

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY CAUCUS MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2008 – 6:00PM

Mayor Nienaber called the meeting to order at 6:00PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The following members answered roll call, Mr. Bernie Wessels, Mr. Dave Hatter, Mr. Adam Feinauer, Mr. Scott Wall and Mr. Todd McMurtry. Also present were City Administrator Gary Huff, City Attorney Pete Summe, Police Chief Dan Kreinest, Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe, Public Works Director Tim Maloney and City Clerk Joyce Woods. Mr. Joe Averdick was unavailable for this meeting.

Items for Discussion

Vidot Court/Saint Agnes Reconstruction

Mr. Huff addressed Council regarding Phase I and II of this project and provided a breakdown sheet with all costs associated with this project. He stated that he wanted to be sure that we had enough money in the current budget for this expense.

City Engineer Mark Brueggemann spoke and stated that the project for next year, which is Morris Place and Glazier Road will be smaller, but to add in 25% for increased cost for materials etc. Mark also stated the Amsterdam Road project will be closed out soon and coming in just under the \$500,000.00 budget.

Greg McCarthy, President of the Fort Wright Business Association addressed Council regarding setting up a Candidates Forum in October. This will be sponsored by the Business Association and all candidates running for Council are urged to attend. It was decided that this will be scheduled on October 08, 2008 at 7:00PM, at the City Building.

Telecommunications – Update – Tom Litzler

Mr. Litzler addressed Council and updated them on the Telecommunications Board. He stated that the current franchise with Insight Communications ends in 2009 and they are negotiating with them. Cincinnati Bell has been meeting with the Board for about six months about their franchise.

Proposed New Sign Regulation – NKAPC

Mr. Mike Schwartz from NKAPC was in attendance at the meeting to address Council and answer any questions regarding the proposed Model Sign Ordinance. Cities were asked what they would like to see in or out of these regulations. One of the main issues was that they wanted new billboards prohibited. Mr. Schwartz stated that content cannot be regulated and each single family lot is allowed up to four signs, no larger than 6 square feet. Hopefully this will be done by the end of the year.

Fort Wright SAFE Seniors Program

Mr. McMurtry requested that this item be added to the agenda for discussion. He stated that he did a little research on this program and thought we should have something similar for the seniors in Fort Wright. Mayor Nienaber stated that we do have the Senior Watch Program through the Police Department and maybe get some different ideas from this program. Mr. McMurtry advised he would do more research and report back to Council.

Dixie Highway Market Study

Mayor Nienaber reported that he was approached by Dennis Gordon from NKAPC to be a part of this study with Park Hills and Covington. Mr. Huff reported that our cost for the portion of the Market Study would be \$9467.00. This would be done by GEM Public Sector Services, the firm that we used for the Madison Pike Corridor Study. It would be similar to the Madison Pike Study in content; just the area would be different. This would help us identify uses for Ramada Inn and Day's Inn property and also the vacant shopping center. Mr. Wessels advised he is against this study, because we don't need someone else to tell us what we need in this area and it is a waste of taxpayer money. It was suggested that we have an Economic Development Committee to look at this and make suggestions. Discussion followed.

Letter of Credit


Mr. Huff advised Council that we have received a letter of Credit from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati for \$2,500,000.00. Not knowing what it was, he made a phone call to the Bank of Kentucky and was advised it was an insurance policy on our deposits in that bank. He explained that it would take the Mayor and four Council Members to sign for any withdrawals. He suggested that we open an account of \$1000.00 in a different bank in the City, in case the Bank of Kentucky would fail and we could immediately transfer the money to a different account. We will have a Resolution or Ordinance at the October 1, 2008 meeting for approval.

Mr. Huff advised Council he has been working on simplifying the financial statement.

Mr. Huff spoke to Duke Energy regarding the power outages around the City from the wind storm and 85% of the City should have power by later in the evening. Discussion also took place on how to handle trees and branches that Rumpke would not pick up. It was decided to monitor how much debris Rumpke would take and then decide on a plan for the City.

Motion by Mr. Feinauer, 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