

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY CAUCUS MEETING

OCTOBER 21, 2015 – 6:00PM

Mayor Hatter opened the meeting with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The following members answered roll call, Mr. Mike Hoerlein, Mr. Dave Abeln, Mr. Joe Averdick, Mr. Adam Feinauer, Mr. Scott Wall, and Mr. Bernie Wessels. Also present for the meeting were City Administrator Gary Huff, City Attorney Todd McMurtry, Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe, Police Chief Dan Kreinest, Public Works Director Tim Maloney and City Clerk Joyce Woods.

Industrial Building Revenue Bonds – Wright Summit

Attorney Dick Spoor explained that the proposed construction of an additional property at Wright's Summit location on Dixie Highway would like to have industrial bonds issued by the City of Fort Wright. This is for the purpose of financing the acquisition, construction and equipping of an industrial building project. This property is owned by Wessels Construction Company.

We have other buildings owned by Wessels Construction Company that also have industrial bonds issued and the property is in the name of the City of Fort Wright, Kentucky. Mr. Spoor stated that the State approves the bonds and that they are used by Cities and Counties to provide incentive for the projects. This building would be in the name of the City, but the owner of the property would be responsible for all maintenance cost etc. The owner is exempt from property tax, but pays an amount in lieu of tax. This approval requires action by Council in one reading by a Resolution. Mr. Rick Wessels advised Council that once the bond is paid off, the property will revert back to the owner. Council Member Bernie Wessels would not be voting on this issue.

This Resolution will be on the agenda for the November 4, 2015 Council Meeting.

Proposed Nuisance Code

Mr. McMurtry stated that the proposed Nuisance Code Ordinance will address signs on poles, dead trees, tall grass etc. Mr. McMurtry looked at other city ordinances and advised that the best fit for Fort Wright was the one adopted by the City of Erlanger. This will blend in with the Chronic Nuisance Ordinance at the City's discretion and give Mr. Maloney more authority when letters sent to violators are ignored. Discussion followed, and there were suggestions made on changing, deleting or adding some revisions. Mr. McMurtry advised that this Ordinance will be brought back with revisions and changes at the November 18, 2015 Caucus Meeting for more discussion.

Health Insurance – 2016

Mr. Huff stated that the Finance Committee met and discussed the 14.49% increase in the upcoming renewal of health insurance to begin on December 1, 2015 for employees participating. The last two years we have dodged Obamacare with a December 1st renewal. Mike Williams from Sherrill Morgan

Agency has researched quotes from other companies at the rate of 90 to 100% increase over the cost of United Healthcare. Mr. Huff stated that it was proposed that the HSA Plan have no contribution from employees, as it has been, the City will pick up 10% instead of the usual 5% increase for the traditional plan, and offer a third plan that would be no increase in what employees are paying for the traditional plan now, but with a higher deductible and no out of network coverage. Council seemed to be in agreement with this proposal. A meeting will be held with employees to explain these changes.

Propose Council Dates -2016

A listing of all 2016 Council and Caucus Meeting dates was distributed to Council for their review.

ROW to Homes in Fort Wright through Fort Mitchell

Mr. Huff explained that he had received an email from Fort Mitchell City Administrator, Sharmili Reddy, requesting some financial assistance for Park Road that runs through Fort Mitchell to access Mr. Ruh's residence. There is one other home on this road, but it is located in Fort Mitchell. Ms. Reddy would like to explore the roadway and dam for structural issues and would like the City of Fort Wright to be included in this project. Discussion followed, and Council stated they have no interest in jointly exploring this issue.

2014-2015 Budget Adjustment

Mayor Hatter explained that there were some adjustments to the 2014-2015 Budget in April, 2015. One of the cost that exceeded the budget were the attorney fees which were well over budget. The Mayor advised Council that Mr. McMurtry has been very aggressive in collecting back property taxes and has really done a good job in the delinquent amounts collected. We have had to check with him on many issues involving personnel and hiring issues which included many more hours which raised costs.


Motion by Mr. Abeln, second by Mr. Averdick to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote taken, Abeln, Averdick, Wessels, Wall, Feinauer and Hoerlein voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dave Hatter, Mayor

Attest:



Joyce Woods, City Clerk