

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK LEGISLATIVE MEETING

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

November 13, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilpeople Helen Arnold, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Brandon Paul, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson; Clerk Aggie Keefe; and Attorney John Treitz.

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

MINUTES

Mrs. Arnold made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2017, legislative meeting as received; seconded by Mr. Fortwengler. All present voted yes (6-0).

TREASURER'S REPORT

In Mr. Wild's absence, Mrs. Welsh read the treasurer's report, detailing receipts for the month of October 2017 in the amount of \$261,994.75 with expenditures in the amount of \$51,250.18, giving a surplus of \$210,744.57. Mayor Chesser reported that the \$4,385.60 for advertising was for the publication of our tax ordinances in *The Courier-Journal*. Ms. Garrett made a motion to approve the report; seconded by Mr. Fortwengler. All present voted yes (6-0). Mr. Paul questioned why property taxes are lower than previous years; Attorney Treitz clarified that not all tax payments are in, and it was further clarified that our tax rate went down from the previous year.

OLD BUSINESS

Paving Projects — Mayor Chesser reported that Nathan Chappell with BTM contacted her today regarding the Champions Trace paving project. KYTC maintains that we cannot shift the curb back and must remove the concrete flume. BTM again reviewed the plan and sent a new proposal to KYTC, but they have not yet received final approval from them. Mr. Chappell assured Mayor Chesser that they will not bill us for any of their time coordinating with KYTC to get the issue resolved. Even though the stopbar was installed as directed by KYTC in their initial review, KYTC now wants it to be moved back. If we move the stopbars, the loop detectors will not work properly. Mr. Paul suggested that we paint the stopbar where the state has indicated it should be, then paint diagonal lines between it and the existing stopbar; we don't know if this is feasible. Regardless of the outcome, Watterson Park's liability should be for installing the grate only. We will stay in touch with all involved parties.

Mrs. Woodson asked if the pile of rocks from the road construction that is in a resident's front yard had been removed. It was reported that the homeowner does not want to get rid of the rocks at this time.

Off-Duty Police Officers — Attorney Treitz reported that we received a letter from the County Attorney's office stating that they could not confirm whether or not they would support their officers who were off their duty and on ours for insurance claims. Attorney Treitz suggested that if we want insurance to cover us, we need to purchase full coverage. Mr. Treitz spoke with the Mayor of Hurstbourne, who told him they don't carry additional insurance at all; they rely solely on Kentuckiana Law Enforcement's insurance policy. Mr. Treitz read over the policy again and there is an endorsement that says that independent contractors can be covered as long as they meet certain requirements; he determined that we would have no insurance at all under their policy. As soon as we receive some insurance quotes, we can decide on how to proceed.

House Bill 246 — There was nothing new to report at this time.

Fence on Larkmoor Lane — CDRE proposed the installation of a chain-link fence with slats, and Council agreed. Attorney Treitz will notify them of our approval. Mr. Fortwengler suggested that we try to obtain an easement along the fence so that we can maintain the fence in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

Increase in Salary for the Mayor – Mrs. Arnold would like to increase the salary for the Mayor, whose responsibilities have increased significantly over the past two years. Attorney Treitz said that we would need to approve it by ordinance within the next four months in order for the raise to be effective in January of 2019. Council members will bring their proposed salary increases to the December meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Tribute to Former Mayor – Mayor Chesser suggested that we have a brass plaque designed and installed on the Lillian Wild Walking Path. Brandon Vincent with County Wide Lawn & Landscaping offered to take care of the installation of the plaque at no cost. We will discuss appropriate wording for the plaque at the next meeting.

Attorney Treitz left the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Brightside Fall Clean-up – Mrs. Woodson reported that we had 19 participants in the clean-up on October 21.

Street Lights on Chefs Way – Mayor Chesser reported that the poles and fixtures have been installed; we are still waiting on the transformer.

Boundary Signs – Mayor Chesser ordered the boundary signs and posts from Saf-Ti-Co. She will do a drive-around with a Saf-Ti-Co representative to mark locations. BUD (Before You Dig) will be notified in order to mark underground utilities. Mayor Chesser also needs to order some additional street signs, and Saf-Ti-Co will install those as well.

Churchill Downs Development Project – Mr. Paul reported that he can't get anyone to return his calls/ emails regarding this project. They haven't yet broken ground on the project.

Spectrum Franchise Agreement – There was nothing new to report at this time.

Forestry Trip for 2018 – Mrs. Welsh reported that she has checked several potential sites for our spring trip but hasn't found anything within a comfortable driving distance. She suggested that Huber Farms would be a good destination, as they have many activities for all age groups. She would need to check with them to determine the best time to visit in order to take advantage of the tree foliage. Mr. Fortwengler mentioned The Forest; Mr. Paul suggested St. Meinrad; Mrs. Arnold suggested a return trip to the Cincinnati Zoo. Mrs. Welsh will continue to check options.

Regina Avenue Speedhumps – Mayor Chesser reported that 25 of 27 residences on Regina Avenue responded; 15 residences (60%) are in favor. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to proceed with speed humps on Regina Avenue; seconded by Mrs. Woodson. All present voted yes (6-0). Mayor Chesser will get the project started.

Franck Properties – Mayor Chesser reported that John Franck, owner of the three properties on Gardiner Lane (1438, 1442, and 1444), asked her what type of businesses the Council would approve for these properties. Mr. Franck explained that it is hard to rent these properties as residential because they are located next to the USPS and are surrounded by commercial properties. Mayor Chesser suggested that he come up with a plan and present it to Council.

Permissive Left Turn Signals – Mayor Chesser received information from Brandon Shelley, Traffic Operations Engineer with KYTC, regarding the installation of permissive left turn signals on Poplar Level Road at Gardiner Lane and on Newburg Road at Gardiner Lane. Mr. Shelley reported that he will follow up with his KYTC District 5 contacts regarding the guardrail location/sight distance issues on the EB I-264 exit ramp to Newburg Road. His office has submitted an operational change request to KYTC to change the

protected-only left-turn signal heads on Poplar Level Road at Gardiner Lane to flashing yellow left-turn arrows. In addition, his office will be submitting an operational change request to KYTC to change the protected-only left-turn signal heads on Newburg Road at Gardiner Lane/Meadowcreek Drive to flashing yellow left-turn arrows. Mayor Chesser will keep us updated.

NEW BUSINESS

Newsletter – Mrs. Keefe handed out a draft of the winter newsletter for Council’s review and approval.

Pedestrian Caution Signs/Light on Gardiner Lane – Due to safety concerns for pedestrians, Mr. Paul would like to ask Metro Louisville to put some type of caution designation on Gardiner Lane at the Regina Avenue curve as well as in front of the YUM! office building.

LMPD 6th Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting – Mayor Chesser will be attending the meeting on November 14 and asked if anyone has any items they would like her to address. Both Ms. Garrett and Mrs. Welsh will try to attend the meeting. Mayor Chesser reported from the October meeting that there were some break-ins of vehicles and/or garages on Larkmoor Lane and Newburg Road. Some of the targeted vehicles and garages were not locked. As we have discussed on several occasions, residents need to do their part to protect their property and discourage thieves from roaming the neighborhoods.

Stray Cats – Mayor Chesser reported that there have been several complaints regarding the increase in the number of stray cats in the neighborhood. If you know of someone who is feeding stray cats, please see if they will work with the Alley Cat organization to get the strays neutered or spayed. Mrs. Keefe will include information on stray cats in the winter newsletter and put something on our website as well.


Parking Violations – Mayor Chesser reported that over the last two weeks there were five different complaints about residents parking in their front yards. A copy of the Louisville Metro Code Enforcement Property Maintenance (Chapter 156, Section H), which addresses where motor vehicles can be parked, was given to each offending resident, along with a note informing them that if someone reports it to Metro the resident could be cited and subject to a fine. Mrs. Keefe agreed to include information in our upcoming winter newsletter on the stray cats problem as well as Metro Code Enforcement regulations that prohibit parking in yards.

Tree City Application – Mayor Chesser reported that she is working with Attorney Mary Garris to submit our application to the Arbor Day Foundation for this year’s Tree City USA designation.


ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Welsh made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Paul. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:59 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 12-11-17.



Linda Chesser, Mayor



Aggie Keefe, Clerk

Minutes taken and transcribed by Aggie Keefe.