

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY CAUCUS MEETING

NOVEMBER 18, 2015 – 6:00PM

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

St Agnes – wants to place signs in ballfield.

Resident Mike Hargis of 1838 Beacon Hill addressed Council and stated that they would like to recognize St. Agnes Corporate Sponsors that support the sports teams at the school. Other schools in the area have banners or signs on the fences recognizing individuals or businesses. This would show the sponsors that they are appreciated for their help at the school. Mr. Hargis advised that this would comply with the current ordinance. These banners or signs would be placed on the upper level of the fence and names of sponsors would be listed.

Mr. McMurtry advised he would check on this issue and report back. Mr. Maloney stated that this idea could be tied to conditional use for recreation. Mr. Maloney and Mr. Huff will check with cities that have these banners and figure out how this was allowed in their City.

Street Program for 2016

Mr. Huff advised there are three streets on the 2016 street program, Wolfzorn Court, Oak Hill Court and Beacon Hill Lane and will request a proposal from CT Consultants. Mr. Maloney suggested that we amend the current budget to potentially have an earlier building season. This would allow bids to be received and the contractor to be able to start in the spring, instead of waiting until July 1st. Discussion followed.

Mayor Hatter also suggested that we may want to re-visit the street tax issue again. We will discuss this in detail at a caucus or special meeting.

Ordinance Amending the Nuisance Code

Mr. McMurtry reported that multiple meetings were held regarding the best way to put together this Ordinance. It was decided that the best choice was to have an Ordinance that mirrors the one that the City of Erlanger has put together. This will allow Mr. Maloney and our Police Officers an easier course to take action on offenders. We will bring the updated Ordinance to the December 2, 2015 Council Meeting for a vote.

SNK Funds – Sidewalk on Kyles Lane

It is time to apply for SNK Funds for sidewalk and road project funds available and dispersed through OKI. To apply for these funds, it was discussed that we should supply drawings and be as accurate with the cost of the project as we can. It was suggested to bring in City Engineer Mark Brueggemann to get the best information and details on how to proceed with our application. Discussion followed.

Lateral Repair Program Lawsuit

Erlanger Mayor Tyson Hermes was present at the November 4th Council meeting and discussed a lawsuit regarding lateral repairs, and who would be responsible for repairing them etc., against SD1 that their city is exploring and wanted other cities to join with them. Mayor Hermes requested that each city that joins the lawsuit contribute \$1500.00 toward expenses. Discussion followed. Mayor Hatter stated that he would potentially be in favor of joining in the lawsuit, but wants to see the lawsuit before committing.

OKI Board of Directors

The city's current representative for OKI is Mr. Bernie Wessels. We received a reminder that we need to appoint or renew an elected official to be on their Board by January 8, 2016. Mr. Wessels advised he would renew his position on the OKI Board if no one else wanted to be appointed. He hasn't attended too many meeting, because of conflicts with his job. We will vote on this appointment at the next Council meeting.

Officer Retention Plan

Mayor Hatter discussed the letter included in the packet from Chief Kreinest regarding trying to work out problems in the Police Department with retention of officers. With many officers leaving for other departments in previous months we have had a real problem finding qualified candidates to fill the open positions. Chief Kreinest noted many items in this letter that might help keep the officers we have and attract new qualified personnel. Mayor Hatter went through these items one by one and discussed them with Councilmembers. He stated that using overtime to send officers to events in the City was not a problem and keep our officers out in the public eye. Cell phone re-imbusement was not a problem, research vacation time and converting a specific amount to payouts, wellness program would be researched etc. There is a lot of competition at this time for certified officers, as many departments are hiring and the City needs to be more competitive in salary and benefits. Since Chief Kreinest is out of town for this meeting, it will be discussed further when he is available.

Motion by Mr. Wessels, second by Mr. Wall to add an Executive Session to the agenda. Roll call vote taken, Wessels, Wall, Averdick, Feinauer Abeln and Hoerlein voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Wessels, second by Mr. Wall to adjourn to Executive Session per KRS 61.810 Paragraph f, concerning personnel. Roll call vote taken, Wessels, Wall, Averdick, Feinauer, Abeln, Averdick and Hoerlein voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Wessels, second by Mr. Wall to adjourn Executive session, all members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Hatter, Mayor

Attest:

Joyce Woods, City Clerk