

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

LEGISLATIVE MEETING

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

January 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilmembers Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Marlene Welsh; and Treasurer Jean Hall. Also present were Attorneys John Treitz and Duncan Crosby; residents Todd O'Bryan and Henry Burgin; and Deputy Sheriff Rob Skaggs. Clerk Aggie Keefe was absent. Treasurer Jean Hall agreed to serve as Acting Clerk for this meeting.

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

Filling Council Vacancy — Both Todd O'Bryan and Henry Burgin are interested in filling the Council seat vacated by Phil Johnson. The Mayor, members of the Council, the City Treasurer, and City Attorneys introduced themselves to both residents.

Todd O'Bryan addressed Council, stating that he has been a resident of Watterson Park for 20 years. The house he lives in has been in his family for three generations. He is self-employed.

Henry Burgin stated that he has been retired from Aegon since 2013 and has worked part-time in Guest Services at Churchill Downs for the past 19 years. He has lived in Watterson Park for 20 years.

Mr. O'Bryan and Mr. Burgin were given the option to stay but chose to leave the meeting while Council decided on Mr. Johnson's replacement. After discussion, there was a roll-call vote with all Council members voting for Todd O'Bryan. Both candidates returned to the meeting, and Mayor Chesser informed them that Mr. O'Bryan had been selected. She thanked them both for their interest in serving on the Council, after which Mr. Burgin left the meeting. Mayor Chesser swore in Mr. O'Bryan and he joined the Council to participate in the meeting.

Mayor Chesser swore in Jean Hall as Treasurer of Watterson Park.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2023, 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, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Hall reported revenues for the month ending December 31, 2023, in the amount of \$98,049 and expenses in the amount \$47,648. She clarified that the amount under Legal and Professional was estimated, as she hasn't received the invoice. This left a net income of \$50,401. Mrs. Welsh 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, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Ewan made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the real property acquisition; 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, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0, and Council went into Executive Session at 7:39 p.m. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to come out of Executive Session; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. 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, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0, and Council came out of Executive Session at 7:59 p.m. No action was taken by the Council during Executive Session.

OLD BUSINESS

Stober Road Flooding— Mr. Treitz reported that he sent letters to Joe Exely at MSD but he hasn't received a response.

Robards Lane — There were no updates.

Ethics Board — There were no updates.

Attorney Treitz left the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

REACH Alert — Ms. Ewan reported that she should be receiving some pamphlets to include in Welcome Baskets. Mayor Chesser reported that she gave Mrs. Keefe a first draft of a letter to residents and businesses regarding this service. Once Mrs. Keefe receives a final draft, she will include it in our newsletter and on our website.

Code Enforcement — Everyone should have received a copy of the Field Report for December. Mr. Fortwengler mentioned that there are cars parking in yards at two residences on Larkmoor Lane. Mayor Chesser will report this to Mr. Stewart.

Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for January.

Audit — Mrs. Hall reported that she received a draft report of the audit. It will be reviewed in detail prior to meeting with Mr. Cobb. The audit should be ready for Mr. Cobb to present to the Council at the February meeting.

Newburg Road Sidewalk — There is no update at this time.

Saf-Ti-Co Estimate – Sign for Walking Path — Mayor Chesser reported that she spoke with Andrew Freibert with Saf-Ti-Co regarding the \$300 charge for installation of one post. He said they have the same mobilization and demobilization costs whether they install one post or multiple posts, taking into account load and unload time, drive time to and from, etc. Once they are on-site, there is not much additional work to install a second post. Mayor Chesser also verified with Saf-Ti-Co that the sign will be reflective. The total cost for the sign, post, and installation is \$580.90. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the expenditure for the sign; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. 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, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Council discussed where the sign should be located, with most agreeing that it should be near the bench.

Resurrection Lutheran Meet Your Neighbor Night — Mrs. Welsh has not heard from Mr. Oleker. She'll contact him in the spring to see if he wants to try to schedule for this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Reports — There were no reports.

LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting — Mr. Bourke attended the latest meeting, at which Major Vance reported that overall crime is down 10% from 2022 to 2023, even though vehicle thefts are up. The Sixth Division is giving away steering wheel locks for Hyundais and Kias. Mr. Bourke reported that they voted for Ryan Strong as Officer of the Month. The Sixth Division thanked Watterson Park for our donation to Shop with a Cop. Mr. Bourke praised Major Vance for her community outreach involvement.

Tree City USA — Mayor Chesser received notice from Mr. Crosby that our application was approved again this year. This is our twenty-first year as a Tree City USA.

Charter Rate Increase — We received notification from Charter Communications that there will be a rate increase due to rising costs effective around January 30.

OLD BUSINESS

Watterson Park Trees — Regarding the tree funds in the amount of \$15,750 that are being housed at Metro Parks Urban Forestry, Mayor Chesser reported that she advised Mesude Ozyurekoglu, the Assistant Director of Urban Forestry and Operations, that the Watterson Park Council wants to wait until spring to decide on planting locations. If we don't make a final decision in the spring, they may delay planting the trees until next fall.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to adjourn; 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, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0 and meeting adjourned at 8:43 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 by Jean Hall and transcribed by Aggie Keefe from notes and audio recording.