

# CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

## LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Zoom Online Meeting  
Facilitated by Clerk Aggie Keefe

**March 14, 2022**

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

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

**Address from the 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 not 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 Aggie.”

**Pledge of Allegiance** — The Clerk displayed a picture of the American flag on screen, and all present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2022, meeting as received; 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, Phil Johnson, and Marlene Welsh. 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 negative revenues in the amount of -\$2,056 for the month of February 2022 and expenses in the amount of \$52,992, resulting in a deficit of \$55,047. Mr. Wild clarified that the amount he reported under Change in Fair Market Value should have been \$66,726. He noted that there were two invoices for snow removal under Public Works. Ms. Garrett made a motion to approve the report as presented; 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.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

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**Lawn and Tree Maintenance Contracts** — Brandon Vincent was present to answer any questions we might have regarding the contracts submitted by County Wide Lawn Landscaping for the upcoming season.

- County Wide submitted a bid in the amount of \$11,646 for 35 mows at \$330 per mow, with a commercial fuel surcharge of \$12 per month. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the bid; 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, Phil Johnson, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

- County Wide submitted a bid in the amount of \$2,178 for 6 turf applications and 2 fertilizer applications. Mrs. Welsh made a motion to approve the bid; seconded by Mr. Johnson. 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.

- County Wide submitted a bid in the amount of \$6,300 for the watering of newly planted trees and flowers twice weekly or as needed at \$180 per service. Mr. Bourke made a motion to approve the bid; 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.

• County Wide submitted a bid in the amount of \$20,576.50 for mulching 229 trees, trimming trees and shrubs, 5 spraying treatments of landscape beds around trees, maintenance of curbs, and Stober Road guardrail spraying and trimming. Mr. Johnson 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, Steve Fortwengler, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Mr. Vincent left the meeting.

**Mayoral Candidate** — Shamika Parish-Wright, Mayoral candidate for Louisville, thanked the Council for allowing her to speak this evening. She told us about her history, her qualifications, and what she hopes to accomplish for Louisville Metro if she is elected mayor. She also answered several questions. Ms. Parish-Wright left the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

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**American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** — Mr. Crosby reported that the current expectation is that the next round of funds should be coming sometime in July. He spoke with Jennifer Wilson at KIPDA earlier today and discussed some ARPA issues. Based on that conversation, Mr. Crosby would like to ask for three ARPA-related motions tonight.

Mr. Bourke made a motion to grant authority to the Mayor or designees to elect a standard allowance of revenue loss up to the full amount of all ARPA funds, allowing such funds to be used to provide government services; seconded by Mr. Fortwengler. Ms. Garrett asked if we decided we don't have that much of a loss, do we give that money back or do we just not ask for it. Mr. Crosby said we don't have to demonstrate revenue loss to claim this deduction. This will allow us to have a broader ability to use the funds for more purposes than we would otherwise. 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.

Mrs. Welsh made a motion to grant authority to the Mayor or designees the authority to pay KIPDA fees, ARPA-related attorneys' fees, and any other ARPA administrative expenses out of the City's ARPA funds; 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, Phil Johnson, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to grant authority to the Mayor or designees the authority to complete, execute, and file all necessary ARPA-related compliance documents and reports; seconded by Mr. Fortwengler. Mayor Chesser asked if this means she would be completing and executing all documents; Mr. Crosby clarified that it would be only to the extent that it would be absolutely necessary for her to do so. 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.

**Stober Road Flooding/BTM Study** — Mr. Treitz reported that Craig Mount informed him that BTM has finally started the process of reviewing all of the drainage plans, pulling the maps, and putting together an engineering analysis of what has happened during the last several years to cause the apparent increase in water that is causing the flooding. Mr. Treitz was surprised to learn that some of the drainage that we carry in that ditch comes from across the interstate north of us.

**Newburg Road Sidewalk** — There is nothing new to report at this time.

**KYTC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Poplar Level Road** — Mr. Crosby reported that he received confirmation from KYTC that we have the correct form to fill out for the MOU. He will be working on it and it should be submitted prior to the April meeting.

**Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings** — Mayor Chesser reported that everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for March. She noticed that all of the shifts are filling up and attributes it in part to the fact that we increased the hourly pay for the patrolling officers.

**1234 Gardiner Lane: Potential New Tenant** — Mayor Chesser reported that she, Attorney Treitz, and Ms. Ewan attended a Zoom meeting on March 8 with Rob Kurlender (Managing Principal for Perceptive Capital), Fred Van Noord (VP of Operations for Perceptive Capital), and Keith Starling (CBRE Property Management) to discuss the potential new tenant for 1234 Gardiner Lane. Mr. Treitz reported that the owners of the property pointed out that they were being proactive in reaching out to us because of the possibility that the nature of the venture could affect the nearby neighborhood. Mr. Treitz asked them to give us the location of the business that is currently operating in Louisville so we and our engineers can visit it to test for noise and any other possible concerns. BTM will recommend a couple of businesses that conduct this type of test. We haven't received the business location and we haven't been successful in locating it ourselves. Mr. Bourke believes the current location of the business is in Jeffersontown. He'll check into it and forward the information to Mr. Treitz.

**Good Citizen Recognition** — Mrs. Keefe will cover this in our upcoming spring newsletter. Mr. Treitz will check to see if we can give some type of award in addition to the recognition.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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**Sanitation Specs** — Council members were provided a draft of sanitation specs that included the option of providing dumpsters instead of carts for the mobile home park. Ms. Ewan checked with several mobile home parks and found that they provide carts instead of dumpsters. We will include an option of carts for the mobile home park in the specs. Mr. Treitz will review the specs and Mrs. Keefe will mail them to sanitation companies.

### **Committee Reports —**

- Mr. Fortwengler repaired the door of the little library at the walking path.
- Mrs. Welsh reported that there has been a lot of unusual activity at a home on Larkmoor Lane. Several vehicles are parked in the driveway and in front of the home at any given time, with people staying only 20 minutes or so and then leaving, speeding up the street, and making loud noise with their vehicles. This goes on for several hours each evening and has been occurring for about a week and a half. Mayor Chesser notified John Aubrey so that our off-duty officers are aware. Mrs. Welsh will continue to monitor the situation.
- Mrs. Welsh mentioned that the spring Brightside cleanup is April 13 this year and wondered if Watterson Park wants to participate. All agreed that since County Wide keeps our City so clean, we don't need to do a cleanup this spring.
- Mayor Chesser reminded Mrs. Welsh that we need to plan an Arbor Day celebration.

**LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting** — Mr. Bourke reported that at the March meeting, it was reported that the Sixth Division received more awards than any other division at the LMPD annual awards ceremony. The ShotSpotter system is being installed by LG&E in the Newburg neighborhood. License plate readers are being set up at interstate exits. They have 6 new officers, for a total of 54. Major Robinson is concerned that they might lose some officers to retirement. They arrested 2 suspects in the recent "double tappers" robberies. So far this year: 5 of 8 shootings have been solved; there have been 4 homicides; they have confiscated 41 guns, made 332 arrests, and issued 174 traffic citations. They are working on a report that AK47 shots were fired in the mobile home park property. The Red Roof Inn off Bishops Lane was mentioned when they were talking about the new ban on hourly hotel rentals. Ms. Garrett asked if there was any discussion regarding the new Diversion Program, where social workers will be called along with police for calls relating to issues that don't require the police. Mr. Bourke said it was not mentioned at the Board meeting.

**Election Year** — Mayor Chesser reminded everyone that this is an election year for our Mayor and Council. The filing deadline is June 7, and the filing fee is \$50.

### **General Updates Provided by the Mayor —**

- Mayor Chesser reported new property sales at 4307 Annshire Avenue and 1701 Larkmoor Lane. Ms. Ewan said that the property at 4252 Regina Avenue has been sold. Mayor Chesser mentioned that we need to order and deliver welcome baskets.
- Property in Watterson Park will be assessed in 2022. Mrs. Keefe will include information on this in the spring newsletter.

- The Sullivan University campus on Atkinson Square Drive was purchased by the Jefferson County Board of Education on October 20, 2021, for \$3,500,000. Sullivan will retain the Technology building. Sullivan University paid Watterson Park property taxes in the amount of \$3,239 in 2021. JCPS is tax exempt, so this is tax revenue we will lose.
- Mayor Chesser participated in the Board of Zoning Adjustment hearing on February 21 regarding the Advanced Sports Training Center (AST) at 1200 Hodel Road. The purpose of the hearing was to review the Modified Conditional Use Permit for an addition to the athletic facility in an M-3 Industrial zoning district and associated landscape waivers. Mayor Chesser told the Board that the Watterson Park Council was aware of the renovation project and that we are okay with it and the landscape waiver. Mayor Chesser noticed that the building has been tagged with graffiti several times, so she asked John Aubrey to add this property to the list of places to watch.
- New Business in Watterson Park — Biomedical Equipment Services Company (BMES), a medical equipment repair company, is located at 3405 Robards Court. The property sold for \$1,100,000 in July 2021.

**Let's Ask Geoff —**

- Geoff reported that the out-lot on what was formerly the Kmart property on Poplar Level Road is going to be a Burger King, but that project is now on hold.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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Mr. Johnson made a motion to adjourn; 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 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 \_\_\_\_\_.

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Linda Chesser, Mayor

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Aggie Keefe, Clerk

Minutes taken and transcribed by Aggie Keefe from notes and Zoom recording.