



City of Fort Wright

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

City of Fort Wright Special Council Meeting Wednesday, July 17, 2024 – 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The Special Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Dave Hatter. Mayor Hatter led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. City Clerk Maura Russell called the roll.

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

Also present for the meeting were:

City Administrator Jill Bailey
City Attorney Brook Brooking
Police Chief Jonathan Colwell
Public Works Director Jeff Bethell
City Clerk Maura Russell

CITIZEN COMMENTS/GUESTS

There were no citizen comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Medical Cannabis Discussion – Mayor Hatter advised the City has been working with Planning & Development Services of Kenton County [PDS] on the medical cannabis legislation. Mr. Cody Sheets, Associate Planner, PDS, reviewed the zones that would be impacted by passage of medical cannabis legislation. He reminded Council that the City may establish time, place, and manner restrictions that are not less restrictive than the law and may not enact ordinances that impose an undue burden or make cannabis business operations unreasonable.

Mr. Sheets reviewed the zones where medical cannabis operations could exist in Fort Wright. He said cultivation, processing, producing, and safety compliance are industrial-type operations and could exist in the general industrial zone of Z21 zoning ordinances, which are currently mainly along the southern side of the City on Madison Pike. He said the dispensaries would be able to locate in highway commercial and community commercial zones, which is currently small areas near Walmart and near Christ Hospital.

After discussion, Mayor Hatter recommended allowing for medical cannabis operations in the City, citing Governor Andy Beshear working to remove marijuana from the schedule three list and the potential for recreational marijuana to be legal in the coming years. Ms. Bailey also reminded Council that there are a

limited number of licenses for each part of the business available, so the chances a business will locate in Fort Wright are slim.

Mr. Brooking read Resolution 09-2024, a Resolution of the City of Fort Wright, in Kenton County, Kentucky allowing the sale of medical cannabis and the operation of medical cannabis businesses within the City of Fort Wright, Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted in KRS 218B.090 and KRS 218B.130 via the incorporation of changes, identified to be minor in nature, to the zoning use regulations and standards in the Z21 Zoning Ordinance, which shall be considered for approval and adoption by Ordinance.

Ms. Bailey advised the Resolution shows Council's intent to move forward with allowing medical cannabis operations through the passage of the Z21 zoning ordinance updates after a first and second reading, which will begin in August. She said the purpose of Z21 is to simplify and streamline the zoning ordinance and associated processes.

Councilman Weber made a motion to approve Resolution 09-2024. Councilman Collins made a second. Ms. Russell called the roll.

Councilman Weber	Yes
Councilman Collins	Yes
Councilman Abeln	No
Councilman Wall	Yes
Councilman Wessels	Yes
Councilwoman Witt	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Hatter reminded Council that this is not binding until after the passage of Z21.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

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

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

MOTION CARRIED

The Special Council Meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Hatter, Mayor

Attest:



Maura Russell
City Clerk