

# CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

## LEGISLATIVE MEETING

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

February 12, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Roll Call** — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilmembers Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan; and Treasurer Jean Hall. Also present was Attorney John Treitz; Brian Cobb with Cobb & Associates; Deputy Sheriff Rob Skaggs; and several visitors. Councilman Steve Fortwengler, Councilwoman Marlene Welsh, and Clerk Aggie Keefe were absent. Treasurer Jean Hall agreed to serve as Acting Clerk for this meeting.

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

### NEW BUSINESS

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**Audit Report** — Brian Cobb from Cobb & Associates was present to present and go over the City audit for the period ending June 30, 2023. He first thanked Mrs. Hall and Mayor Chesser for working with him on this Audit. Everyone was given a copy of the full audit report. Mr. Cobb went over the entire Independent Auditor's Report, highlighting and explaining each section. Cobb & Associates issued a clean opinion, noting that the financial statements present fairly the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the City. They included a Management's Discussion and Analysis, which is a new, optional report that summarizes the financial statements and gives financial comparisons. At the end of the Auditor's Report was the Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control, where it was noted that they did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that they consider to be material weaknesses.

Attorney Treitz pointed out that this Audit is the basis upon which the City makes decisions about what it can and cannot do. It lays out the City's sources of income. Mrs. Hall mentioned that the financial statements she prepares and presents for Council's approval are on a monthly basis, whereas the Audit is performed on an annual basis to review the work that we do to ensure we are in compliance.

Mr. Cobb left the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

**Visitors Attending Meeting** — Visitors present at the meeting introduced themselves. Present were Ed Parrish (business owner in Watterson Park); Keith Gilcreast and his son Connor Gilcreast (Boy Scout – working toward Eagle Scout rank); and Jason Douglas and his son Isaiah Douglas (Boy Scout – working toward Eagle Scout rank).

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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Mr. Bourke made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2024, legislative meeting as received; seconded by Ms. Garrett. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.

### NEW BUSINESS

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**Audit Report Approval** — Ms. Ewan made a motion to approve the Audit Report as presented by Mr. Cobb; 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, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.

### APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

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Mrs. Hall reported revenues for the month of January in the amount of \$121,717 and expenses in the amount \$67,112. She noted that there was an accrual under Legal and Professional, as legal fees were estimated; when the actuals come in she'll balance it. Mrs. Hall reported a net income of \$54,605. Ms. Ewan made a motion to approve the report as presented; seconded by Ms. Garrett. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.

## OLD BUSINESS

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**1391 Gardiner Lane Property** — Mr. Treitz reported that in about a month we should be finalizing our responsibilities with regard to the property on Gardiner Lane.

**Stober Road Flooding**— Attorney Treitz reported that he sent another e-mail to Joe Exely at MSD since he didn't respond to Mr. Treitz's previous e-mail. He received a response from Mr. Exely, but it was not a very favorable one. Mr. Exely said that MSD and their engineers were coming up with a solution to simply safeguard each of the buildings. Mr. Treitz doesn't feel that doing so would be a solution to the problem. Mr. Treitz responded to Mr. Exely that if we correctly interpreted his e-mail, we insist on a meeting ASAP with Council members, business owners, and any other affected properties to discuss this solution with MSD. He hasn't received a response. Discussion ensued, with Council agreeing that this is the correct course of action.

**REACH Alert System** — Mayor Chesser reported that Mrs. Keefe put sign-up information for this service on our website and also included it in our latest newsletter, which was mailed out by United Direct Solutions (formerly United Mail) today.

**Code Enforcement** — Everyone should have received a copy of the Field Report for January.

**Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings** — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for February. Mayor Chesser noted that every shift has been filled. Mayor Chesser mentioned that the recent Crime Mapping Report shows no crime activity reported in Watterson Park.

**Newburg Road Sidewalk** — Mayor Chesser received an email from Steve Kurowsky, which stated that he received an e-mail from KYTC authorizing Metro to put the sidewalk construction project out to bid.

**Watterson Park Trees** — No update.

**Robards Lane** — No update.

**Ethics Board** — No update.

**Welcome Baskets** — Mayor Chesser reported that we have new residents on Annshire Avenue, Newburg Road, Larkmoor Lane, and Conaem. She will be delivering welcome baskets to these residents within the next few weeks.

## NEW BUSINESS

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**County Wide Bids** — County Wide Lawn & Landscaping submitted the following bids for the 2024 season:

- *Bid not to exceed \$13,396 for mowing specified properties in the City.* Mr. Bourke made a motion to approve the bid; 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, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.
- *Bid in the amount of \$2,178 for lawn turf applications.* Ms. Ewan made a motion to approve the bid; seconded by Ms. Garrett. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.
- *Bid in the amount of \$20,576.50 for mulching trees, trimming trees, spraying curbs and landscaped areas, etc.* Mr. Bourke made a motion to approve the bid; 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, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.
- *Bid in the amount of \$6,300 for watering new trees and flowers from June through September.* Ms. Ewan made a motion to approve the bid; seconded by Ms. Garrett. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.
- *Bid in the amount of \$600 to clean up an abandoned homeless encampment.* Mayor Chesser was informed about a homeless encampment behind Work-A-Haulix. It has been vacated, but rubbish was left behind. This bid from County Wide Lawn & Landscaping is to clean up the rubbish and haul it to the dump. Ms. Ewan made a motion to approve the

bid; seconded by Mr. O'Bryan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.

**Committee Reports** — At Mayor Chesser's request, Mr. O'Bryan agreed to serve on the Health & Safety Committee and monitor street lights throughout the City. She will ask Steve Fortwengler to be responsible for driving our streets to stay abreast of any needed repairs.

**LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting** — Mr. Bourke continues to attend these meetings. He is very impressed with Major Mindy Vance's community engagement. She is meeting with businesses and involving the community. She is also restarting the Meet Your Beat Cop events.

**Mayor Greenberg's Quarterly Zoom Meeting With City Mayors** — Mayor Chesser participated in the January 29 meeting and gave a quick report about what was discussed.

**List of Roadways in Watterson Park** — Council members were provided a copy of the list of roadways within Watterson Park's geographical boundaries, listing those streets for which we are responsible and those for which either the State or Louisville Metro is responsible.

**Meeting of Businesses To Address Crime** — Mayor Chesser reported that Ed Parrish was instrumental in getting together the February 1 meeting of business owners with Major Mindy Vance, Councilman Pat Mulvihill, Mayor Linda Chesser, and District Resource Police Officer Amber Ross to discuss crime in the area. There were more than 70 businesses represented at this meeting. She gave Council members a copy of the flier that Mr. Parrish and others delivered to businesses urging them to attend this meeting. Mr. Parrish talked about some of the crimes that businesses are being faced with and measures that he himself has taken. He said he would appreciate any assistance Watterson Park can provide. Mr. Parrish said they are trying to put together an e-mail list of everyone who attended the meeting. Once it is compiled, he will forward it to Mayor Chesser. Mayor Chesser asked Mr. Parrish to keep the Council informed.

**Excavation at Speedway off Newburg Road** — Mr. Bourke mentioned that there is some large equipment behind the Speedway off Newburg Road and huge holes have been dug. We are not aware of the reason for this excavation.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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Mr. Bourke made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Garrett. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0 and meeting adjourned at 9:07 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 by Jean Hall and transcribed by Aggie Keefe from notes and audio recording.