

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY SPECIAL/CAUCUS MEETING

FEBRUARY 17, 2010 – 6:00PM

Mayor Nienaber called the meeting to order at 6:13PM with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. All members were in attendance. Also present were City Administrator Gary Huff, City Attorney Pete Summe, Police Chief Dan Kreinest, Public Works Director Tim Maloney and City Clerk Joyce Woods.

This Special Legislative Meeting was called to discuss and vote on Resolution 1-10, which would grant an easement for property owned by the City to SD1 to construct the Regional Bioretention Facility Project. This project would reduce the magnitude and volume of storm water runoff on the downstream combined sewer overflow, which is maintained by SD1. This will create wetlands in this area and there were no objections from any residents in this area.

Motion by Mr. Wessels second by Mr. Feinauer to approve. Roll call vote taken, Averdick, McMurtry and Wall voting in favor, Hatter abstained, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Motion by Mr. McMurtry, second by Mr. Feinauer to adjourn the Special Meeting. All members voting in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY REGULAR CAUCUS MEETING

Mayor Nienaber called the meeting to order at 6:18PM. All members in attendance.

Update – Fort Wright Trace

Mayor Nienaber reported that a meeting was held with representatives from Fort Wright Trace Townhomes and Condominiums and City Administrator Gary Huff, City Attorney Pete Summe and City Engineer Mark Brueggemann, regarding the challenges of taking over the streets in this development. They discussed what would have to be done to bring these streets up to standards before the City could take them over for repair and maintenance. The cost could be as high as \$250,000.00 to complete this project. The next step would be to take core samples of the streets and that cost would be approximately \$5000.00 to \$7000.00. If the associations would pay half of this cost, the City would consider paying half, but not commit to this venture by agreeing to have this done. It would depend on the outcome of the reports. We have given the information to the representatives and are waiting to hear back on this proposal.

Future Capital Projects

The Finance Committee met on February 11th and discussed future capital projects. Mr. Huff passed out handouts that he had put together with expected expenditures from 2009-2015 and expected expenditures with a proposed property tax increase from 2009-2015. Mayor Nienaber advised that we are looking for ways to cut expenses and had decided to make two full time administrative positions, Assistant City Clerk and Police Clerk part time positions to take effect April 17, 2010. The City will pay insurance benefits for these positions until the end of the 2010 year. For 2010 this will be a cost savings of \$40,000.00 and more next year with the insurance benefit savings. Services will not be affected with these cuts and also will be looking at other ways to reduce costs in every area of the City.

If a tax increase is decided upon, we need to start this procedure in motion as soon as possible for this to be eligible to take effect this year. Mr. Huff explained the steps that need to be taken in order for this to be on the ballot in November. If this is not done this year, we will have to wait two more years for it to be added to the ballot. Our streets need help and we need to put an investment into our roads and streets. We need to evaluate what is needed and the cost to be able to determine and generate new revenue.

Mr. Wessels suggested that we have the ability to raise taxes without putting it on the ballot and maybe assessments on residents or bond financing to accelerate the program could be the answer. Mayor Nienaber believes residents should have the ability to vote on this issue and have these funds earmarked for only street repair. Mr. Maloney advised that there have been streets added to our inventory. Discussion followed.

The next step in this procedure would be to vote at the next Council Meeting to authorize Mr. Huff to proceed with the process. Mr. Hatter suggested that a Finance Committee meeting be scheduled before the next Council meeting, and maybe have a list of pros and cons that can be discussed regarding this item.

Interlocal Agreement Discussion

Resolution included in packet that if passed by Council would give SD1 the decision that we are in agreement with the Interlocal Agreement signed in 2003 and will stay with that one and decline to sign the current one.

Road Project Earmark Request

Information received from CDS Associates regarding appropriations application received from Congressman Geoff Davis office. There is money earmarked to spread around the district on future projects. The cost to fill out the form is \$500.00 for engineering fees by CDS. Council agreed to proceed with this application.

Public Works Director Tim Maloney passed out a revised drawing for Ms. Classis Car Wash.

Police Chief Dan Kreinest stated that Police Department is going through the Accreditation process.

A Resolution is needed from Council to verify that they are in hazardous duty and it is required that all positions are certified.

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

Respectfully Submitted.

Joe Nienaber Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Joyce Woods, City Clerk