

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 20, 2008 – 6:00PM

Mayor Nienaber called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The following members answered roll call, Mr. Bernie Wessels, Mr. Joe Averdick, Mr. Dave Hatter, Mr. Adam Feinauer, Mr. Scott Wall and Mr. Todd McMurtry. Also present were City Attorney Pete Summe, Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe, Police Sergeant Randy Newsom, Public Works Director Tim Maloney and City Clerk Joyce Woods.

Citizen Comments

Debbie Dorning of 1419 East Henry Clay addressed Council regarding the new traffic light at West Henry Clay and Kyles Lane. She stated that she is very unhappy with the way the light works and backs up traffic in all areas. Mayor Nienaber advised that the light was installed recently to allow residents to exit from streets connected to Kyles Lane in a safe manner. There will definitely be a few problems to work out and everyone will have to be patient until this can be done. Mayor Nienaber advised he believes it takes two cars on either side to trip the light to change from favoring Kyles Lane. It will be an inconvenience for awhile, especially with school just starting, but hopefully people from other areas that use this area as a cut through will use other routes.

Mary DeSalvo addressed Council as a representative of the Museum Board. She reported on the number of visitors to the museum and also on Battery Hooper Days. She stated that there were about 1000 visitors at the park and museum on Saturday and Sunday and they considered it a successful weekend.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. Averdick to approve the minutes of the 06/30/08 Special meeting. All members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Wall to approve the minutes of the 07/01/08 Special meeting. Mr. Hatter abstained, the rest of the members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Wessels, second by Mr. Averdick to approve the minutes of the 07/02/08 Regular Council meeting. All members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Wessels to approve the amended minutes of the 07/07/08 Special meeting. All members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

There was a mistake on Todd McMurtry's name. He was listed as Scott instead of Todd.

Motion by Mr. Averdick, second by Mr. Feinauer to approve the minutes of the 07/10/08 Special meeting. All members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Mayor Nienaber thanked all of Council for their attendance at all of the meetings, he stated that it was a great help to him.

Executive Order 8-08 – New City Administrative Officer

All the previous Special meetings that were approved were for the search for a new City Administrator. Mayor Nienaber stated that he wanted Council to be part of the hiring process. There were about 140 applicants who applied for the position and we feel we have the best person for this job. Gary Huff was introduced as the person selected to fill this position, and Mayor Nienaber stated that he comes with a tremendous amount of experience for this job. He was an Administrator in Washington Township, Ohio and originally a native of Park Hills. His wife Barb was also introduced, and she is also from the Fort Wright area. Mr. Huff thanked everyone and stated that he is looking forward to serving the citizens of Fort Wright.

Mr. Summe read the Executive Order. Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. Averdick to approve. Roll call vote taken Wall, Feinauer, Wessels and McMurtry voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Holthaus Signs Request for Signage on the New Wright's Summit Building

Ms. Andrea Ward from Holthaus Signs addressed Council regarding Prism Title Agency that will be the main tenant in the new building at 809 Wright's Summit Parkway. She stated that they are requesting signage on the new building. They are requesting two signs, one on the Dixie Highway side and one facing I-75. They will be similar to the ones that are on the other building for National City Bank. They will be the major tenant in the new building and occupy over half of this building and bring about 100 jobs to the City when completed. Mr. Maloney added that this will still have to go through NKAPC.

Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. McMurtry to approve. Roll call vote taken, Averdick, Feinauer and Wall voting in favor, Wessels abstained, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Dixie TIF

Mayor Nienaber requested this item be tabled and wants to have Mr. Huff involved in this project and more research done.

Blood Drive

Here at the City Building on August 28th from 2-8PM.

Development Issues

Anchor Development

This is the Kuchle property development on Dixie Highway that was rejected by NKAPC as it was proposed. Anchor Properties asked to have a meeting with the Mayor and Tim Maloney to discuss some of the issues that were disapproved by NKAPC. After meeting with them regarding variances and other issues, Anchor has asked that we withdraw their request to come before City Council. They would like to go back to Walgreens with new proposals for site development and then go back to NKAPC with these changes. Motion by Mr. McMurtry, second by Mr. Wall to accept the withdrawal of the application for a public hearing before the City of Fort Wright. Roll call vote taken, Averdick, Hatter and Feinauer voting in favor, Wessels abstained, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Mr. Wessels stated that he would not be voting on any items pertaining to this development, as he is an adjoining property owner.

Hillside Development Corporation

Michels Family Property on Madison Pike. This application received an anonymous approval from NKAPC for their development plan. They have advised that they have no specific plan at this time and they wanted a zone change to make their property more marketable. They are resolving issues with City of Edgewood regarding Sperti Drive as an access point. Mr. Averdick suggested have someone from Michels attend the next meeting for additional information and have on the agenda for the next meeting if needed.

Dickman's Café

Richard Dickman, owner, requested a zone change to have additional parking and signage at his business on Orphanage Road. This will require a culvert. Mr. Maloney will get a copy of the plan and distribute to Council before the next meeting for discussion at that meeting.

Model Sign Ordinance

NKAPC tabled this item on June 5, 2008 and heard additional evidence on this Ordinance again a few weeks later and it was passed. The Mayor would like to have Mr. Huff and Council look at this further. There will be an informational meeting on August 26th at 6:30PM, at NKAPC for anyone interested in getting more input. Todd McMurtry and Dave Hatter will be involved in a committee to study this Ordinance and come back to Council with recommendations.

Resolution 16-08- Surplus Property – Radar Trailer

Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. Feinauer to approve this trailer as surplus. Roll call vote taken, Wessels, Averdick, Wall and McMurtry voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Smoking Ban

There has been tremendous opposition to this ban. The City of Florence has passed a Resolution against having a ban. There will be an informational session for this and we will address it at a later date. Mayor Nienaber will get back to Council on the time and date of this session.

Gang Symbols, Graffiti and Safe Neighborhoods

We have had a few incidents in the City that have been happening throughout the neighborhoods, attempted burglaries, drawings on stop signs etc. Sergeant Newsom reported that he did not have

any information or knowledge about gang activity in the City. Residents in the neighborhood need to be aware of strangers in their area. If something doesn't look right, please call the Police to check out any situation.

Garbage Pickers

Complaints from residents of people going through garbage cans and tearing open bags looking for metal, aluminum or personal information. Once you put your cans and bags at the curb or driveway they are not just your property. If you are uncomfortable with anyone or anything suspicious, please call the Police.

J.B. Bernhardt from Beaumont Court was the young man that alerted his Dad to the masked robber and the robbery in progress will be recognized at a future Council meeting.

Mayor Nienaber stressed that he would like to have Committees that are needed and report back to Council on the important issues.

In reference to the copy of the Public Nuisance Ordinance from Louisville that was included in our Council packet, Mr. Wessels, Mr. Wall and Mr. McMurtry will be involved in the Committee to study this Ordinance and report back to Mayor and Council.

Days Inn Structural Issues

We have had some issues on Dixie Highway at Day's Inn regarding structural problems at their building. These issues were addressed before safety personnel and a structural engineer. We have addressed these problems with the owners and they are taking care of them as quickly as possible. Chief Schewe advised that there were problems a few years ago and were fixed but they have escalated recently as a dangerous situation. The Mayor thanked everyone who worked on this project to get it under control as quickly as possible.

Property Tax Hearing Schedule

Since we only have so much time to set, have first and second readings and advertise our property tax rate, we will have to have special meetings to get this ready on time. Council decided on August 25th at 8AM for the 1st reading of the proposed tax rate.

Department Reports

Chief Schewe welcomed William Eifert to the recruit class recently. One of the ambulances is being repaired and out of service. Specs for the new ambulance are almost complete.

Police Sergeant Randy Newsom reported that there a couple of stealth radar surveys that were conducted on East Henry Clay Avenue. He stressed again the importance of being aware of people and things going on in the neighborhoods. Mr. Wessels thanked Specialist Dean Russell for his response to a call on their development where he was injured.

Public Works Director Tim Maloney thanked Chief Schewe for all the work done on the Days Inn project. He was out of town and Chief Schewe took over a lot of last minute details and worked it out. Thanks to Jeff Bethell and Nick Zumdick on all the time they put in on Battery Hooper Days. Permits are ready for the playground and shelters at the park and the access drive at the Church turned out better than anticipated. Bray/Arnsperger was the company that did the Kyles Lane/Henry Clay project, with the traffic light, and did a very timely and good job.

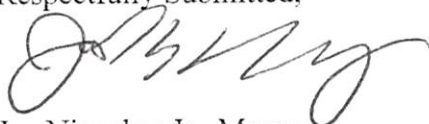
Amsterdam Road is now reopened and in very good condition. Gas main work has been done on St. Agnes Circle and Vidot Court.

City Clerk Joyce Woods welcomed new City Administrator Gary Huff and thanked the other Department Heads and employees for their help and efforts.

Mayor Nienaber also thanked everyone for doing a great job in the interim of hiring a new Administrator.

Motion by Mr. McMurtry, second by Mr. Hatter to adjourn. All members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joe Nienaber Jr., Mayor

Attest:



Joyce Woods, City Clerk