

**CITY OF WATTERSON PARK
LEGISLATIVE MEETING**

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

February 11, 2019

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

Roll Call — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilmembers Brett Ashley, Gina Garrett, Phil Johnson, Marlene Welsh, and Tiffany Woodson; Treasurer Jerry Wild; Clerk Aggie Keefe; and Attorney John Treitz.

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

MINUTES

Mrs. Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2019, meeting as received; seconded by Ms. Garrett. All present voted yes (5-0).

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Wild reported receipts for the month of January 2019 in the amount of \$68,518.54, with expenditures in the amount of \$36,817.45, giving a surplus for the month in the amount of \$31,701.09. A motion was made by Ms. Garrett to accept the report as presented; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. All present voted yes (5-0).

OLD BUSINESS

Delinquent Taxes — Attorney Treitz reported that he asked the Attorney General's office for clarification as to whether or not we can sell delinquent taxes for collection; however, he has not yet received a response. He contacted the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) to get their opinion and was told that they believe all cities have the right to sell their tax bills. KLC will be bringing the matter up in June. We will wait for further information from them.

Stober Road Flooding — Mayor Chesser passed around several pictures of the ditch obstruction and flooding for Council's review. Attorney Treitz reported that he did title searches at the court house to determine who owns the ditch and found that the railroad owns most of it. However, MSD has a contract to keep it clear. MSD will send out a crew to clear out approximately 600 feet on the north side of Stober Road. We will continue to monitor the situation.

ONGOING BUSINESS

Off-Duty Police Officers — Mayor Chesser distributed copies of the Monthly Shift Postings and the Small City Activity Sheet for January 2019 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 mentioned a recent incident at the Fort Bluegrass Mobile Home Park as well as an incident involving a TARC bus on Newburg Road at Gardiner Lane. Mayor Chesser reported that she has seen more graffiti on the sound barrier walls along the expressway throughout Louisville. Deputy Sheriff Gentry said overall things have been quiet. He left the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Insurance Tax Ordinance — Information regarding a possible increase in the insurance premium tax by Louisville Metro was distributed. Attorney Treitz explained Metro's proposal, which would raise Louisville Metro's insurance premium tax from 5% to 10%. Watterson Park currently has a 5% tax. If we don't increase our premium tax to match what Louisville Metro imposes, any amount over the 5% will go to Louisville Metro instead of to Watterson Park. In order to ensure that Watterson Park will receive our share of any increased premium tax, we need to pass an ordinance increasing our tax rate prior to March 23, 2019. Mr. Johnson introduced and read by summary an ordinance amending and supplementing the City of Watterson Park's pre-existing tax on certain insurance premiums on policies issued by insurance companies doing business in the City. It re-establishes the current tax the City imposes on such insurance premiums and provides for an increase in such tax in the event Louisville Metro Government increases the same tax it imposes from its current rate. Our tax rate will not be increased if Louisville Metro does not increase theirs.

Board of Ethics — Under the City of Watterson Park's Ordinance No. 100, Series 1994, a Board of Ethics was established for the purpose of providing a method of assuring that standards of ethical conduct and financial disclosure requirements for officers and employees of the City shall be clearly established. As the representing Officer of this Board, Mayor Chesser nominated the following Watterson Park residents to serve on the Board: Steve Fortwengler, Thomas Wood and Judy Allgeier. Each of these nominees has agreed to serve on the Ethics Board for a two-year term. These are unpaid positions, and members of the Board are not required to attend any City Council meetings unless needed. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the above nominations; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. All present voted yes (5-0).

Attorney Treitz left the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Newburg Road Sidewalk — Mr. Ashley met with Representative Tom Burch about the need for a sidewalk on Newburg Road from Larkmoor Lane to the Metro Animal House property. Representative Burch provided Mr. Ashley with contact information for the permit supervisor. Once we receive a sign-off from the state, we will probably have to pay for most, if not all, of the cost of installing the sidewalk. Council discussed the possibility of installing sidewalks in only those areas where they would provide the most benefit to residents. Ms. Woodson suggested that we contact BTM to get an estimate of the costs.

City Trip — Mrs. Welsh reported that both Yew Dell Gardens and Hill Hidden Hill Nursery don't have adequate facilities to meet our needs. She checked with Bernheim Forest and received a quote for a buffet; we would need to reserve our date ASAP, as their dining rooms fill up quickly. Boone County Arboretum was suggested, and Ms. Woodson suggested Arboretum State Botanical Garden of Kentucky in Lexington. Mrs. Welsh will contact those places suggested to see what they have to offer. In the meantime, Council agreed on May 25 for the trip, with a back-up of either June 1 or June 8. Once decided, information and a sign-up form will be included in our spring newsletter.

City Promotional Products — After discussion, Council decided to wait until later in the year to purchase promotional items, which could be distributed to residents along with the flyer for the fall Operation Brightside pick-up. In the meantime, Ms. Woodson will secure more samples for our consideration.

City Officials Academy — Mr. Johnson and Mayor Chesser attended this program and both agreed that it was well worth attending, as it provided a wealth of information for both seasoned and newly-elected officials.

Newsletter — Mrs. Keefe reported that the winter newsletter was mailed out. She will begin work on the spring newsletter, which will include information on our upcoming trip, Operation Brightside, large trash pick-up, committees, as well as any updates on the sidewalk, flooding, and LG&E project.

Committees — Mayor Chesser distributed copies of our current committees and their chairs and asked everyone to review it and be ready to discuss for updates at the March meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Damaged/Missing Signs — Ms. Woodson reported that the street sign at the corner of Bunton Road and Gardiner Lane has been damaged; Mayor Chesser will report it to Saf-Ti-Co for repair. Mayor Chesser has reported to Saf-Ti-Co a downed post and a missing sign on Champions Trace and Bantam Court.

Tree Plantings and Beautification — Ms. Woodson suggested that we add some brightly-colored plantings along the Lillian Wild Walking Path. She would also like to have some additional trees planted, which, if Council agrees, can be done in the fall. Ms. Woodson also reported that the sign at the walking path is dirty and covered in algae. Mayor Chesser will check into getting the sign cleaned. We will discuss plantings at a later date.

Walking Path — Mayor Chesser reported that some of the acorn lights on the walking path have tilted globes. She will contact LG&E to get the globes repositioned.

New Residents — Mrs. Welsh mentioned that a welcome basket was delivered to a new resident on Larkmoor Lane, and the resident was very appreciative of the gesture.

Signature Entrance — Mayor Chesser reported that there was damage to the lights at our signature entrance at Newburg Road and Bishop Lane. Corrigan Electric will take care of repairing the damage.

Tree City USA — Mayor Chesser reported that Watterson Park's Tree City USA recertification has been approved by the Arbor Day Foundation. This is our 16th year as a Tree City USA.

LMPD 6th Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting — Mayor Chesser reported that at the last meeting she attended, Major Bogan announced that they will be doing more to recognize officers with regards to Officer of the Month. In addition to their names on a plaque and a special parking spot, they will be acknowledged in front of their peers and will receive a gift. Major Bogan went on to say that on January 2, Officers Crick and Knopf were instrumental in keeping a gunshot victim alive while waiting for CPR. These two officers will be recognized on February 13 following roll call; Mayor Chesser is planning to attend.

Kentucky Open Records and Open Meetings Documents — Mayor Chesser distributed the "Your Duty Under the Law" and "Managing Public Records" information to Councilmembers Garrett, Johnson, Welsh, and Woodson, who each signed a Proof of Receipt and gave to Mrs. Keefe for filing. Councilwoman Arnold was not present, but a copy of the documents will be given to her with instructions to return the signature page to Mrs. Keefe for filing.

Lawn and Tree Maintenance Contracts —


Mayor Chesser received two bids from County Wide Lawn & Landscaping for mowing the rights of way for the season. The first bid, in the amount of \$8,500, was for mowing the areas which they have been mowing; the second bid, in the amount of \$10,200, added the corner of Newburg Road and Champions Trace. Both contracts were for 34 mowings. Mrs. Welsh made a motion to approve the bid that includes Newburg Road and Champions Trace in the amount of \$10,200; seconded by Ms. Woodson. All present voted yes (5-0).

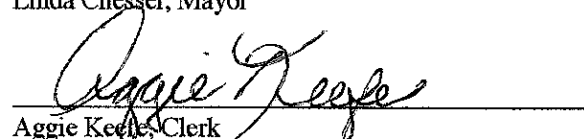
Mayor Chesser received a bid from County Wide Lawn & Landscaping for tree maintenance for mulching, spraying, trimming, and spraying curbs and guardrails in the amount of \$17,661. Ms. Garrett made a motion to approve the bid; seconded by Mr. Johnson. All present voted yes (5-0).

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Garrett made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Johnson. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:37 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 3-11-19.


Linda Chesser, Mayor


Aggie Keefe, Clerk

Minutes taken and transcribed by Aggie Keefe.