



City of Fort Wright

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

City of Fort Wright Council Meeting Wednesday, December 4, 2024 - 6:00PM

CALL TO ORDER

The Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Dave Hatter. Mayor Hatter led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. City Clerk Kerrie Holland called the roll.

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|--------------------|---------|
| Councilman Abeln | Present |
| Councilman Collins | Present |
| Councilman Wall | Present |
| Councilman Weber | Present |
| Councilman Wessels | Present |
| Councilwoman Witt | Present |

Also present for the meeting were:

City Administrator Jill Cain Bailey
Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe
Police Chief Jonathan Colwell
City Clerk Kerrie Holland
Finance Clerk Nyoka Johnson
City Attorney John Brooking

CITIZEN COMMENTS/GUEST:

There were no Citizen comments or guests present

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Councilman Weber made a motion to approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, November 6, 2024. Councilwoman Witt made a second. Ms. Holland called the roll.

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| Councilman Weber | Yes |
| Councilman Collins | Yes |
| Councilman Abeln | Yes |
| Councilman Wall | Yes |
| Councilman Wessels | Yes |
| Councilwoman Witt | Yes |

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Collins made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council Caucus Meeting held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024. Councilman Wall made a second. Ms. Holland called the roll.

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|--------------------|---------|
| Councilman Weber | Yes |
| Councilman Collins | Yes |
| Councilman Abeln | Abstain |
| Councilman Wall | Yes |
| Councilman Wessels | Abstain |
| Councilwoman Witt | Yes |

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2nd Reading of Ordinance 13-24 re: Franchise Agreement with Level 3

City Attorney Brooking read the 2nd reading of Ordinance 13-24 out loud. Mayor Hatter further explains the Franchise Agreement to those at home watching.

Councilman Weber makes a motion to approve the 2nd reading of Ordinance 13-24. Councilman Abeln made a 2nd. Ms. Holland called the roll.

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|--------------------|---------|
| Councilman Weber | Yes |
| Councilman Collins | Yes |
| Councilman Abeln | Yes |
| Councilman Wall | Yes |
| Councilman Wessels | Abstain |
| Councilwoman Witt | Yes |

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

PDS Council Appointments for 2025

Nominations were as follows: **Councilman Bernie Wessels for Primary, Councilman Jason Collins as Secondary.** Councilman Abeln made a motion to approve the nominations, and Councilman Weber made a second. Ms. Holland called the roll.

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| Councilman Weber | Yes |
| Councilman Collins | Yes |
| Councilman Abeln | Yes |
| Councilman Wall | Yes |
| Councilman Wessels | Yes |
| Councilwoman Witt | Yes |

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Hatter requested to amend tonight's agenda to open the discussion for the change in Signage for the new Sonic location.

Councilwoman Witt made a motion to approve the agenda being amended, Councilman Weber made a second. Ms. Holland called the roll.

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| Councilman Weber | Yes |
| Councilman Collins | Yes |
| Councilman Abeln | Yes |
| Councilman Wall | Yes |
| Councilman Wessels | Yes |
| Councilwoman Witt | Yes |

MOTION CARRIED

Sonic filed an application for additional signage on their building. PDS meeting next Tuesday and have sent a staff report indicating that they are recommending disapproval of the additional signage in accordance with the zoning code. The recommendation will be presented to the BOA next week and a final decision will be made from there. The packet of information along with the signage locations were included in the council packets. Council discusses the signage issues and compares it with other businesses in Fort Wright. They discuss the reason(s) of limitations that have been put in place and the importance of following the standards.

Councilman Weber made a motion to have The Board of Adjustment deny the request made by Sonic to increase their signage size. Councilman Wessels made a second.

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| Councilman Weber | Yes |
| Councilman Collins | Yes |
| Councilman Abeln | Yes |
| Councilman Wall | Yes |
| Councilman Wessels | Yes |
| Councilwoman Witt | Yes |

MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Met with Joe from RedTree today, December 4th. NKY paid off loan, have about \$372,894 in a money market account that is earning 4.5% that is stuff that came due/got paid off. Federal Reserve to meet to lower interest rates. The Finance Comm thought it was best to purchase a 2-year instrument that is expected to earn 4.07%.

Other instruments are coming due soon and overall will have approximately a 3% swing with investments. The interest and investments generate a lot of additional revenue which helps keep the taxes low for residents.

Community Improvement Committee: Scheduled to meet December 18th. Councilwoman Witt stated they have been working more in depth with PDS with the Open Violation Reports. There are 4 properties on the report that have been on there since last year. Need to pay more attention to them to proceed with the violations process; one of the properties was boarded up.

COA REPORT:

Swearing in Ceremony for reelected Council members to be facilitated by Representative Stephanie Dietz on December 18, 2024, at the Caucus Meeting.

Update: Officer Horseman rescued and fostered Ripley during a call. She is still fostering the dog and she is doing well with Officer Horseman. Mayor Hatter thanked everyone who donated to the care of Ripley and Officer Horseman will donate any money that isn't needed for care.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Public Works: Jeff Bethel-not in attendance for further comments.

Police: Chief Colwell-Cram-the-Cruiser event happening at Walmart to help Fort wright Elem students and families.

Legal Counsel: Atty Brooking-no news to report

Fire: Chief Schewe-Santa/Grinch parade on December 14th starting at 2:00, parade route on website. It takes around 2 hours to get through the city.

Finance: Nyoka Johnson-Into middle of tax season, busy with taking in tax payments and busy with passports as well and on-going training. Councilman Wessels asks questions about delinquent tax process. Are they uncollectable? Do they need to be pursued legally? Jill helps explain the delinquent list and the process.

Admin: Kerrie Holland-1st Tax season and 1st Employee Appreciation Event. Tax payments are coming in regularly. The mayor thanked Kerrie Holland, Nyoka Johnson, the Public Works team along with all the businesses and private people who donated employee gifts for the event.

Mayor mentioned the employee service awards that were given at the employee appreciation event. Mayor states the importance of paying your taxes and paying them on time to avoid penalties and interest.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SHCC Was rented out 86 times throughout the 2024 calendar year. Utilization of the facility is going very well. Up from approximately 5-10 rentals from 2023.

Holly Jolly Days/Behringer Crawford Museum: Fort Wright residents can attend for free from 10a-5p on December 14th.

Tree Lighting-Saturday, December 7th at 6p out front of City Hall

Santa Parade-December 14th at 2p

Santa's Mailbox-At City Hall through December 31st.

Stay tuned to email, social media and sign for updates on holidays hours, Rumpke Schedule.

Mayor reminds everyone that the City Building has Rx drop box, Flag disposal at all times and currently has a bin for St, Vincent DePaul Coat donation and Christmas Lights recycling for broken/non-working lights.

Reminder-SHCC is available for rental to residents and non-residents.

Reminder-We have a Lithium Battery drop off program as well.

Mayor Hatter reads a letter concerning the Lookout Civic Club that was received from an anonymous Fort Wright resident, and he addressed the concerns through the live meeting.

Mayor opens the meeting for any additional comments/concerns: Councilman Wessels stated he missed the meeting last month when KYTC was present and presented the information in re to the roundabouts that are being proposed to be added. The mayor informed him of the information that he had. Council continues to have open discussions about the roundabouts and proposed changes on Kyles in the future. The mayor and council agreed that it will be brought back for discussion at a future meeting.

Mayor and Councilman Wessels thanks the citizens of Fort Wright for re-electing the council back into term.

There was not an Executive session scheduled for tonight's meeting.

Next Caucus Meeting scheduled for December 18, 2024

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2025 at 6:00pm.

Councilman Wessels made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilman Collins made a second. Ms. Holland called the roll.

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| Councilman Weber | Yes |
| Councilman Collins | Yes |
| Councilman Abeln | Yes |
| Councilman Wall | Yes |
| Councilman Wessels | Yes |
| Councilwoman Witt | Yes |

MOTION CARRIED

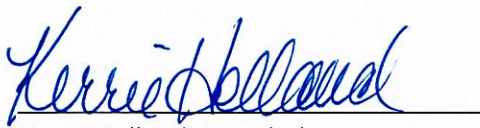
Meeting was officially adjourned @ 7:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dave Hatter, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kerrie Holland, City Clerk