

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Jefferson County Farm Bureau • 4200 Gardiner View Avenue • Louisville, Kentucky 40213

July 12, 2021

Appointment of Chairman of Council — Since Mayor Chesser was not in attendance, Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to appoint Marlene Welsh as Temporary Chairman of the Council for tonight's meeting; seconded by Mr. Johnson. There were no other nominations. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call — Roll was called by the Clerk. Present were Councilmembers Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, and Marlene Welsh; Treasurer Jerry Wild; and Clerk Aggie Keefe. Absent was Mayor Linda Chesser. Also present was Attorney John Treitz.

Pledge of Allegiance — All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Garrett made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2021, legislative meeting as received; seconded by Mr. Bourke. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Wild reported revenues for the month of June 2021 in the amount of \$415 and expenses in the amount of \$30,665, giving a deficit of \$30,250. Mr. Johnson questioned the nearly \$14,000 deficit under Change in Fair Market Value. Mr. Wild explained that this amount is based on how our investments are currently valued and typically fluctuates each month. Had we cashed them in on June 30, we would have lost that amount. We will hold on to them until they mature, at which time they will pay the interest for which they were purchased. Ms. Ewan questioned whether we have received any funds from House Bill 413 dealing with court costs distribution. Mr. Wild said we have not yet received any but that he did submit all the necessary paperwork. Attorney Treitz suggested that Mr. Wild contact the State to find out where they are in the process of distributing the funds from this bill. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the report as presented; seconded by Mr. Fortwengler. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Stober Road and Robards Lane Flooding — Attorney Treitz reported that he and Mayor Chesser spoke with Alex Hinkebein with DFH Heating & Cooling Company on Robards Lane. Mr. Hinkebein said his business has been at that location for 20 years and that there haven't been any flooding issues until the past couple of years. Mr. Hinkebein has called MSD several times about the flooding, but the area continues to flood. He took photos and video of the recent flooding, which he sent to Mayor Chesser. Mayor Chesser forwarded the files to Wesley Sydnor, who is the liaison between cities and MSD. MSD is talking about using some of the American Rescue Funds to take care of drainage problems in the county. Mayor Chesser made sure that Robards Lane and Stober Road are on the list of potential projects. We will continue to work closely with MSD, affected businesses, and the engineering firms.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) — Attorney Treitz reported that Attorney Crosby and Mayor Chesser listened to a conference held by MSD and some of the other cities in Jefferson County regarding using some of these funds to remedy drainage issues. There have been no updates since that meeting.

Attorney Treitz reported that Mayor Chesser received a letter from Colonel Adam Jones with the Buechel Fire Protection District. In that letter, Colonel Jones explained that since they are defined as a Special Purpose Government Entity (SPGE), they were not eligible for any of the funding through the CARES Act or through ARPA. Colonel Jones explained that there are specific provisions included in the Act that permit eligible government entities to transfer funds to an SPGE that performs specific functions in the community. They would appreciate it if Watterson Park would transfer any monies we will not be utilizing to the Buechel Fire Protection District.

House Bill 246 — Attorney Treitz reported that Attorney Crosby has been monitoring this. Mr. Crosby told Mr. Treitz that since the court ruled that cities are not entitled to relief, this has gone to the legislature and is still being litigated. Mr. Treitz explained that cities can have a franchise and award a contract for a particular number of years. This franchise governs other cities within their boundaries. He mentioned that Oldham County, for example, has a franchise that they granted to one waste management company for 20 years. Every city in Oldham County is required to use that same company. If the Louisville Metro tries to impose franchises on other cities in Jefferson County and if we don't want to go along with it, there are some options available to us. We could create our own franchise; or for a certain period of time we can grant an option to the City to renew certain contracts for waste management services. We will continue to monitor the situation.

Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings — Mrs. Welsh said that everyone should have received a copy of the monthly shift postings for July. There are still some open shifts because there aren't enough officers to fill them. Mrs. Welsh clarified that we pay for only the shifts that are covered. Ms. Garrett mentioned that a neighbor called her to report that the benches on the walking path had been vandalized and the door to the little library had been torn off. Mrs. Welsh reported that Mr. Fortwengler repaired the damage to both the door and the roof of the little library. Mrs. Welsh also reported that someone put some type of adhesive in some of the mail boxes at the Gardiner Lane Post Office.

KLC Planning & Zoning Session — Ms. Ewan attended this all-day event. She reported that it covered zoning stages beginning with initial planning through completion as well as people involved in the process. The session also covered variances, appeals, approvals, and flooding. Ms. Ewan thought it was a very information session.

Homeless Camp — Mrs. Welsh reported for Mayor Chesser that the Louisville Metro Office of Resilience and Community Service has been notified about the homeless camp on Poplar Level Road. KYTC indicated they are going to replace a section of the fence and spray the area for vegetation once the camp is cleared. Mayor Chesser has expressed Watterson Park's willingness to keep the area mowed once it is cleared and after we receive a memorandum of understanding from KYTC.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Reports — Mr. Bourke reported for the Property Violations Committee that a resident on Annshire called him to complain about the noise from an exhaust fan at a steel company off Gardiner Lane. Ms. Garrett reported that Mayor Chesser contacted the offending business and they have stopped running the fan at night.

LMPD 6th Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting — Mrs. Welsh reported that the Citizens Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night, July 13, at the Sixth Division Headquarters. Anyone interested in attending was encouraged to do so.

General Updates — Mrs. Welsh reported on the following:

- We renewed our membership with the Jefferson County League of Cities at a cost of \$200. The member dues are based on population.

- Metro Code Enforcement – Mayor Chesser was informed by the Code Enforcement Officer for our area that Louisville Metro has some new rules regarding outside property maintenance. If the grass is 10" tall, the fine is automatically \$100. If they are called a second time for the same property, the fine is \$200. They no longer go through the process of mailing a letter and allowing a specific number of days to correct the problem.
- Mayor Chesser received a call from an employee with Interline Brands, 4829 Jennings Lane. In addition to the drag racing that has been taking place on Jennings Lane, there are quite a few people on motorcycles gathering in the parking lot on weekends and they are trashing the place. They understand the parking lot is private property but want to know what, if anything, can be done. If they put up gates across the entrance, the offenders would probably drive around the gates or go through the ditch. Mayor Chesser passed this complaint along to Major Robinson, who said we have a myriad of issues along Jennings Lane. Major Robinson said he will discuss the issue with the 2nd Platoon Lieutenant to see if they can come up with some innovative ideas to address it.

KLC Annual Convention — Mrs. Welsh reported that the annual convention will be held at Northern Kentucky University Convention Center on September 21–24. The conference will be held both in-person and virtually. Mrs. Welsh asked Council members to let Mayor Chesser know if they are interested in attending.

Louisville Metro ARP Public Comment Sessions — Mr. Johnson reported that Mayor Chesser sent Council members a memo regarding ARP Public Comment Sessions sponsored by Louisville Metro to be held on July 17, July 19, and July 25, each at a different location. These are opportunities for citizens to publicly voice their opinions on how the ARP monies should be spent.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Ewan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0 and meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

All those persons noted as being present at the beginning of this meeting, unless otherwise indicated, remained throughout.

Approved at the meeting of the City Council held on _____.

Linda Chesser, Mayor

Aggie Keefe, Clerk

Minutes taken and transcribed by Aggie Keefe.