

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1/12/05 – 6:00PM

Mayor Gene Weaver opened the Council meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The following members answered roll call, Mr. Adam Feinauer, Mr. Dave Hatter, Mr. Jeff Wolnitzek and Mr. Matt Barker. 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. Joe Nienaber Jr. and Mr. Paul Hiltz were unavailable for this meeting.

There were no citizen comments.

Mayor Weaver advised the next item on the agenda, the introduction of new Public Works employee Christopher Zerhusen would be pushed back to the next meeting, as Mr. Zerhusen was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. Feinauer to approve the minutes of the 12/08/04 Council meeting. Roll call vote taken, Wolnitzek and Barker voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) Update

Mr. Keith Logsdon from Northern Kentucky Area Planning addressed Council and passed out the study on a disc for Council. He explained how this financing would work and how passing a City ordinance might be drafted to accomplish this goal of the KY 17 Plan. Mr. Logsdon and Mr. Klein discussed some of the items that could be purchased with the new revenue from this special City fund. Mr. Klein advised this approach is a partnership or team approach where the Government, the City, the developers and property owners help pay for some improvements we would like to see in this area. Discussion followed. Council agreed that we should move forward with this plan and talk to Edgewood about property boundaries in their City.

Modern Roundabout Seminar

Mr. Klein advised that Mr. Logsdon did a great job advertising this seminar with a full house in the afternoon and about 40 or 50 attending in the evening session. Presenters did a great job and there were many positive comments regarding this presentation as being very informative and interesting.

Resolution 1-05 – Professional Engineering Services Contract- CDS Associates Inc.

Mr. Summe read this Resolution. Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. Barker to approve. Roll call taken, Wolnitzek and Feinauer voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed

Mayor Weaver and Mr. Klein both agreed that City Engineer Mark Brueggemann and CDS do a great job for our City.

Resolution 2-05 – Adopt-A-Military Unit Program

Mr. Summe read this Resolution. Motion by Mr. Feinauer, second by Mr. Wolnitzek to approve. Roll call vote taken, Hatter and Barker voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed. This program was discussed at previous meetings and information was gathered recently. An updated Resolution was passed out prior to tonight's meeting with information regarding which military unit we would be adopting. This information was received from Linda Patterson, who founded this program and contact was made with the Unit Commander. This unit is the 50th Medical Aviation Unit of the 101st Airborne Division of the United States Army out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky. We will advertise this program and work with schools, church and civic organizations.

Administrator Report

Appreciation Party for City Volunteers and Employees

This party has always been the Volunteer Fire Department Party but this year it was decided to have it open to all City Staff, Boards and Volunteers throughout the City. It is a good time to bring everyone together for dinner and a thank you. This year it will be at the Gardens of Park Hills on February 12th.

Park Road Parking

At a previous meeting we had several residents of Park Road address Council regarding the parking situation in and around Park Road. Mr. Klein and Chief Kreinest met the owners of Clear Channel, whose office is at 1671 Park Road and it is mainly their employees who are parking on Park Road. After this meeting we felt the owners were trying to work with the City in supplying a shuttle bus from the former Thriftway parking lot to the office so more employees are parking away from Park Road. We will monitor this situation. All residents on Park Road were sent a letter explaining the attempts made to improve this problem.

Mr. Maloney advised that Riedinger Plumbing has purchased a building and will be completely out of this area by June or July 2005. Mayor Weaver suggested that we photograph the area the way it is now and we will know if this business is expanding.

Lorup Sewer Project Update

There are still six easements that will need to be obtained. Letters were sent to some of the residents making an offer and if there is no response, the City will have to move forward to acquire these easements.

Barbara Circle project did go out for bid last week. Two easements are needed for this project, one has been obtained and an offer was made on the second one. This will be a major project.

Kennedy/Lake Street Improvements

These are the next two streets on the Street Program. Mr. Klein advised he has asked Mark Brueggemann to prepare an opinion of construction cost for the February meeting and possibly fund this in the next budget. Discussion followed.

Utility Companies Restoration Requirements

This subject always seems to be an issue when utility companies come in and decide to cut into the street after the City does improvements. Fort Thomas recently passed a very detailed Ordinance adopting standards and recommendations when the company does come in and whether it is an emergency or a routine repair and how they have to restore the area. This is given to you for review and consideration. Mr. Klein would recommend that the city does adopt something like this Ordinance for the future, so that contractors restore streets, pavements and curbs at least to what they were before. Discussion followed. Mr. Wolnitzek suggested sending this out to NKAPC and have them come up with a model Ordinance for all cities. Mayor Weaver advised we would talk to Dennis Gordon at NKAPC and come back to Council with information.

Monthly Fire/EMS Report – Child Safety Seat Inspections

On the Fire/EMS report there will be a new item listed: Child Safety Seat Inspections. Assistant City Clerk Jennifer Lipson is a certified inspector of child safety seats. We have many requests from residents and people outside of the City for this service. This service is free of charge and a valuable public service.

Police Department Reaccreditation

Chief Kreinest advised the accreditation is coming up on 5 years in May and all policies need to be reviewed and all standards are being followed. The officers have been asked for any suggestions they might have. Minor changes have been made, which is mostly language. Chief Kreinest would like to have this before Council at the next meeting for review. Mayor Weaver suggested that Mr. Klein and Mr. Summe look at the legal and administrative issues and report back to Council.

Waste Collection Contract

Current contract with Rumpke expires 6-30-05. Would like to get Council's thoughts and suggestions on any changes that might be put into a new contract.

Storer Property Park Master Plan Update

The minutes from the last Steering Committee meeting are included in the Council packet for review. This committee has really done a lot of work and should be commended.

Museum Board

The Scripps-Howard Foundation /NKU grant the City received is to make improvements to the house. One of the conditions is to display artifacts, documents and maps on the first floor of the house for public viewing. We would like to staff the house with volunteers the hours that it is open to the public and this Board would coordinate the volunteers. We would advertise in the Top of the Hill News for anyone who might have an interest in serving on this Board.

Annual Budget Retreat – Saturday, April 23, 2005, 8:30AM

This will be held in the Council Chambers. If there is anything that anyone wants on the agenda, please contact Mr. Klein.

Council Committee Reports

Community Affairs

Mr. Feinauer noted that he was very pleased to see all the Thank You notes in the packet from the items distributed to the seniors for Christmas. He stated that he will try and mention on a monthly basis how the donations to the military unit that we have adopted are going.

Computer Technology

There will be a meeting soon to discuss updates for the system. There is a website meeting next week and hopefully will have a report at the next meeting.

Economic Development

Wright's Summit Building will be fully occupied soon.

Legal Matters – Ms. Classic Car Wash

Attorneys are working on getting Mr. Klein and Mr. Maloney released from the lawsuit.

Long Range Plan

Nature Board will be meeting soon.

Mayor Weaver complimented all the City departments for the work done on the big snowfall that we had in December. Everyone pulled together to make it as smooth as possible.

Department Reports

Chief Kreinest reported that there will be firearms training at Erlanger next week, sponsored by KLC. This is available to members of Council if they are interested. Shop With A Cop Program went very well this year; Officer Martin did a great job on this program. They met at South Hills Civic Club, shopped at Wal-Mart and went to Texas Roadhouse for lunch. Thanks to all the businesses that contributed to this very worthy program. Fort Wright was very well represented through the FOP. Many compliments from the Senior Watch Program for the Christmas treats distributed. Year end report distributed. Discussion followed regarding the snow emergency that was called in the City in December.

Fire/EMS Chief Schewe thanked the City on behalf of the employees and Volunteers for the Christmas gifts received from the City. The generator that we received funds for from the Homeland Security Grant has been ordered and it will not be in for 8 to 10 weeks. The City will have to install a concrete pad and decide on placement of the generator. The generator on truck 774 went out and replacement of this part is in excess of

\$3000.00. This had to be fixed and 774 is up and running. No annual report yet, the numbers are just starting to come in from the County. For the year we had just under a 1000 calls, up several hundred calls from last year and there was no failures for the ambulance this past year.

Public Works Director Tim Maloney thanked everyone who helped out in the snow emergency. This was the first snowfall maintaining County roads and this took more time. Total of 295 hours logged, 96 hours at time and one half and 82 tons of salt was used. By Christmas Eve we were down to two trucks, transmission out and plow broke. Nick and Chris did a great job and put in long hours. Working on the Storer house with cleanup and renovation.

City Clerk Joyce Woods reported we had many thank you calls for the Public Works Department during the heavy snow in December. We had a very successful tax season with the first delinquent notices being sent out.

Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. Barker to adjourn the meeting. All members voting in favor, no one opposed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gene Weaver, Mayor

Attest:

Joyce Woods, City Clerk