

**FORT MITCHELL CITY COUNCIL
MEETING
August 15, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / ROLL CALL

Mayor Hehman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joe Hayes, Kim Nachazel, Dan Rice, Michael Stoeckle and Denny Zahler. Absent Beth Rose. Vicki Boerger arrived late.

OTHERS PRESENT:

City Administrator Sharmili Reddy, City Attorney Louis Kelly, Police Chief Andrew Schierberg, Fire Chief Gary Auffart, Assistant Fire Chief Dave Jansing, Public Works Director Matt Stegman, City Treasurer Amy Guenther, Recreation Coordinator Zach Rehtin, and City Clerk Linda Bartels.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Stoeckle made a motion to approve and amend the agenda by moving the waste/recycling ordinance to first item under the attorney report and moving the parade float awards to the top of the agenda. Mr. Rice offered a second to the motion. After asking for discussion or questions and hearing none, Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried by all ayes. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Rice made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2016 regular council meeting. Mrs. **Nachazel** offered a second to the motion. After asking for discussion or questions and hearing none, Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed by all ayes.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Hehman presented a proclamation Jovana Maric for the VonLehman Company's Make a Difference Day and their 75th anniversary. Ms. Maric thanked the Mayor and Council members.

RECREATION – AWARDS

Mr. Rehtin, Recreation Coordinator, presented an award for the Most Creative Float to Bob Wilson, DCCH. He also thanked Mr. Wilson for allowing the city to stage the parade on their property every year. He presented an award to Best Overall Float to Ms. Danielle (Dani) Peterman and Mr. Joe Christofield, Beechwood Band Boosters. The Knights of Columbus won the most Patriotic award.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mayor Hehman explained the City bid out the trash service twice, because the first bids came back so high. The bids were not too much lower for the second bid. They decided to go with one time per week as the lower option. Best Way will be in the City every day. So, if there is a problem with service, it

will get handled in a timely manner. Citizens will receive a postcard with information regarding the change in waste service. The Fort Mitchell Facebook and website also has information.

Mayor Hehman introduced the new City Attorney, Louis Kelly. Mr. Kelly said he appreciates the opportunity to work with Fort Mitchell. He is with the government practice group at Adams, Stegner, Woltermann & Dusing, PLLC. He also is the City Attorney for Crestview Hills.

Mr. Kelly performed a first reading of Ordinance 2016-11 setting the trash and recycling rate at \$210.36 for once a week service.

Mr. Kelly performed a first reading of Ordinance 2016-09 setting the property tax rate at .138 per one hundred dollars of assessed property value, the compensating rate. Mr. Rice stated this rate was a lower rate than current and is recommended by the finance committee.

Mr. Kelly performed a first reading of Ordinance 2016-10 setting the park tax rate at .02 per one hundred dollars of assessed property value

Mr. Kelly performed a first reading of Ordinance 2016-12 amending the ordinance setting the approved employee positions. Mrs. Reddy said this is changing the number of positions allowed for the part-time Fire Fighter/EMT and Fire Fighter/Paramedic to zero. They will be able to hire more as long as they stay within the budget set by council. It will be noted on the ordinance attachment.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hehman stated recently Dr. Cummings approached the city requesting permission to take out part of the sidewalk to make it ADA compliant for his office. Mayor Hehman thought instead of doing work piecemeal, this might be a good opportunity to look at starting some of beautification on the Dixie corridor that council approved in the current budget. He asked Kevin Dicke and Clete Behnken of MKSK to prepare a streetscape design study. They met city officials, Eric Redfield, owner of Camporosso Pizza and Dr. Cummins, DMD.

They presented their study to the Council. The study roughly runs along Dixie Highway from Buttermilk Pike to Requardt Lane. Tonight they concentrated in the area from Requardt Lane to Kocanut Joes presenting three options.

- Option 1. Provides new permanent green space in front of pizza shop and dentist office. It includes a 30 minute loading zone in front of pizza shop.
- Option 2. Provides new permanent green space in front of pizza shop and dentist office and a flexible parklet. Preserves flexibility for change in the future.
- Option 3. Eliminates all parking and loading spaces in favor of permanent greenspace. It provides low planting in front of pizza hop patio. This would reduce flexibility for changes in the future.

Mr. Redfield stated they have a million dollars investment in his property. He said all his parking will be in the rear and he would prefer no loading zone in front of his business. He likes the idea of a permanent greenspace. They will start construction on his building next week.

Mayor Hehman reported there are flag lots being developed on Ross, Stonewell, and Requardt. The council will review the zoning for all flag lots in September. Mrs. Boerger reported she meet with citizens on Requardt and Virginia and they developed an ordinance regarding flag lots that will be coming to council.

Mayor Hehman reported he met with Fire Chief Auffart, Erlanger Fire Chief Whitaker and Erlanger Mayor Hermes to discuss possible ways to improve service and save money. They are looking into a lot of options including purchasing the same turnout gear that can be used in both departments and contract with one medical coordinator. Chief Auffart called it Enhanced Mutual Aid. They are looking to save money and attract/retain employees. They will look at developing Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines. That way everyone will be working and training the same. It is possible this could develop all across the greater Cincinnati area.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT-SHARMILI REDDY

Mrs. Reddy invited council to attend the next Mayors meeting to be held in Fort Mitchell on September 17th. She also reminded the council that Cincinnati Bell will install a small cell tower in the right of way on Dixie Highway.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Finance – Amy Guenther, City Treasurer

- Informed the council she recently sent out a Request for Proposals to various auditors at the request of the Finance Committee. After review the proposals, they felt it was time for someone new to take a fresh look at our finances. The committee recommend that we go with Rankin and Rankin. They have a lot of government experience.

Police – Andrew Schierberg, Police Chief

- Announced Detective Ron Wietholter retired last week. He had 37 years of law enforcement, nine of those years with Fort Mitchell.
- They are in the process of hiring two new police officers.
- They are working on a number of threats in the Fortside Area.
- Compared our solicitation license to the one in Villa Hills. Ours is stronger, but we do not require a sticker. We will develop a simple sign that can be downloaded from our website. Also will add the form to the site.
- They will look in to Mrs. Nachazel's request to develop a true neighborhood watch in her area. Also will review the possibility of start a citizen's police academy.

Public Works – Matt Stegman, Public Works Director

- Hired a new employee, Jason Cocagne. Mr. Cocagne worked for Fort Mitchell previously and is glad to be back.
- Working on Burdsall and Thompson projects.
- Currently reviewing a bid received today for a new dump truck. He also order a new pickup truck.
- Reviewed the cost of removing snow from 1.2 miles of private streets and 24.3 miles of public streets. . It is costing us approximately \$3,100 per year to clear the private streets. We receive \$400 dollars per year for the service. Also, their streets are narrow and a safety issue for us. A detailed report will be emailed to council.

Administration – Linda Carter, City Clerk

- Tax bills will be out in less than a month.
- The codification is ready for review. Contact her if you need a hard copy. It will be brought to council next month for consideration.

Recreation – Zach Rehtin, Recreation Coordinator

- A comprehensive recreation report will be ready August 22.

Assistant Fire Chief Dave Jansing thanked everyone for their well wishes after his recent surgery. He is feeling great and should be back to work fully by November 7th.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Zahler made the motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 8:29 p.m. Mrs. Nachazel offered a second to the motion. After asking for discussion or questions and hearing none, the Mayor called for a voice vote. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Signed _____, 2016

Jude Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:

Linda Bartels, City Clerk