

CITY OF FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY CAUCUS MEETING

MARCH 17, 2010 – 6:00PM

Mayor Nienaber called the meeting to order at 6:00PM with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The following members answered roll call, Mr. Bernie Wessels, Mr. Dave Hatter, Mr. Adam Feinauer, Mr. Scott Wall and Mr. Todd McMurtry. Also present were City Administrator Gary Huff, 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 Averdick was unavailable for this meeting.

In attendance for this meeting were the three representatives from companies that responded to the bidding for a new contract for trash and recycling.

1. Brett Gaspard from Rumpke
2. Tony Thomas from C.S.I.
3. Bruce Wilcox from Bavarian

Mayor Nienaber advised that we would take official action at our regular council meeting on April 7, 2010. Mr. Huff advised that he had included in the packet a summary sheet from each company with pricing and could look at entire bids if needed. Mr. Summe stated that if any changes made after the original bids were received the bidding process would have to start over and all previous bids voided. Some of the comments of Mayor and Council were that they didn't like the 2 day change, 1 for trash and a separate day for recycle pickup. Another comment was that we need to do what is the best for residents and if one company saves them money they should adapt to the change. Mayor Nienaber stated that we need to do what is important to the homeowners.

EMS Service

Mr. Huff advised that after much research we are considering increasing the price of our ambulance service to Kenton Vale and Park Hills. Kenton Vale now pays \$1250.00 a year, and would be increased to \$1500.00 a year, with a two year contract. Park Hills pays us \$28,080.00 with roughly \$67,700.00 collected in billing fees for ambulance service. Mr. Huff suggested raising their fees by 10% this year and another 10% next year. We would then get to a breakeven point after that. Mr. Huff and Fire/EMS Chief Schewe would attend the Park Hills Council meeting on Monday, March 22nd and propose this increase to their Mayor and Council. The goal is to have a contract in place on July 1, 2010 that is fair to all involved.

Cost Cutting Ideas

Included in the packet was a list of ideas for discussion to cut cost for the City or generate new revenue.

Tax Increase

Discussion regarding the proposed road tax increase to collect more funds for street replacements and improvements. If we do nothing only emergency repairs would be made. Mr. Huff suggested that we

need to have this on the agenda for April and move forward to have everything in place by August 10th, which is the deadline for placing this on the ballot.

N.K.A.P.C.

Drop out of the NKAPC and contract with someone to do inspections and permits. This would save tax payers the fee they are paying on their Kenton County property tax bill. Mr. Hatter questioned what is included in services that the tax money paid by our residents.

Battery Hooper Park

Would not make a profit in this economy if property were sold with what is still owed on this property. Mr. Maloney stated that the park and green space are part of the City. Mayor Nienaber stated that a Community Center with a building similar to South Hills Civic Club at the Park would be nice.

Ramage Museum

The Museum Board needs direction to increase their revenue if they want to keep the Museum open. Mr. Huff and Mayor Nienaber will meet with the Museum Board to discuss.

South Hills Civic Club

A Resolution is needed for the April agenda to be able to begin charging for rentals of the South Hills Civic Club.

Mr. Wall requested to add to the agenda the discussion of digital signs. This item was discussed as a possible way to generate extra revenue. Mr. Wall has knowledge of this business and advised how much income we could possibly make from this idea. Mr. Wessels likes the idea of having a monument sign at one of the entrances to the City with advertising on it.

Me. Summe reported on the letter received from Sanitation District No. 1 regarding Resolution 4-10, referring to Interlocal Agreement from 2003 which was sent to them stating that we would stay with that agreement and not sign the new one.

Motion by Mr. Hatter, second by Mr. McMurtry 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