



City of Fort Wright

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

City of Fort Wright Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 6, 2025 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hatter was not present for tonight's meeting, therefore; the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by CAO, Jill Cain Bailey, 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 Steven Schewe, Public Works Director Jeff Bethell, City Clerk Kerrie Holland.

Due to Mayor Hatter not being present for tonight's meeting, Councilman Wessels made a motion to have Councilman Collins run the meeting in the Mayor's absence. Councilman Wall 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

CITIZEN COMMENTS/GUESTS

Residents, Gary and Mary Lou Hansen who reside at 120 Kennedy spoke on what the future holds for the property located at 115 Kennedy. CAO Bailey explained there is currently a working group formed for community improvement, but no plans have been set for the property. She further states that the building had to be torn down due to safety issues involving the structure of the building. Councilman Wall adds that there are currently no plans to sell the property for developments and would likely be used for public use.

Andy Hogen – Atty for Arby's Restaurant on Madison Pk, spoke that he objected to an Ordinance declaring the Arby's Driveway becoming a public right-of-way. Grant Troja – President of Restaurant Mgmt.- Arby's Market concerned about traffic flow from between Sonic and Arby's.

Councilman Wessels had questions in regard to how the other Arby's Restaurants are configured with their traffic flow. Councilman Wessels suggested to table the first reading of the Ordinance as a courtesy to Arby's until this has been discussed in further detail. Councilman Wessels made a motion to table the 1st reading of the Ordinance of public right-of-way on Madison Pk between Arby's and Sonic. Councilman Weber 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

MINUTES

Minutes from the July 16, 2025 Special city Council Meeting were yet not available for review, they will be reviewed and approved at the next City Council Meeting – August 6, 2025.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Farrell Drive Road Repair & Estimate

Council to consider temporary fix at roadway intersection, given direction to proceed if </= \$6,000.00 for repair costs. Public Works received one reply from contractors, the quote was \$8232.00. Councilman Wessel made a motion to authorize the Mayor to accept and sign the new quoted contract price. Councilman Weber 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

NEW BUSINESS:

Walmart (Andrew Watson) – Temporary Outdoor Seasonal Storage Request

The representative from Walmart was expected to be at the meeting but was not present. Walmart is asking for a 30-day special consideration for 10 storage (shipping containers) from November 1 – Nov 30. Council mentions that this issue with Walmart is a constant battle and there are several violations that are sent throughout the holiday season due to Walmart having outdoor storage units for their holiday products. Council has additional questions, which can not be answered at tonight's meeting, sue to the Representative not present; topic will be tabled for a future meeting.

Certified City of Ethics Annual Training Program

The Ethics board is working through their process of Ethics requirements. 1st year – KLC will continue to conduct training. CAO Bailey had reached out to Michael Simon to set up training. The cost for KLC to conduct the training in January will be \$500. Money is allocated but will need to be voted on to allow the expenditure. Councilwoman Witt made a motion to approve the allocated expenditure contract. Councilman Wall made the second. Ms. Holland called the role.

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

MOTION PASSES

1st Reading of Ordinance re: Waste Collection Fees

Will establish the \$23/month per unit, for a yearly billed total of \$276 per residential unit. It will appear on tax bill as a separate line. We only received a bid from Rumpke for the new waste collection contract. Red or larger green recycling tote will be available free to residents. Residents may choose to use their own trash can or rent one from Rumpke for a small fee. City Attorney Brooking reads the 1st reading of Ordinance. Councilman Weber made a motion to accept the first reading of the Waste Collection fee Ordinance. Councilwoman Witt made the second. Ms. Holland called the role.

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

MOTION PASSES

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Discussed issues relating to non-collected delinquent taxes and discussed general finance issues.

CAO REPORT:

It is that time of year to calculate the new tax rate. The tax roll has been sent to NKADD to be calculated. We are decommissioning the servers; we are currently in the process of getting the piece of software off of the server.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Administration-Kerrie Holland, City Clerk completed the first year of training towards her 3-year process of becoming certified.

Police-Cram the cruiser event – this weekend for back to school will be held at NKy Bargain outlet. It will benefit Fort Wright Elementary.

Finance-Working on the transitioning of the end of FY items.

Public Works-Riegler Blacktop coming to General Dr on 8/7/ for curb and sidewalk replacement work. They will probably be there on Saturday as well. George Huse is completed as requested before the start of school. We are hoping to mill and pave middle of September- bid for upcoming crack/seal is out. The bid opening will be August 14th @ 11am. The Crack/seal program does not affect the 5-year plan. The 5-year program is now in review.

Fire/ALS- specs are out for bids on a new ambulance. Monitor defibs will be purchased by end-of-month.

Legal-No Report

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Hoxworth Blood drive sponsored by Fire Dept will be held September 5th at City Bldg.

Cran the Cruiser-PD to be held at NKy Bargain Outlet August 9th.

Walmart hearing is Tomorrow at PDS-project to be approved by end-of-month.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilwoman Witt-Thank you to the volunteers that have collected 82 bags of trash throughout the residential communities. Fall cleanup is scheduled for September/October date TBD

Councilman Wessels-SD1 canceled storm water project; 2 property owners did not sign the easement agreement; SD1 met with residents and could not come to an agreement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No Executive Session

With nothing further on the agenda to discuss, Councilman Wessels made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Wall 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 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mayor Dave Hatter

ATTEST:

Kerrie A. Holland, City clerk