

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

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

December 8, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilmembers Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan; Treasurer Jean Hall; and Clerk Aggie Keefe. Councilwoman Shelia Bumphus was absent. Also present was Deputy Sheriff Rob Skaggs, representing Kentuckiana Law Enforcement (KLE).

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 10, 2025, legislative meeting as received; 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, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Hall reported revenues for the month of November 2025 in the amount of \$164,445 with \$48,355 in expenses, resulting in a net income of \$116,090. She clarified that a large portion of the amount paid under Public Works was for extensive tree work. Ms. Ewan asked if Mrs. Hall received the invoice for REACH Alert. Mrs. Hall said she did, and it will be on next month's financial statements. Ms. Ewan made a motion to approve the report as presented; 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, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

1391 Gardiner Lane Property Development — Mayor Chesser distributed copies of the most recent drawings received from The Kleingers Group. She reported that she, Mr. Bourke and Ms. Ewan met with Midstates Recreation regarding the playground equipment. They discussed scaling down the development by installing basic playground equipment, possibly using asphalt for all paving, planting fewer trees, installing fewer lights, and providing less seating. We can always add more in the future. Mr. Bourke suggested that we approach businesses in the City to see if they would be open to sponsoring portions of the park.

Mayor Chesser called Attorney Duncan Crosby by phone and put him on speaker. Mr. Crosby said there is a means of purchasing playground equipment through Sourcewell, a cooperative purchasing facility/government entity that can be used by cities and other public agencies. Sourcewell solicits bids for many things, including construction, playground equipment, and lease vehicles. They solicit and collect the bids and award contracts. The City is now registered with Sourcewell. Ms. Garrett asked who oversees Sourcewell. Attorney Crosby said all of the materials that Sourcewell uses are available online, so it is fully transparent. He said that the Commonwealth of Kentucky has a standing contract with Sourcewell. Mr. Bourke asked how Sourcewell makes money. Mr. Crosby doesn't know what their revenue model is, but it is a state entity, so it's not a for-profit undertaking.

Mayor Chesser said she received an email from someone at Sourcewell who would like to have a call with her to discuss the services that Sourcewell offers. She reported that Brian King with Midstates asked for Watterson Park's Sourcewell account number, but she has not yet provided it.

Attorney Crosby reported that KIPDA sent him information regarding possible grant funding for this project. Two possible programs include: (1) Recreational Trail Program; and (2) Land and Water Conservation Fund (federal money). If we receive a grant, the minimum award would be \$25,000 and the maximum is \$1,000,000. If we are awarded a grant, any money we spend prior to the acceptance is not reimbursable. If we accept any grant money, we are obligated to keep this property a park in perpetuity. The call with Attorney Crosby ended at 8:02 p.m. When the members of our Property Development Subcommittee meet with Mr. Tague next week, they will relay to him what was discussed tonight and also discuss maintenance costs as well as the irrigation system.

Code Enforcement Update — Everyone was provided a copy of the report for November, and violations were discussed. Ms. Garrett suggested that we increase Mr. Stewart’s hours from 10 to 15 in the spring and summer; Council agreed.

Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for December.

Audit — Mrs. Hall had nothing new to report on the Audit.

NEW BUSINESS

Sixth Division Advisory Board Meeting — Mr. Bourke reported that the Board didn’t meet due to the Christmas With a Cop function.

Data Center Public Meeting — Ms. Ewan reported on a Planning & Zoning public meeting regarding data centers that she attended in November. There are currently about 12 small data centers in Louisville Metro. The center that was built on Camp Ground Road (one million square feet), however, is the largest to date and has raised concerns. Louisville Metro Council had asked Planning and Zoning to research and provide recommendations on how to update the zoning codes for hyperscale data centers (50,000+ square feet). Planning & Zoning is currently addressing this request.

4246 Jennings Lane — Mayor Chesser reported that she attended via Zoom a development review committee meeting regarding The Prisoners Hope, a 27-room transitional housing facility at 4246 Jennings Lane. There were some compliance issues at this location, so Planning & Zoning had to review their plan.

Financial Disclosure Form — Mayor Chesser distributed copies of this annual form that needs to be filled out and returned to Mayor Chesser.

Proposed Zoning Changes to Zoning Boards — Mayor Chesser received an email from State Representative Daniel Grossberg in which he included information regarding proposed changes to the makeup of zoning boards. If approved, it could give home-rule cities more of a voice in planning and zoning.

Eastmoor Road Pothole Repair — We will address this in the spring.

Committee Reports —

- Business Liaison Committee
Nothing to report.
- Citizen Liaison Committee
Mayor Chesser will order welcome baskets when the weather improves.
- Communications Committee
Nothing to report.
- Finance Committee
Nothing to report.
- Public Safety Committee
Pest control — Mayor Chesser reported that Terminix treated the ditch for the last time this year, and reported that everything looked good.
- Public Works Committee
Street lights — Mr. O’Byan reported that he called LG&E regarding some street lights that have been out for months. He had initially reported these online. He was told that they denied his online request because they need our Tax ID and/or account numbers, which they had never asked for in the past. He will include these numbers with any future reports.
- Sanitation Committee
Todd O’Byan reported that when he called Republic Services to schedule a pickup for a large item, which is supposed to be free, he was told that the City will be billed \$5 for it. Mrs. Hall will monitor sanitation invoices for any charges for this pickup. Mayor Chesser will ask Todd Preher about it.

- Tax Bills Committee
Mrs. Hall reported that she will be mailing out second notices on real properties later this week.
- Urban Forestry and Green Space Committee/1391 Gardiner Lane Property Development
Updates were covered earlier in tonight's meeting.

Fence Behind Cross Jeep — Mayor Chesser reported to State Representative Daniel Grossberg the downed fence behind Cross Jeep. Rep. Grossberg immediately notified KYTC. It has since come to our attention that Cross Jeep does not want the fence to be repaired or replaced because it interferes with mowing the grass.

Resurrection Lutheran Church — Mayor Chesser reported that this property will stay within the Lutheran organization and will, at least for the time being, remain a church.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to adjourn; 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, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0, and meeting adjourned at 9:04 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.