

**CITY OF WATTERSON PARK  
LEGISLATIVE MEETING**

Zoom Video Conferencing Legislative Meeting

**June 8, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

**Address from Mayor** — Regarding our meeting: *“The notification process is the same as for a special meeting. Watterson Park is conforming with the new law, and the meeting will be a regular meeting. The process is transparent; the public can see and hear; and any votes will be taken by roll call. We are no longer asking you to mute yourself, but please be mindful of background noise. All Zoom meetings are being recorded and will be kept on permanent file. If you have any technical difficulties, please send a text to my phone, 502.458.7613, and I will let the Clerk know. Please do not call. I hope everyone is healthy and continues to practice social distancing.”*

**Roll Call** — Roll was called by the Clerk. Present via Zoom video conferencing were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilmembers Helen Arnold, Brett Ashley, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson; Treasurer Jerry Wild; Clerk Aggie Keefe; and Attorneys John Treitz and Stephen McCallister.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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Mrs. Arnold made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2020, legislative meeting as received; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Helen Arnold, Brett Ashley, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

**APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT**

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Mr. Wild reported receipts for the month of May 2020 in the amount of \$95,566.16 with expenditures in the amount of \$30,671.29, giving a surplus of \$64,894.87. Mrs. Welsh made a motion to approve the report as presented; seconded by Mr. Johnson. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Brett Ashley, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, Marlene Welsh, Tiffany Woodson, and Helen Arnold. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

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**Budget Ordinance** — Mrs. Arnold gave second reading in full of Ordinance No. 253, Series 2020, adopting the City of Watterson Park annual budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. Attorney Treitz clarified that on page one, the amount of \$63,000 for Total Estimated Current Revenues under Municipal Aid Fund was changed to \$22,000 since the last reading. Mrs. Arnold made a motion to adopt the ordinance; seconded by Mr. Johnson. Ms. Garrett asked for clarification of the amount for Estimated Fund Balance, July 1, 2020, under General Fund. Mrs. Arnold said that amount should be \$6,513,000. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Helen Arnold, Brett Ashley, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

**Sanitation Contract** — Mr. Treitz reported that we recently signed the sanitation contract with Republic Services.

**Newburg Road Sidewalk Project** — There was nothing new to report this month.

**Stober Road Flooding** — There was nothing new to report this month. Mayor Chesser said that we hope to get Joe Exley with MSD to attend a legislative meeting within the next couple of months.

**Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings/Activities Report** — Mayor Chesser reported that she has not yet received the Activities Report, but she emailed the most recent Monthly Shift Postings to all Council members except for Ms. Garrett, to whom she gave a hard copy. After discovering that KLE was using West Buechel and Jeffersonton police, and since our contract with KLE is for LMPD-trained and Deputy Sheriffs only, Mayor Chesser had a discussion with John Aubrey. This same issue had also been discussed in November of 2018. Mayor Chesser confirmed the terms of the contract with Mr. Aubrey. A couple of upcoming shifts might be open and we missed some coverages the last couple of weeks because of the recent protests. There was a break-in at the Armory, and Mayor Chesser spoke with Chief Sherrard at West Buechel, as they were the ones who responded to the call. Chief Sherrard told her that everything at the Armory was okay, but a display case for a business that is located inside was broken into and eight guns were taken. They secured a fingerprint and it was turned over to ATF. Ms. Woodson asked if we have adequate patrol coverage coming up. Mayor Chesser said she feels confident that all shifts will be covered.

**Street Signs** — Mayor Chesser received an estimate from Saf-Ti-Co for the additional signs in the amount of \$6,272.10. Ms. Woodson made a motion to approve this estimate; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Helen Arnold, Brett Ashley, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

**2020 Census** — Mayor Chesser reported that Kentucky's self-response is 64.3%; the national self-response is 60.7%; and Watterson Park's self-response is 56.7%. Ms. Woodson reported that her friend who works at the Census Bureau has been out of the office, so she hasn't had a chance to speak with her about possible promo products to encourage participation in the Census. Mr. Wild asked if we know what the percentage of Watterson Park participation was for the last census. Mayor Chesser will see if she can secure that information.

**COVID-19 Update** — Mayor Chesser reported that there have been a number of conference calls with Governor Beshear and Mayor Fischer regarding COVID-19. Home Rule City Mayors were invited to participate in the calls. She is checking into purchasing some PPE (masks, hand sanitizer, and gloves) for when we are able to resume holding our meetings at the Farm Bureau. She spoke with Barbara Mays at the Farm Bureau, who told her they are following the sanitizing guidelines.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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**Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Funds** — Attorney Treitz reported that the process under this new federal legislation permits the cities in Kentucky to request all or a portion of the allocation that has been assigned to each city. In our case, that amount is \$74,000. This is money that has to be applied for and has to relate to items that are specific to the COVID problem. We don't have many of those items. There have been attorney fees for Zoom meetings and doing research related to emergency capabilities, state of emergency power that was issued by our mayor, and several research projects that our attorneys did to prepare for the COVID questions. They will spend time also in making an application if we choose to do so. Any money not used by October 1 will be given to the state of Kentucky. Mayor Chesser mentioned that she and Attorney Treitz will participate in some future CARES meetings. Some cities believe that they can recover some of the cost for off-duty police. Mrs. Keefe suggested that the cost of the Zoom subscription could qualify for reimbursement.

**Protests** — Mayor Chesser reported that Mayor Fischer had a conference call on June 2 with the Home Rule City Mayors regarding the protests. Most of that information is shared on the news. Mayor Chesser sent out information to Council members today regarding Mayor Fischer's launching of a steering committee leadership team to Build Back Better Together. If anyone wants to sign up for one of the task forces, please do so.

Mr. Treitz said the Kentucky League of Cities mentioned to him that before the protests started, the LMPD and the Sheriff's Office had advised all of the small cities that have police forces that they were going to rely on those police departments to essentially be responsible for criminal activity for public safety in the areas outside of where the protests were taking place, as Louisville Metro started concentrating their personnel downtown. This could be why West Buechel responded to the Armory break-in.

**Financial Disclosure Statements** — Mr. Treitz reported that under our ethics ordinance, he will be sending out to every candidate for office in Watterson Park a Financial Disclosure Statement that each candidate will need to fill out and return. This statement elicits information that could show some type of conflict so that conflicts would be transparent and affected people would not participate. These have traditionally been kept in the lock box at the law firm. There are guidelines as to how long these documents are kept before being destroyed.

**Audit Letter of Engagement** — The Letter of Engagement from McIntyre & Wooldridge, PSC, for the City audit for the year ending June 30, 2020, was received and Mayor Chesser emailed a copy to the Council, with a hard copy given to Ms. Garrett. The fee went up \$300 this year. The letter has been reviewed by Attorney Treitz, Mr. Wild, and Mrs. Chesser. Mr. Treitz said that Mr. McIntyre seems to be very thorough and his clients are expected to sign an engagement letter prior to each audit. If Council is in agreement to retain McIntyre & Wooldridge, we will need a motion and vote. Mrs. Welsh made a motion to sign the Letter of Engagement with McIntyre & Wooldridge to perform our audit for year ending June 30, 2020; seconded by Ms. Garrett. Ms. Woodson said the letter she received is dated May 29, 2019. Attorney Treitz clarified that the letter to which Ms. Woodson is referring was a copy of a letter from the Peer Review Alliance Committee indicating that Mr. McIntyre's firm had passed the peer review rating. His actual letter of engagement was dated May 7, 2020. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Helen Arnold, Brett Ashley, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

**Labeling Trees on Walking Path** — Mayor Chesser sent a picture of the sample brick to the Council. The next step is for Cindi Sullivan to place the order. Bricks will be shipped to Mayor Chesser's home, and Ms. Sullivan has asked if we can enlist County Wide Lawn & Landscaping to help with delivery and placement of the bricks. We will be placing a total of 38 bricks.

**County Wide Lawn & Landscaping** — Mayor Chesser received an estimate in the amount of \$385 from County Wide for flowers, planting, and fertilizing flowers. Ms. Garrett made a motion to approve the estimate; seconded by Mrs. Arnold. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Helen Arnold, Brett Ashley, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Mayor Chesser also received an estimate from County Wide for watering newly planted trees and flowers twice weekly or as needed at \$175 per service, up to a total of \$6,125. Mrs. Arnold made a motion to approve the estimate; seconded by Ms. Woodson. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Helen Arnold, Brett Ashley, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

**Lillian Wild Walking Path Entry** — Ms. Woodson would like to install an entry walkway from the parking lot to the walking path so that users are not walking through the grass. She would also like to erect a sign to identify the length of the path. Mayor Chesser reported that she had mentioned this to Brandon Vincent at County Wide. Mr. Vincent said that pavers would eventually become uneven, so he suggested going with an asphalt or concrete walkway. Mayor Chesser will contact Mr. Vincent to get an estimate. Mayor Chesser said that the length of 1/6 mile is on the fence at the walking path, so there may not be a need to install an additional sign giving the length. Ms. Garrett suggested that since the current path is asphalt, an asphalt entry walkway would tie in and look best. Mr. Wild will look back through our records to see who paved the walking path previously, and perhaps we can get a quote from them as well.

**Newsletter** — Mrs. Keefe emailed everyone a draft newsletter. Once she receives the letter from Mayor Chesser, she will send the files to United Mail for processing and mailing out first-class mail. We might have to put a rush on it to make sure we get it out to the residents before the new sanitation service with Republic Services begins. If anyone has any questions or revisions, please let Mrs. Keefe know. Mrs. Keefe clarified that dates for sanitation, recyclable, and yard waste are included in the newsletter.

**LMPD 6th Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting** — Mayor Chesser reported that the June meeting has been canceled due to the COVID-19 virus. It might be August before they start meeting again.

**Guard Rail on Stober Road** — Ms. Woodson asked what happened to the guard rail on Stober Road where we had it cleaned out. Mayor Chesser said it will be part of the paving projects this year. She will be meeting with Brandon Jones with BTM to talk about paving for Hodel, Stober, and Colonel Sanders, at which time they will address the guardrail.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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Ms. Woodson made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting aye were Helen Arnold, Brett Ashley, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0 and meeting adjourned at 8:03 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 \_\_\_\_\_.

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Linda Chesser, Mayor

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Aggie Keefe, Clerk

Minutes taken and transcribed by Aggie Keefe.