

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

01/02/08 – 6:00PM

Mayor Weaver called the meeting to order with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The following members answered roll call, Mr. Joe Averdick, Mr. Adam Feinauer, Mr. Joe Nienaber Jr. and Mr. Scott Wall. Also present were City Administrator Larry Klein, City Attorney Pete Summe, Police Chief Dan Kreinest, Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe, Public Works Director Tim Maloney and City Clerk Joyce Woods. Mr. Dave Hatter was unable to attend the meeting.

Mayor Weaver advised that Senator Jack Westwood was in attendance at tonight's meeting to address Council and explain the official checks presented to Fort Wright from the State. One issued, in the amount of \$500,000 was toward the repair of Amsterdam Road and the other in the amount of \$200,000 toward the traffic light and re-alignment of the intersection of East and West Henry Clay Avenues. These repairs are both safety issues and will go a long way in creating a safer City. Presentation was made by Senator Westwood to Mayor and Council members. Mayor Weaver thanked Senator Westwood for his efforts to make these projects possible.

Citizen Comments

Mr. Lou Wartman of 1572 St. Anthony Drive addressed Council and thanked them for the new streets that were done on St. Anthony and Marcella Drives.

Motion by Mr. Nienaber to approve the minutes of the 12/05/07 Regular Council meeting with corrections to change the guardrail cost for Amsterdam Road from \$13,000 to \$30,000. Motion seconded by Mr. Feinauer. Roll call vote taken, Averdick and Wall voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. Averdick, second by Mr. Wall to approve the minutes of the 12/09/07 Special Council meeting. Roll call vote taken, Nienaber and Feinauer voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Presentation to 10,000th Museum Visitor – Mr. Doug Vonderhaar, Ashlawn Place

Mayor Weaver explained that during the Museum Christmas celebration, Mr. Vonderhaar was in attendance and was the 10,000th visitor to visit the Museum since it opened. Mayor Weaver presented Mr. Vonderhaar with a plaque and gift bag. Museum Board Members Kathy Romero and Mary Desalvo addressed Council and stated that there were over 400 visitors for the weekend of December 8th and 9th.

Presentation- Banklick Creek Project – Mr. Scott Fennell, P.E., NKU Center for Applied Ecology.

Mr. Scott Finnell and Mr. Gary Wolnitzek were present to give a presentation regarding providing funding to develop a concept plan in conjunction with the NKU Center for Applied Ecology and their restoration project for this creek in Fort Wright. They would like to get Council approval of the Concept Plan to seek funding for this project through State and Federal agencies. Information is included in the Council packet with a color concept plan. There was a power point presentation and an explanation of the stages that this project will go through to get to the final stages. Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Nienaber to authorize approval to take this project to the next level and present it to the appropriate group. Roll call vote taken, Averdick and Wall voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed. Thanks to all the property owners in this area for their cooperation in getting this started.

Resolution 1-08 – Professional Engineering Services

Mark Brueggemann addressed Council and explained that this contract is renewable every year and explained the fee schedule and advised that it is the same for all cities that use CDS services. Mr. Summe read this Resolution. Motion by Mr. Averdick, second by Mr. Wall to approve. Roll call vote taken, Nienaber and Feinauer voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Kyles and Henry Clay Realignment and Traffic Lights

Mr. Brueggemann reported that the construction drawings are complete and they will advertise the project in the Kenton County Recorder on January 10th, with the bid opening on January 25th. Bids will be brought back to the February Council meeting and awarded and hopefully construction will start in early spring. There will be some utilities and a gas main that will have to be relocated. There is a completion date of September 5th. Both streets will be shut down for three weeks at a time, but not at the same time. We will coordinate with the Transportation Cabinet for the traffic signal. Mayor Weaver asked if we could modify finishing this project before the beginning of the school year.

Mr. Brueggemann advised that there could be replacement of gas mains and water lines on Vidot Court.

Amsterdam Road Update

Mr. Klein advised Amsterdam Road reopened on December 20th with 1000 feet of new guardrail and it was extended up to General Drive. Reflectors and additional signage added in both directions, crack sealing and repaving done and hopefully a safer road to travel. With the additional \$500,000 in funds we will be talking about a long term fix.

Amsterdam Road, Highland Avenue and Old KY 17

These are the three roads that were County roads and are now City streets. This is information for discussion for future meetings.

Road Maintenance Agreement with Kenton County

A copy of the draft proposal for road maintenance agreement with Kenton County was distributed at the last meeting. A letter was sent to the County to clarify the agreement that was distributed and Judge Drees and stated that the existing agreement would not be impacted and would stay in place. We won't know for sure about this new proposal until spring.

First Reading of Ordinance 1-08 – Repealing Sanitary Sewer User Fee

Mr. Summe read this Ordinance. Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Averdick to approve. Roll call vote taken, Nienaber and Wall voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

First Reading of Ordinance 2-08 – Recreational Vehicles

Mr. Summe read this Ordinance. Motion by Mr. Wall, second by Mr. Averdick to approve. Roll call vote taken, Nienaber and Feinauer voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Open Council Position

The evening of January 14th, beginning at 5:30PM, is designated for interviews with prospective applicants. To date we have received 8 resumes and others have expressed an interest also. The deadline will be the close of business on January 10th and then the resumes will be distributed to Council for review. Discussion followed regarding the process for choosing the applicant.

These items were requested by Mr. Hatter to be placed on the agenda for discussion. It was decided to table these items until Mr. Hatter is present at the next meeting.

Additional Monthly City Council Meetings

Vehicles for Sale on City Streets

Rental Property Conversion Program

Kyles Lane and Farrell Drive Improvement

We have received word from Senator Bunning's office that Fort Wright has received funding of \$350,000 to go toward road improvements at Kyles Lane and Farrell Drive intersection. This is sole access to the facilities that are back on Farrell Drive. There are multiple buildings back there that are frequently in need of emergency services. This project that would widen and improve site distance and allow children to walk back this road to school. Representatives have met with Senator Westwood to get this project on the State's 6-year plan.

Donation of Property to City

This is a 6.8 acre parcel of land behind Speedway and Tank Garage. Motion by Mr. Nienaber, second by Mr. Feinauer to authorize Mayor Weaver to sign deeds and paperwork for the transfer of property to the City. Roll call vote taken, Averdick and Wall voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed. If this property is developed for trails or recreation, that it be noted in memory of Joseph and Elizabeth Raterman.

Administrator Report

Fire/EMS Department Homeland Security Grant

We have received another grant for \$13,000 to allow the department to pre-plan and mitigate certain hazardous situations. This will include training for members and all training must be completed before equipment is provided.

Illegal Dumping on Fort Henry Drive

This has been going on for a number of years around Pickett and Fort Henry Drive. We have had complaints that it has been expanding and people are dropping it out of cars. Looking for suggestions from Council, maybe letters to residents, an article in the Top of The Hill Newsletter. A suggestion that we could get permission from the property owners to cite anyone littering or trespassing on their property.

Sourcebook 2020 Update

Monthly emails will be sent from NKAPC to streamline the zoning amendment process.

Code Enforcement Board Meeting on January 10th

The first case is coming up for our City, appealing our Ordinance for keeping inoperable vehicles on the property. This is a resident on Lakeview Drive who has been sent violation notices. The meeting starts at 6PM.

Update on Deer Complaint

A letter was distributed to Council from a resident regarding deer destroying his landscaping. This resident suggested shooting the male deer with a pellet gun and this sterilizes them. There is information from Fort Thomas on this subject. We have had only one complaint regarding this.

Museum Update

The Museum opens on February 1st from their winter break. The Museum Board is working with Thomas More College T.A.P program and developing a proposal and work on marketing strategy. Museum Board retreat is on Saturday.

Tree Lighting and Civil War Christmas Event on December 8/9

Very successful this year with around 400 visitors, Santa and Mrs. Claus, Girl Scouts from St. Agnes, treats given out by Santa compliments of Roger Schroder. Thanks to all who donated and worked at this event.

Holiday Garlands by Dirty Hands Garden Club

Thanks to this organization for making and hanging the Christmas Garlands around the City. It brightens the spirit of the season.

Council Committee Reports

Finance

This committee will be meeting with the auditors and report back to Council. Everyone on Council is welcome to attend the meeting.

Discuss the Park Plan so that the Grant does not expire.

Legal Matters

Ms. Classic Car Wash

Received notice of appeal to be heard at the Board of Adjustment meeting on 1-15-08.

Fort Wright/Park Hills Boundary Alignment

Mr. Summe spoke to the Attorney for Park Hills and would prefer that Park Hills take the lead on this project since they are benefiting from it.

Department Reports

City Clerk Joyce Woods reported that December 31st was the final day for tax payments and all went well. Delinquent bills will go out next week.

Public Works Director Tim Maloney thanked Nick and Jeff for their help in the events at the Museum and the snow removal on Wednesday.

Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe reported that there are four new recruits starting in the Kenton County Fire Fighter Recruit Class. Looking forward to having them on board in the future. Chief Schewe thanked Mayor and Council for the Christmas gift cards that were given to all employees.

Police Chief Dan Kreinest reported that we had 1221 dispatch calls for December. It was a very busy and productive year.

Mayor Weaver wished everyone a very Happy New Year.

Motion by Mr. Nienaber, second by Mr. Feinauer to adjourn the meeting. All members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gene Weaver, Mayor

Attest:

Joyce Woods, City Clerk