to see if they are open to the idea.

Mr. Siegrist continued with suggestions of adding a stop sign and speed bumps on East Henry Clay. Mayor Hatter responded that at one point the City was told they could not put them in. There was discussion about the impact of speed bumps and issues they create. The Community Improvement can investigate with the Police Department, Public Works and the City Engineer.

#### **Mary Lou Hansen –Traffic Signal Request**

Ms. Mary Lou Hansen of 120 Kennedy Road addressed the council regarding requesting a traffic signal at Beaumont Court and Highland Avenue. She stated that it was dangerous to make a left turn as well as dangerous for pedestrians. Mayor Hatter responded that Highland Avenue is a state road and not under the control of Fort Wright. He stated that in the past the City has reached out to the state, but that the likelihood of them agreeing was not favorable. He stated that he would officially reach out again and ask the state to look into it.

#### **Steve Siegrist - Infrastructure Concerns**

Mr. Steve Siegrist of 47 West Crittenden Avenue addressed the council expressing concerns about broken down streets, no curbs, and flooding. Mayor Hatter responded that Sanitation District 1 handles storm water. He referred to the 5-year street plan published on the City's website stating that the City Engineer and Public Works inspect and re-evaluate the plan. Mr. Siegrist disagreed with changes to the plan. Mayor Hatter responded that Mr. Siegrist was the first person to mention flooding. Mayor Hatter stated that contracts have already been signed and that Mr. Siegrist's input has been noted.

## **APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

Councilman Wessels made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2019 Council Meeting. Councilman Feinauer made a second. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes	
Councilman Feinauer	Yes	
Councilman Wall	Yes	
Councilman Wessels	Yes	
Councilwoman Witt	Yes	MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Abeln made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2019 Special Meeting. Councilwoman Witt made a second. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes	
Councilman Feinauer	Yes	
Councilman Wall	Abstain	
Councilman Wessels	Yes	
Councilwoman Witt	Yes	MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Abeln made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2019 Caucus Meeting. Councilman Feinauer made a second. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes	
Councilman Feinauer	Yes	
Councilman Wall	Yes	
Councilman Wessels	Yes	
Councilwoman Witt	Yes	MOTION CARRIED

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Reeves Road Project Update**

Ms. Bailey provided the update for the Reeves Road Project. She stated that there were two proposals for underdrains because of road slippage causing water to collect between the surface and base of the road. Because Riegler received the street project proposal, they were able to provide a less costly proposal of \$11,100 which will fit within this year's road budget. Warranty will cover slippage but not drainage and it is hoped that this will be a long-term fix.

Councilman Wessels made a motion for the Mayor to enter into a contract with Riegler. Councilman Wall made a second. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes
Councilman Feinauer	Yes

Councilman Wall	Yes
Councilman Wessels	Yes
Councilwoman Witt	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

#### **Precision Concrete – Sidewalk Project Update**

Ms. Bailey reported that this project was discussed during budget process to which approximately \$60,000 was allocated. This is an ongoing project that was to be phased, but now is proposing to do it all at once. This is being done for legal reasons to mitigate risk. The money allocated needs confirmation to continue.

Councilman Wessels made a motion to approve the budgeted \$60,000 be approved to complete the sidewalk project. Councilwoman Witt made a second. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes
Councilman Feinauer	Yes
Councilman Wall	Yes
Councilman Wessels	Yes
Councilwoman Witt	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Municipal Order 05-19 Disposal of Surplus Property**

City Attorney Todd McMurtry read the Municipal Order.

Councilman Wessels made a motion to approve the Municipal Order. Councilman Wall made a second. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes
Councilman Feinauer	Yes
Councilman Wall	Yes
Councilman Wessels	Yes
Councilwoman Witt	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

##### **Resolution 06-19 Recognizing Rudler, PSC on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

City Attorney Todd McMurtry read the Resolution.

Councilman Wessels made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilman Wall made a second. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes
Councilman Feinauer	Yes
Councilman Wall	Yes
Councilman Wessels	Yes
Councilwoman Witt	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Hatter congratulated Rudler and expressed that the City would like to recognize other businesses who reach such milestones.

## CAO REPORT

City Administrative Officer Jill Cain Bailey referred to her written reports in packet and said she would be happy to answer questions.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**Administration/Finance** - City Clerk Susan Ellis reported that another payment for delinquent taxes has been received, the KEMI audit has been submitted and progress is being made setting up the accounting system for fiscal year 2019-2020. Mayor Hatter commented that will be audit time again and the City continues to address finding around controls and as a result the City is purchasing property tax software. Ms. Bailey commented that the audit originally scheduled for October 1, 2019 needs to be pushed back to the end of October to allow time for preparation. She stated that in the past, the City has used the auditor to create reports that should be created and maintained by the City.

**Fire/EMS Department** - Fire Chief Steve Schewe announced that the Fire Department acquired the 2012 pumper from Erlanger commenting that it was an incredible opportunity with huge cost savings. The fire depart will be ordering a new staff car and an ambulance.

**Legal Counsel** - City Attorney Todd McMurtry reporting that the KRS lawsuit is making progress.

**Police Department** – Sergeant George Kreutzjans reported that Officer Nichols is in field training and doing well. Officer Bradford will begin field training on Sunday. The officer from Ohio, to whom a conditional employment offer has been made, is working on certification as an officer in KY. He thanked the administration for changes and updates to the vacation policy and health insurance benefits.

**Public Works** - Public Works Director Jeff Bethell reported that the Public Works Department is fully staffed now. Things are going well, and they are catching up with mowing, trimming, patching potholes, and trees. The fire alarm and sprinkler system have received maintenance. A pre-construction meeting with Riegler was held, the contract signed, and they are scheduled to start around August 1, 2019 with curb replacement first then milling and paving. The company who did the work on Reeves Drive after Sanitation District 1 is coming back to redo

that work. Cincinnati Bell has been working on Amsterdam moving lines. Mayor Hatter commented that Amsterdam is a major project for which the City has applied for a grant. The major part began this year but there have been delays with right of way acquisitions. The Mayor has received communication from City Attorney Mark Brueggemann and will forward that document to Council. Ms. Bailey commented that the project needs temporary and permanent construction easements and the attorney for the 3 rental properties with parking issues is requesting changes to language and the City Attorney will need to review this.

## **OTHER COMMENTS**

Mayor Hatter commented on the recent storm water issue saying he could not recall having seen so many storm water issues. He stated that Sanitation District 1 (SD1) has been responsible for sanitation sewer for a long time has slowly taken over the storm sewer. The City transitioned Fort Wright's storm sewer over to them. If a street has storm drains and it is causing a neighborhood to have issues, the City needs to know sooner rather than later. Residents need to reach out to SD1. Public Works Director Jeff Bethell is compiling a list of residents who are experiencing issues. If a resident is having problems, they need to contact the City. Although the City has no authority or control, it can track these issues, make connections, as well as influence future projects in conjunction with SD1.

Mayor Hatter announced the City will be interviewing council candidates tomorrow night.

Mayor Hatter commented on the Amsterdam Road Project stating that Park hills also has an Amsterdam Road project. He recommended that residents find an alternative route. He also announced that the State should be starting on Dixie Highway and Kyles Lane.

Mayor Hatter also commented that there are a number of state roads in the City. While reporting pot holes, the City may recommend reaching out to the Kentucky Department of Transportation.

## **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Employee Recognitions/Special Thank Yous**

- Thank you from a resident to the Police Department for checking on their home. Mayor Hatter reminded residents that this service is available by completing a form that can be found on the website and in the lobby.
- Thank you from the Sanders to Public Works for fixing a pothole quickly.
- Thank you from J Cummins Professional Properties to Public Works for cleaning out sewer grates during heavy rain. Mayor Hatter requested that residents call to report those situations.
- Thank you from Dawn Norris to Public Works for their quick response and excellent customer service.

## COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilwoman Margie Witt reminded everyone of the upcoming Women's Self Defense class on July 24 & 31, 2019 stating is an excellent class.

Mayor Hatter reminded everyone that announcements and City information are posted regularly on Facebook, Twitter, and the City website.

Councilman Bernie Wessels expressed special thanks to Ms. Bailey and Mr. Bethell for meeting with Steve Siegrist and others regarding the roads.

## ADJOURNMENT OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

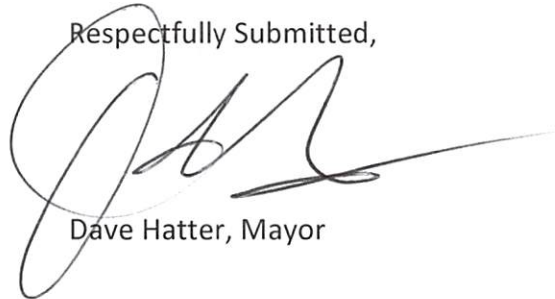
Councilman Wall made a motion to adjourn the Special Council Meeting. Councilman Feinauer made a second. City Clerk Susan Ellis called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes
Councilman Feinauer	Yes
Councilman Wall	Yes
Councilman Wessels	Yes
Councilwoman Witt	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

The Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Dave Hatter, Mayor.

Dave Hatter, Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Susan Ellis, City Clerk.

Susan Ellis, KCMC  
City Clerk