

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY CAUCUS MEETING

OCTOBER 19, 2011 – 6:00PM

Mayor Nienaber opened the meeting with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The following members answered roll call, Mr. Bernie Wessels, Mr. Adam Feinauer, Mr. Scott Wall. Also present for the meeting were City Administrator Gary Huff, City Attorney Pete Summe, Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe, Police Chief Dan Kreinest, Public Works Director Tim Maloney and City Clerk Joyce Woods. Mr. Todd McMurtry arrived at 6:11PM, Mr. Joe Averdick arrived at 6:32PM, and Mr. Dave Hatter was unavailable for this meeting.

Banklick Creek – City Owned Property

In tonight's packet there is a sample Conservation Deed from The Kenton Conservancy, Inc. which is interested in the six acres of property owned by the City in the Banklick Creek area. The City cannot do anything with this property, without having a lot of work done and money spent. We have talked about conveying this property to the Conservancy for a \$1.00. They have a stated purpose of land conservation in Kenton County for the benefit of people and nature. Phase I Environmental Study has been done.

Mr. Wessels stated that Saint Agnes inquired about this property to develop soccer fields for the school. This property would not be a good fit for that type of recreation because there is a creek in the middle of the property and it is very hilly. Mayor Nienaber stated that he would talk to the representatives of Saint Agnes and explain. Mr. Huff and Mr. Summe will move forward on this project.

Paper Streets within the City

Ms. Patsy Summe a resident of Kennedy Road contacted Mayor Nienaber regarding the closing of the property behind her residence. This property in the City is referred to as a paper street, and the City will look into all of the ones located within the City. Mr. Quinn McMurtry of Kennedy Road was in attendance at the meeting. City Attorney Pete Summe advised that there are steps to take to be able to close these areas, such as engineering work, advertising and getting an agreement for all homeowners that are involved and all pay their share of the cost. Mr. McMurtry and Mr. Summe will research and get back to Council.

City Building Loan – Battery Hooper Park Loan

The Finance Committee met to discuss the idea that was suggested by the Vision Committee to pay off the loan for the City Building and reduce the debt of the Battery Hooper Park loan to get rid of our big debts. Representatives from Bank of Kentucky were here recently and advised that the interest rate we were getting has been cut to .25%. Mr. Huff provided Council with a handout of where we stood on the two loans and what steps we could take to pay off the City Building and refinance the Battery Hooper Park property. If we decide to pay off the City Building loan, we would adjust the budget and take money from the reserves. Council agreed this would be a good move to help the City pay off the debt. Mr. Wessels questioned if we should bid out the refinance to other banks, Mr. Huff advised it would cost quite a bit more to change banks.

Nuisance Ordinance

There was discussion on the Nuisance Ordinance pertaining to penalty rates and how many times a person can be cited on this Ordinance. If you are cited on a Chronic Nuisance Ordinance it is also a criminal charge. Everyone was in agreement with the fee structure the way it is and this will be brought back at the November meeting.

Delivering of Future Council Packets

As there was some suggestions regarding delivering the Council packets electronically, we need to have ideas on how we proceed. Mr. Huff suggested that we could email the agenda and have the paperwork at the meeting for everyone. Mr. Feinauer stated that he wanted the information before the meeting to read over. Mr. McMurtry suggested a program called Leap File to print everything. Mr. Huff advised that for now we will send the packets to their homes on the Friday before the meeting and research different ways to send the information.

There was a handout distributed of deer/animal accidents in Fort Wright from 2007 until present time. Mr. Wessels stated that he had an Ordinance that was in effect in Fort Thomas and would send it to Council for their review.

Chief Kreinest reported that Specialist Dean Russell had submitted his retirement as of November 1, 2011. The City will have a retirement party for him at South Hills Civic Club, the date to be determined.

Mr. McMurtry had to leave the meeting at 7:11PM.

Motion by Mr. Wall, second by Mr. Averdick to adjourn the meeting, all members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Nienaber Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Joe Nienaber Jr., Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joyce Woods", written in a cursive style.

Joyce Woods, City Clerk