

**CITY OF WATTERSON PARK  
LEGISLATIVE MEETING**

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

**September 10, 2018**

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

**Roll Call** — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilpeople Helen Arnold, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson; Treasurer Jerry Wild; Clerk Aggie Keefe; and Attorney Stephen Sherman. Absent was Councilman Phil Johnson.

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

### **ONGOING BUSINESS**

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**Off-Duty Police Officers** — Mayor Chesser distributed copies of the Monthly Shift Postings for August 2018 and the Small City Activity Sheet submitted by Kentuckiana Law Enforcement (KLE). Deputy Sheriff Chet Gentry from KLE was present to address any concerns and answer any questions we might have. He reported that there has been some drag racing on Jennings Lane, which they have monitored. Mayor Chesser mentioned that there were some vehicle break-ins at the rear parking lot of the Candlewood Inn and Suites, which she reported to KLE. Deputy Sheriff Gentry left the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Brett Ashley, a resident, was present. He introduced himself and said he is running for Watterson Park Councilman in the upcoming November election. He is a political science major at Bellarmine University.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

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**Revised Budget** — Attorney Sherman explained that we are amending the budget because we understated the amount under the Municipal Aid Fund. Mrs. Welsh read by title only Ordinance No. 244, Series 2018, amending Ordinance 237, Series 2017, relating to the adoption of the annual budget for fiscal year July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018. Mrs. Welsh made a motion to adopt the ordinance; seconded by Mr. Fortwengler. All present voted yes (5-0).

### **NEW BUSINESS**

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**Tax Ordinances** — Attorney Sherman asked Council if they wanted to continue to have the taxes due for real property on November 1 as we have in the past, or if we wanted to move it to December. Ms. Garrett asked Mr. Wild which he prefers. Mr. Wild prefers to have taxes due in November, and Council agreed.

Attorney Sherman explained the process whereby the tax rate is decided. He reported that with the new tax rate of 8.2¢ per \$100 per assessed valuation, we will not be taking in any additional revenues from this tax, as we don't have any new property on the rolls this year. Mrs. Welsh gave first reading in full to an ordinance providing for the assessment of all real property and for the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes thereon at a rate of 8.2¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation for fiscal year July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019.

Mrs. Arnold gave first reading in full to an ordinance providing for the assessment of all tangible personal property and for the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes thereon at a rate of 6.5¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation for fiscal year July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019.

Ms. Garrett gave first reading in full to an ordinance levying an ad valorem property tax on all motor vehicles and watercraft at a rate of 7.5¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation for the year 2019.

We will need to hold a special meeting to give second reading to the above tax ordinances. Council decided on 6 p.m. on Monday, September 17, at the Mayor's residence. Our attorneys will take care of mailing out the notices and also publishing the notice in Business First.

**Delinquent Taxes** – Mr. Wild asked Attorney Sherman what we can legally do to collect delinquent taxes. We currently have 25 to 30 unpaid taxes, some dating back several years. Mr. Sherman explained that we can sell them to a third party collection agency, we can adopt an ordinance detailing how we will handle delinquent taxes, or we can file liens and let them sit on the property. We need to talk with the Attorney General and get his opinion on selling the liens. Mr. Sherman suggested that we get our attorneys to write the letter to the AG. Mayor Chesser suggested that Mr. Sherman, Mr. Wild, and Mr. Treitz hold a conference call to discuss our options. Mr. Sherman will first talk with John Treitz to get his take on the matter.

Mr. Sherman left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

## **MINUTES**

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Mrs. Arnold made a motion to amend the minutes of the August 13 minutes on page 3, under Jefferson County Cable Commission, line four, deleting the phrase "less the 15% membership dues to belong to the Commission." Ms. Garrett seconded the motion. All present voted yes (5-0). Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. All present voted yes (5-0).

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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Mr. Wild reported receipts for the month of August 2018 in the amount of \$87,897.07 with expenditures in the amount of \$26,916.52, giving a surplus of \$60,980.55. Mrs. Welsh made a motion to approve the report; seconded by Mrs. Arnold. All present voted yes (5-0).

## **OLD BUSINESS**

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**Liquor License Application** – Mayor Chesser reported that she spoke with Trina Summers, ABC Distilled Spirits Administration Office, regarding the status of the liquor license requested by Samual, Inc. DBA Metro Liquor. Ms. Summers said if the request was denied at the local level, the potential buyer can appeal to the Board and the State can overrule. However, she said there was a lot of opposition in the file regarding this request. There are no new developments at this time.

**4310 Bishop Lane Development Plan** – Mrs. Arnold reported that the scheduled meeting was cancelled and there is nothing to report at this time.

**Labeling Trees** – Mayor Chesser reported that she is scheduled to meet with Cindi Sullivan on September 12. Mayor Chesser will provide some background information on how Watterson Park became a Tree City USA and will share the original tree plans with Mrs. Sullivan. At the present time, we would like to do some plantings in front of the fence at the end of Larkmoor Lane and on the backside of the Lillian Wild Walking Path. We will also consult with Mrs. Sullivan regarding labeling some of the trees. Mrs. Sullivan handles the ordering and planting of trees. We will discuss her fees, which will be shared with the Council prior to proceeding. Mrs. Arnold has agreed to assist with this project. Ms. Woodson suggested that we plant some trees along the Van Hoose property where the ash trees were removed, which we will check into. Mayor Chesser wants to ensure that residents and businesses want trees before we plant any in front of their properties.

**Newburg Road Sidewalk** – Mayor Chesser reported that she received an email from Chris Thieneman stating that he had high hopes for Senator Seum’s help with this project. However, the Senator recommended that Mr. Thieneman contact Senator Denise Harper Angel, who represents the district in which the property lies.

**Boundary Signs** — Mayor Chesser reported that we should have these signs installed soon.

**Kentucky Open Records and Open Meetings Documents** – Mayor Chesser reported that all documents have been distributed to the Council, Clerk, and Treasurer and that she signed and returned the Certificate of Distribution to the Attorney General’s office.

**KYTC Update on Permissive Left Turn Signals and I-264 Eastbound Exit Ramp at Newburg Road** — Mayor Chesser reported that Brandon Shelley, traffic engineer with KYTC, provided an update on our requests for permissive left turn signals and the safety concerns with the I-264 eastbound exit ramp on Newburg Road. Mr. Shelley met with the KYTC District 5 traffic engineering supervisor on site and they have agreed to take the lead on adjusting the guardrail treatment to provide better sight distance for motorists on the off ramp at Newburg Road. Mr. Shelley is not sure how quickly they can get to this item, but it is definitely on KYTC’s radar.

The flashing left-turn arrow at Poplar Level Road and Gardiner Lane is scheduled to be installed in the third quarter of this year. The flashing left-turn arrow will be restricted between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. due to the heavy volume of opposing traffic on Poplar Level Road during those hours. It will flash at all other hours of the day. This work will be done on a weekend.

Regarding the request for a flashing left turn arrow at Newburg Road and Gardiner Lane, at the present time current State policy does not allow the installation of a flashing arrow when three or more opposing lanes will be crossed. However, that policy will be changing in the near future and Mr. Shelley has a note to review that location once that happens.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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**Stober Road Flooding** — Mayor Chesser reported that Brandon Jones and Gary Hubbard with BTM Engineering along with Mayor Chesser met with Michael Duncan, the terminal manager, to discuss the recent flooding on Stober Road at the Norfolk Southern railroad tracks. After inspecting the ditch along the railroad tracks, Mr. Duncan asked that we send a letter to him and he will forward it to his manager who, in turn, will direct it to the appropriate party at Norfolk Southern. Mr. Jones prepared the letter, which was reviewed by Attorney Treitz prior to sending. Mr. Jones will continue to follow up and keep us posted.

**Mobilitie Franchise Agreement** — Mayor Chesser reported that she met with Alex Brosky, Permitting Manager with Mobilitie Intelligent Infrastructure, to discuss their plans to install a small cell on Produce Road. These cells are usually attached to the top of existing wood utility poles. They have signed a franchise agreement with Metro Louisville but will need to sign one with Watterson Park. Attorney Finn Cato is preparing the agreement. Mr. Brosky asked to present the plan to the City Council at our October meeting.

**Rumpke – Fort Bluegrass Mobile Home Park** — Mayor Chesser reported that she was notified by Chris Thieneman that the mobile home park no longer wants to participate in the recycle program due to the fact that inappropriate materials are constantly being placed in the recycle carts. Mr. Thieneman would like to have all recycle carts removed. Rumpke has agreed to do this starting with the last trash pick-up in September. An amendment to the contract has been drawn up and signed by both parties. The charge to remove the carts will be \$15 per cart. The mobile home park has 154 carts, so the cost to remove them will be \$2,310. The total cost for the two-year period of the contract would have amounted to \$10,164, so we will actually save \$7,854 by discontinuing the program.

**Rental Properties** — Mrs. Welsh reported that in Watterson Park we have 27 owners of 36 properties that are rented, with 2 of those being short-term rentals. All rental property located in Louisville Metro must be registered through Codes & Regulations with Louisville Metro Government. We will include information on this in our fall newsletter. Mrs. Welsh would like for us to mail the newsletter to the property owners as well as to the renters, and gave the mailing list of the property owners to Mrs. Keefe, who will put them on our list to receive future newsletters.

**Operation Brightside Fall Clean-Up** — Ms. Woodson reported that the fall clean-up will take place on October 20. She made copies of a flyer that she prepared and distributed them to Council members and Mr. Wild to pass out in various neighborhoods. Mrs. Keefe will include information on the pickup in the upcoming newsletter as well as on our website.

**Newsletter** — Mrs. Keefe will revise the draft fall newsletter to include information on the Metro Louisville Rental Registry. Also included in the newsletter is information on Metro's dog leash laws, upcoming large-trash pick-up, and upcoming fall Brightside pick-up. The newsletter should be received by the end of September.

**JCPS** — Mayor Chesser reported that she wrote a letter to Dr. Marty Polio asking for a short meeting about changing our resides middle and high schools. She hasn't yet received a response but will keep us posted.

**LMPD 6th Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting** — Mayor Chesser reported that September's meeting will be held on September 11 and encouraged any interested Council members to attend. Mrs. Welsh would like to attend. Ms. Woodson asked if we could request one of the new Speed Alert radar devices recently purchased by Metro Louisville. Mayor Chesser said that we are on the list, but she will bring it up again.


**League of Cities Annual Dinner** — Mayor Chesser reported that this annual event will take place this year on November 15 at the Jeffersonian (formerly Jeffersontown Community Center). She asked for a count of those persons who would like to attend and will reserve a table for Watterson Park. Ms. Woodson asked if our donation for the drawing this year could represent our City. For example, we could have gift certificates to YUM! Brands restaurants (Taco Bell, KFC, Pizza Hut), Yummy Polo, or The Bakery run by Sullivan University. We will check into having both baskets and gift cards per Ms. Woodson's suggestion.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:34 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 10-8-18.

  
Linda Chesser, Mayor

  
Aggie Keefe, Clerk

Minutes taken and transcribed by Aggie Keefe.