

# CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

## LEGISLATIVE MEETING

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

June 9, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Roll Call** — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilmembers Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan; Treasurer Jean Hall; and Clerk Aggie Keefe. Absent were Councilwoman Jackie Bourke and Councilman Steve Fortwengler. Also present were Attorney Duncan Crosby and Sgt. Jeff Christopher.

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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Mr. O'Bryan made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2025, legislative meeting as received; seconded by Mrs. Bumphus. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.

### APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

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Mrs. Hall noted that on the headings of the report under "Current Month" and "Year to Date," the words "Actual" and "Budget" did not print. She will address this issue with our tech guy. Mrs. Hall reported revenues for the month of May 2025 in the amount of \$90,055 and expenses in the amount of \$76,172, resulting in a net income of \$13,883. She noted that \$6,000 of the amount under General Government, Legal & Professional was for engineering. She clarified that included in the amount for Expenses, Public Works is \$27,300 for land improvements; this will be moved as a capital asset into a land improvements account. Also included under Public Works was \$3,700 for removal of a tree that was hit by lightning. Ms. Ewan made a motion to approve the report as presented; seconded by Mr. O'Bryan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.

### OLD BUSINESS

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**Budget** — Ms. Garrett gave second reading in full to Ordinance No. 281, Series 2025, adopting the annual budget for fiscal year July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. Ms. Garrett made a motion to adopt the ordinance; seconded by Mr. O'Bryan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0. Mrs. Keefe will send the signed ordinance to Attorney Treitz and ask if his office will take care of its publication.

**1225 Gardiner Lane Development** — Mrs. Ewan made a motion to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation regarding the proposed RaceTrac development; seconded by Ms. Garrett. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0, and Council went into executive session at 7:24 p.m. Ms. Ewan made a motion to come out of executive session; seconded by Mr. O'Bryan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0, and Council came out of executive session at 7:47 p.m. No final action was taken during executive session.

**Robards Lane** — Mayor Chesser reported that Attorney Treitz reached out to Louisville Metro regarding the section of Robards Lane that needs paving repairs. He has not received a response from them.

**Code Enforcement** — Everyone was provided a copy of the Field Report for May. Recent violations were discussed.

**Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings** — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for June. Mayor Chesser reported that she reached out to John Aubrey, asking him to schedule more of the morning shifts for later in the day, in part because of the recent increase in business break-ins.

**Driveway Apron at Residence on Milldaun Road** — Mayor Chesser reported that we received the signed agreement from the resident, and this project is tentatively scheduled for June 26 and 27.

**Flock Camera** — Mayor Chesser reported that we are still in the permitting process with Louisville Metro.

**Regina Lane Curb and Lawn Repair** — This project has not yet begun.

## NEW BUSINESS

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### Committee Reports —

#### • Business Liaison Committee

Ms. Ewan reported that they have started contacting businesses to get updated information but are not having much luck getting a live person to talk to. Mrs. Bumphus suggested that instead of a phone call, it may take a visit to the businesses.

#### • Citizen Liaison Committee

Mayor Chesser reported that we will be delivering welcome baskets to new residents. Ms. Ewan said she checked into an alternative to fruit baskets. She likes the idea of a canvas tote bag personalized with our City name, which we could fill with various household items (e.g., fleece blankets; flameless candles; “Home Sweet Home” pillow covers, coasters and kitchen towels). She priced these items online and thought they were nice and very affordable. We will discuss this further at a future meeting. In the meantime, Mayor Chesser will order the customary fruit baskets for delivery to our current new residents.

#### • Communications Committee

Mrs. Keefe reported that she is working on a new design for our business cards. She asked Council members to check out their bios on our website and let her know if they have any updates.

#### • Finance Committee

Mrs. Hall made everyone aware that each month she sends Ms. Garrett a packet of information (bank statement, checks that we pay, recons). Ms. Garrett carefully reviews the contents of the packet for accuracy, etc. The packet goes to Mayor Chesser as well.

#### • Public Safety Committee

##### *Code enforcement* —

◦ Mayor Chesser shared a report she received from Mrs. Bourke regarding code enforcement issues. Mrs. Bourke is concerned about the red tape that can be involved with insurance payouts, which can make it difficult for homeowners to make timely repairs. Mayor Chesser called Metro Call to report two properties on Milldaun Road that have code violations. Mrs. Bourke reported that Windy Hills has an ordinance where they send a citation to a resident when there is a code violation. If it isn't cleaned up within a specific period of time, the City does the work and bills the homeowner, then files a lien against the property if the bill doesn't get paid. Mrs. Hall suggested that increasing the fines might also get their attention; Mrs. Bourke had previously mentioned this possibility. We can bring it up for further discussion at next month's meeting.

◦ There was discussion about trash that needs to be cleaned up at Fort Bluegrass Mobile Home Park. Mayor Chesser suggested to Maurice Noble, the Community Manager at Fort Bluegrass, the possibility of having a Flock Camera installed at its entrance.

*Pest Control* — Mayor Chesser didn't have any updates. Terminix notifies her when they are baiting the ditch and if they see anything that needs to be brought to her attention.

*REACH Alert* — Ms. Ewan reported that she sent out an alert notifying residents about the change in sanitation pick-ups due to the Memorial Day holiday. She said we now have 70 people signed up for REACH Alert.

*LMPD Sixth Division Advisory Board Meeting* — Mayor Chesser reported the following for Jay Bourke from the June 4 meeting:

- The Officer of the Month award went to Detective James Steffan for the arrest made for a robbery and assault at the O'Reilly's on Preston Highway.
- Detectives executed a search warrant on a shed on Kremer Avenue, where a suspect in the Caretenders break-in was living, and recovered the clothes worn in commission of the break-in.
- The First Responder Cook Off for Charity is scheduled for June 27 at McMahan Plaza, where it will be LMPD Sixth Division vs. J-Town Fire Department.
- National Night Out for LMPD Sixth and Seventh Divisions will be August 5 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Petersburg Park.

• Public Works Committee

*Street Signs* – Ms. Bumphus didn't have anything to report.

*Road Conditions* – Mr. Fortwengler wasn't present to give an update.

*Street Lights* – Mr. O'Bryan said there are several lights out throughout the City. He has reported them to Metro and has also placed caution tape around them. He volunteered to repair the stop sign that is missing a bolt at the intersection of Conaem Drive and Vineyard Drive.

There was discussion regarding some pavement on Conaem Drive that was damaged by heavy equipment brought in by MSD for the pipe repair. Mayor Chesser sent an email to Joe Exely regarding the damaged pavement and hopes they will take care of repairing it.

• Sanitation Committee

Mrs. Bumphus reported that a REACH Alert was sent out advising of the change in pick-up days due to the Memorial Day holiday.

• Tax Bills Committee

Mrs. Hall didn't have anything to report.

• Urban Forestry and Green Space Committee

Ms. Garrett asked if County Wide cuts around the creek behind Vineyard Drive. Mayor Chesser said they do, but not every week. Ms. Garrett will check the area to see if it needs attention and let Mayor Chesser know if it does.

• 1391 Gardiner Lane Property Development Subcommittee

◦ Mayor Chesser reported that she and John Treitz met with The Kleingers Group at Mr. Treitz's office and were very impressed with them. They have civil engineers and a landscape architect. They agreed to come up with a couple of preliminary plans for the property development and to present the plans to the Council.

◦ Mayor Chesser reported that she was informed by Kate Karl with Metro Parks Urban Forestry that the \$15,750 in funds they are holding for us can be used only for trees planted on easements. They presented us with a plan to plant trees on Robards Lane, which is not a Watterson Park Road, and Bishop Lane. Mayor Chesser emailed them and said we'd like to instead use these funds to plant trees on the 1391 Gardiner Lane property. She received a response with a drawing showing possible plantings on the easement of this property. She will be on a conference call with Ms. Karl on Friday to discuss this.

**Public Meeting on Middle Housing** — Ms. Ewan attended the April 15 public meeting on middle housing and brought back information obtained at the meeting.

**JCLC Meeting** — Mayor Chesser and Ms. Ewan attended this meeting on April 17. It was informative, even though most of the topics discussed didn't affect Watterson Park.

**KLC Annual Conference** — Mayor Chesser said she will get information on this conference and make reservations for those who want to attend. Mr. O'Bryan clarified that it will be held September 23–26 in Owensboro, Ky.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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Mrs. Bumphus made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. O'Bryan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0 and meeting adjourned at 9:24 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 \_\_\_\_\_.

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Linda Chesser, Mayor

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Aggie Keefe, Clerk