

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

LEGISLATIVE MEETING

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

December 11, 2023

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, Phil Johnson, and Marlene Welsh; Treasurer Jean Hall; and Clerk Aggie Keefe. Also present were Attorneys John Treitz and Duncan Crosby, Deputy Rob Skaggs, and Henry Burgin, a resident.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2023, legislative 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

In response to a question from Ms. Ewan at the November meeting regarding funds we should be receiving from HB413, Mrs. Hall clarified that there is paperwork that she wasn't aware of that needs to be filed. She has since filed that paperwork, so we should begin receiving funds moving forward.

Mrs. Hall reported revenues for the month of November 2023 in the amount of \$177,902 and expenses totaling \$47,787. She clarified that the amount under Advertising included the publication of our City parks ordinance and the REACH Alert fees. The result was a net income of \$130,115. Mr. Treitz asked where Mrs. Hall is putting money we receive from property taxes. Mrs. Hall responded that she is putting these funds in a money market account with Baird, with the goal of keeping it as liquid as possible. Mrs. Hall clarified for Ms. Garrett that the \$50 under Fines and Penalties was for a citation. Ms. Ewan 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Ewan made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the real estate transaction; 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, and Council went into Executive Session at 7:08 p.m. Ms. Ewan 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, Phil Johnson, 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 7:35 p.m. No action was taken by the Council during Executive Session.

OLD BUSINESS

REACH Alert — Ms. Ewan reported that the REACH Alert system is now set up for Watterson Park and is operational. She and Mayor Chesser participated in a phone training session. We need to make our residents and businesses aware of this service. Mrs. Keefe will include REACH Alert sign-up information on our website and in our next newsletter once she is provided the necessary information. We will include REACH Alert information with the welcome baskets that we give to new residents.

Stober Road Flooding — Mr. Treitz reported that he attempted to reach Joe Exely for an update but was unsuccessful. MSD is supposed to be making an alternative plan to remedy the flooding problem. Mr. Treitz will continue to press them on the issue.

Newburg Road Sidewalk — Mr. Treitz reported that Steve Kurowsky sent Mayor Chesser a copy of the agreement that the state has generated. It has to be circulated with both the state and Louisville Metro. Mr. Kurowsky hopes to start sidewalk construction the Monday after the Kentucky Derby in 2024.

Robards Lane — There were no updates.

Attorney Treitz left the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Code Enforcement — Everyone should have received a copy of the Field Report for November. Mayor Chesser reported that a resident is trying to get in touch with Mr. Stewart about a citation that he received. This resident's property suffered damage from last year's tornado, and repairs have not yet been made. Mayor Chesser will ask Mr. Stewart to contact the resident. In addition, Mayor Chesser asked Mr. Bourke if he could talk to the resident to find out why the storm damage hasn't been repaired.

Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for December. Mayor Chesser moved the 1-to-4 a.m. shifts to other time slots, and those new slots are being filled. Mayor Chesser mentioned that Watterson Park's crime stats look really good. Mayor Chesser mentioned to Deputy Skaggs that she received a text from a resident at the end of Regina Lane complaining about a semi that had been parked all night on the business property at 1234 Gardiner Lane next to the barrier. Mayor Chesser confronted the driver and told him that parking in that area is prohibited by City ordinance. Mrs. Welsh talked about trucks that have been idling on the Iron Mountain property at the end of Larkmoor Lane. She will let Mayor Chesser know if they are still parking and idling there.

Audit — Mrs. Hall reported that she submitted the requested documents to Brian Cobb. Mayor Chesser sent him the necessary insurance information.

Watterson Park Trees — Mayor Chesser mentioned that Metro has \$15,000 set aside for trees for Watterson Park. She would like to wait until spring to plant them, which would give us ample time to decide where they should be planted.

Sign for Walking Path/Trespass Waiver — Mayor Chesser reported that the Trespass Waiver has been filed with LMPD. Metro's "No Trespassing" signs are too restrictive, so we will order a sign from Saf-Ti-Co. Mayor Chesser received a revised estimate from them for one sign versus two. The cost for an 18"x24" sign and its installation on a 3"x10' black square aluminum post is approximately \$500. Mayor Chesser will question the \$300 Saf-Ti-Co is charging for the installation.

Resurrection Lutheran Meet Your Neighbor Night — Mrs. Welsh said she will contact Mr. Oleker and suggest that he schedule this event for spring 2024 since it is too late to schedule it for this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Reports — Since Mr. Johnson will not be a member of the Council after tonight's meeting, Ms. Garrett agreed to serve as the contact for Terminix.

LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting — Mayor Chesser reported that at the last meeting of this Board, Major Vance reported that a nuisance and abatement order is underway for the Budgetel Inn & Suites located on Bardstown Road. Sgt. Michael Callahan with the Sixth Division made an arrest at Budgetel involving human trafficking of a 16-year-old girl. Because of his work on this case, Sgt. Callahan was chosen as the Officer of the Month.

Shop With a Cop — Mrs. Welsh and Ms. Ewan will be assisting with wrapping presents for this event.

Bishop Lane Speedway — Mayor Chesser reported that she reached out to Logan Darby, Area Facilities Manager for Speedway, to find out what was going on at the Speedway on Bishop Lane. Mr. Darby informed her that the underground storage tanks are being replaced. There are no plans at this time to do anything with the inside of the building or with the vacant lot at the rear of the building.

Resignation of Councilman Phil Johnson — Mr. Johnson is resigning from the City Council effective today, as he is moving out of Watterson Park. Mayor Chesser thanked him for his years of service to Watterson Park and wished him luck. Mayor Chesser will need to appoint Mr. Johnson's replacement within 30 days.

Expo Tickets — Mrs. Hall mentioned that she received in our P.O. box several tickets for the Louisville Build, Renovate, and Landscape Expo in January and offered them to anyone who might be interested in attending.

ADJOURNMENT

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, Marlene Welsh, and Phil Johnson. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0 and meeting adjourned at 8:16 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 and transcribed by Aggie Keefe from notes and audio recording.