

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

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

October 13, 2025

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

Roll Call — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilmembers Jay Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan; Treasurer Jean Hall; Clerk Aggie Keefe; and Attorney Duncan Crosby. Also present were Nima Mahmoodi and Tom Tague with The Kleingers Group; Deputy Sheriff Rob Skaggs, representing Kentuckiana Law Enforcement (KLE); and resident Alex Longino, a member of the 1391 Gardiner Lane Property Development Subcommittee.

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

OLD BUSINESS

1391 Gardiner Lane Property Development — Mr. Tague reported that they are making good progress on this project. They have met with representatives to go over the monument signage and the playground construction. The playground area (surfacing and equipment) will be bid separate from the rest of the project, as the contractor will deal directly with the City. Within two weeks, they should have 3-D images of what the playground area will look like as well as detailed pricing. The Kleingers Group is 20 percent to 30 percent finished with construction drawings. Although they are a little ahead of schedule, it doesn't mean that bidding will happen sooner. We need to decide on the lighting options submitted by LG&E, which includes approximately 20 fixtures. The shade structure was removed from the plans per our instructions, but they will keep the concrete paved area to provide seating using commercial-grade tables and chairs with metal umbrellas. Mr. Tague suggests that all paved areas be in concrete instead of mixed concrete and asphalt. Our deadline for the updated project is the end of this month. Mr. Mahmoodi said there will be a small retention basin on the southeast corner of the park. He sees a potential challenge with grants because some agencies will not award grants to Brownfields. They will keep us apprised of their progress. Mr. Mahmoodi and Mr. Tague left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. O'Bryan made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 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 Jay Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. Steve Fortwengler abstained. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0 and one abstention. Mr. Bourke made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025, special meeting as received; seconded by Ms. Garrett. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. Steve Fortwengler abstained. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0 and one abstention.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Hall reported revenues for the month of September 2025 in the amount of \$49,338 and \$42,577 in expenses, resulting in a net income of \$6,761. She clarified that Public Works included the fall trimming and watering. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the report as presented; seconded by Ms. Ewan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion passed with a vote of 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget — Attorney Crosby said that we will ultimately need to amend the budget ordinance in this fiscal year to make sure we have funds appropriated for the park. We are able to proceed right now with the appropriations that are already in place, as we're not yet spending meaningful dollars. Once we know what we are going to be spending, we will amend the budget ordinance.

Annual Holiday Dinner — Attorney Crosby would like to continue John Treitz's long-time tradition of hosting a holiday dinner celebration. He asked us to come up with a couple of dates in the first two weeks of December.

OLD BUSINESS

1391 Gardiner Lane Project Development —

- Regarding contractor bids, Mr. Crosby clarified that if we don't take the lowest bid, we need to be able to articulate why we didn't.
- Mr. Crosby expressed his concern about bidding the playground as a separate item. This is something that he needs to check into further.

Mr. Crosby left the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Code Enforcement Update —

- Mayor Chesser reported that the property on Milldaun Road that was damaged by a tornado two and a half years ago is in the process of having a new roof installed.
- For another residence on Milldaun, Mayor Chesser called KIPDA to see if they can provide any assistance for aging residents. She is waiting to hear back from them.
- Mr. Stewart mentioned to Mayor Chesser that we might need to impose a fine on an unkempt property on Annshire.

Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for October. Deputy Skaggs reported that we no longer have the parking problem at the Sullivan University housing building.

Nuisance Ordinance No. 267, Series 2023 — Mayor Chesser reported that she and Mr. Bourke reviewed our current nuisance ordinance. They suggest that instead of revising the ordinance, we should instead start enforcing the fines imposed under our current ordinance. Mrs. Hall requested that Mayor Chesser remind George Stewart to send Mrs. Hall the details when fines are imposed so she can cross-reference them as they are paid.

Audit — Both Mrs. Hall and Mayor Chesser have supplied Cobb & Associates with the documentation that they requested for the audit.

Flock Cameras — Mayor Chesser reported that the flock camera has been installed at the intersection of Gardiner Lane and Robards Lane.

NEW BUSINESS

County Wide Bids —

- A bid in the amount of \$6,650 was received for tree removal of seven trees at Gardiner Lane and Bishop Lane, along with stump grinding, filling with topsoil, seeding, strawing and fertilizing. Mr. Fortwengler suggested that if we plant replacements at this location, we plant something more narrow and compact. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to accept the bid; seconded by Mr. Bourke. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion passed with a vote of 6-0.
- A bid in the amount of \$7,500 was received for the removal of ten trees at various locations: four at the walking path, one at All-State Ford Truck Sales, one at Newburg Road and Bishop Lane, one on Produce Lane, and three at the end of Larkmoor Lane. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to accept the bid; seconded by Ms. Garrett. Discussion ensued, with Ms. Garrett suggesting that before we plant trees in the future, we look more closely at the area and be aware of any potential problems. Mrs. Bumphus would like to see some trees planted at the end of Larkmoor Lane; Mayor Chesser said that once we remove the dead trees at that location, we will discuss appropriate replacements. Ms. Garrett complained about the drain that was replaced by MSD in her side yard, as they didn't concrete it appropriately. When it rains, the area fills with mud, requiring her to shovel it out. Mayor Chesser suggested that she make MSD aware of the situation. After this additional discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion passed with a vote of 6-0.
- A bid in the amount of \$4,950 was received for the removal of a tree and for trimming significant overgrowth at Gardiner Point, including stump grinding and seeding. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to accept the bid; seconded by Mr. Bourke. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion passed with a vote of 6-0.

JCLC Annual Dinner — Mayor Chesser reported that this annual event will be held on November 20 at The Jeffersonian. The cost is \$67.50 per person. Planning to attend are Mayor Chesser, Gina Garrett, Aggie Keefe, Jean Hall, and Becky Ewan. Mr. Fortwengler declined. Mayor Chesser will check with Attorney Crosby to see if he would like to attend. Mrs. Bumphus, Mr. O'Bryan, and Mr. Bourke will let Mrs. Chesser know of their decision by October 23.

LMPD Sixth Division Christmas with a Cop Program — This annual event will be held on December 6. Mr. Bourke made a motion to donate \$1,500; seconded by Ms. Ewan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yeas were Jay Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion passed with a vote of 6-0.

The Salvation Army — The City received a letter from The Salvation Army thanking us for our donation in memory of John Treitz.

Committee Reports —

- Business Liaison Committee
Mayor Chesser reported that we have two new businesses on Bishop Lane: Niemco Machine & Tools, and Diversified Metals.
- Citizen Liaison Committee
Mayor Chesser will order welcome baskets for new residents on Regina Lane, Larkmoor Lane, and Milldaun Road.
- Communications Committee
No updates.
- Finance Committee
No updates.
- Public Safety Committee
 - REACH Alert* — Ms. Ewan reported that she recently sent out an alert regarding the large-trash pickup.
 - Pest Control* — Mayor Chesser reported that she was notified of an increase in the annual cost for Terminix services.
 - KLE Police Patrol* — Mayor Chesser will ask John Aubrey for permission to give Mr. O'Bryan the telephone numbers for the officers who patrol our City.
 - LMPD Sixth Division Advisory Board Meeting* — Neither Mr. Bourke nor Mayor Chesser attended the most recent meeting, but Mayor Chesser was informed by Amy Rogers that there was nothing major going on.
- Public Works Committee
 - Street signs; speed humps* — No update.
 - Road conditions; potholes* — Mr. Fortwengler inspected the road at Work-A-Haulix on Eastmoor Road and suggested that we repair the potholes instead of repaving the road. Mayor Chesser asked Mr. Fortwengler to check the condition of the pavement on Champions Trace at the railroad tracks. Mayor Chesser will check her files for our contact with Norfolk Southern to discuss the situation. Mr. Fortwengler reported that some pine trees that were planted on the Bellarmine University property behind his and his next-door neighbor's houses are dying. Mayor Chesser will contact George Stewart and ask him to follow-up with Mr. Fortwengler.
 - Street lights; illegal signs* — Mr. O'Bryan recently reported three street lights that were out but doesn't know if they have been repaired.
- Sanitation Committee
No updates. Missed yard waste pickups by Republic Services were discussed. Both Mr. Fortwengler and Mrs. Bumphus said they haven't had any luck getting in touch with anyone at Republic Services when there is a problem. Mayor Chesser asked Ms. Ewan to provide Todd Preher's direct contact information to them so they can report future problems directly to Mr. Preher. Regarding a resident on Larkmoor Lane who constantly complained about missed pickup services, Mrs. Bumphus said he was setting his cans out too late, but she noticed that lately he's been getting his cans out in time.
- Tax Bills Committee
Mrs. Hall reported that real estate tax bills went out last week; personal property tax bills will be mailed later this month.
- Urban Forestry and Green Space Committee/1391 Gardiner Lane Property Development
This topic was covered earlier in tonight's meeting.

Kentucky League of Cities — Mayor Chesser received a package from KLC containing a framed picture of the pond behind YUM! headquarters and a separate certificate in appreciation of our many years as a member of KLC.

YUM! Property Taxes — Mayor Chesser clarified for Ms. Garrett that once the YUM! property on Gardiner Lane is transferred to JCPS, we will no longer receive taxes on this property.

Attorney Crosby Annual Dinner — Everyone decided on either December 9 or December 11 for this dinner. Mayor Chesser will make Mr. Crosby aware of our choices.

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, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion passed with a vote of 6-0, and meeting adjourned at 9:23 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.