

**FORT MITCHELL CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
July 1, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / MOMENT OF SILENCE / ROLL CALL**

Mayor Wiest called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Vicki Boerger, Mary Burns, Ray Heist, Frank Hicks, Jim Hummeldorf, Kim Nachazel and Dennis Zahler.

**NOT PRESENT:** Dan Rice

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mayor Chris Wiest, City Attorney Rob Ziegler, City Administrator Chris Moriconi, Police Chief Jeff Eldridge, Public Works Director Dave Noll, Detective Ron Wietholter, Gene Bishop Vice Chairman of Crime Stoppers, Judge Executive Steve Arlinghaus, and City Clerk Martha Allen.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Zahler made a motion to approve the minutes of June 3, 2013.** Mrs. Boerger 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.**

**Mr. Hicks made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 10, 2013.** Mr. Heist 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.**

**PRESENTATION**

Chief Eldridge introduced Joe Wilder, the newest police officer, to the Council.

Gene Bishop the Vice Chairman of Crime Stoppers appeared before Council to accept a check for over \$7,000.00 that was raised from the first annual Fort Mitchell Police Car Show organized by the Police Department. Mr. Bishop presented Chief Eldridge, Detective Wietholter and Stan Thomakos Manager of the Ft. Mitchell Montgomery Inn with the Crime Stopper Challenge Coin in appreciation for the hard work that went into this event. Chief Eldridge stated that Mr. Thomakos was instrumental in making the car show happen and partnering with the Police Department.

The Mayor stated that Chief Eldridge has resolved a number of matters since taking his position. The Chief personally spent hundreds of hours addressing issues with the USA Hotel. He rallied the department and the neighbors to take charge and deal with issues that the Hotel was creating. By the summer of 2011 the Hotel entered into an abatement agreement. By December of 2011, the Hotel had shut down which put a stop to the over 300 police calls that had come in associated with the Hotel over a five-year period. The Chief implemented community based policing within the Department which included Back the Blue events and neighborhood cookouts. These events, although planned with the help of the entire department, occurred because of the leadership and vision of our Chief. The Mayor noted that the entire Police Department has appeared before Council tonight, in support of Chief Eldridge's leadership and to recognize Chief Eldridge for his contributions today. The Mayor stated that a submission was made earlier this year on Chief Eldridge's behalf to the American Police Hall of Fame for these accomplishments, for the Outstanding Achievement award. The Mayor presented Chief Eldridge with the Outstanding Achievement Award.

The Chief thanked everyone and stated that the credit should be given to his department because they work very hard to make the Department run so well.

#### **CITIZENS ADDRESS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

**Jack Sturm** appeared before Council to state that he believes that the City should be paying for road repair for the Ft. Mitchell Place community. Ms. Burns stated that she has been an advocate for this issue. She stated that the Ft. Mitchell Place neighborhood will now have snow removal done by the City due to a negotiated agreement.

The Mayor stated that the problem with repairing the streets is a legal problem. The streets in this neighborhood are not owned by the City. These streets do not meet the subdivision standards set by Kenton County Planning Commission. To meet these standards, the streets would have to be widened. The Mayor stated that he understands the perspective of the residents of Ft. Mitchell Place and that is why the City wanted to move forward and take over the snow removal.

Mr. Sturm asked if the tax that is paid by citizens of Ft. Mitchell Place could be returned to them if the City cannot repair their roads. Ms. Burns stated that the board members of the home owner's association could not agree on how to receive these funds. Mr. Zeigler stated that the City looked at an allocation plan to see if it was possible to get the money back to the Ft. Mitchell Place citizens. Determining a fair distribution system for determining how much money should be returned to what citizen was extremely difficult and very involved. We were unable to determine a fair and accurate method for distributing the funds. Mr. Ziegler added that the basis for doing the snow removal is to ensure that the emergency vehicles can get to the citizens of Ft. Mitchell Place if need be. The City wanted to make sure that the citizens could receive those services and the Mayor specifically wrote for, and received, a Kentucky Attorney General's Opinion that indicated that doing so would be legal, because it involved access to the neighborhood by emergency responders, and the City charged a reasonable fee for it..

**Judge Executive Steve Arlinghaus** appeared before Council to present the City with a check for \$2,145.00 for the Fire Department's assistance with an accident that occurred two months ago at the entrance ramp of I-275 where it intersects with KY 17. A tanker had spilled over at that location. Sometimes, the cities are able to recoup the costs of assisting with clean up and emergency services with these accidents. This is one of those occasions. The Mayor thanked Judge Arlinghaus for the check.

**Mr. Thomas** from Airport Towing appeared before Council to offer his services as a towing partner of ours. The Mayor stated that we will be going out to bid for these towing services and there will likely be multiple companies that will be providing these services for us. The Mayor welcomed Mr. Thomas to bid for these services and thanked him for sharing his interest.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Mr. Noll reported that the majority of the work on Superior has been completed. Bids for the second phase of Pleasant Ridge are due next week. The crew is making significant repairs on Watch Hill. They are also working on Marquette. They are also looking for trip hazards before the parade so they can be prepared before people are out. There was a site walk with five very qualified firms participating for the renovation of the City Building.

Chris Moriconi presented the report for the Recreation Department. Director Kim Stoll created an attendance and cost breakdown for Council for each event that was held this year. This report was distributed to Council.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no committee reports.

**CITY COUNCIL EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no event announcements.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Hummeldorf made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, including Municipal Order 2013-20 – Handicapped Parking on Leathers Road. Mr. Zahler offered a second to the motion. After asking for any further discussion or questions and hearing none, the Mayor called for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mr. Ziegler performed a second reading of Ordinance 2013-14 – Amending Chronic Nuisance. Mr. Zahler made a motion to approve Ordinance 2013-14 – Amending Chronic Nuisance. Mr. Hicks gave a second to the motion. After asking for discussion or questions and hearing none, the Mayor called for a roll call vote.

Mrs. Boerger:	Yes	Ms. Burns:	Yes
Mr. Heist:	Yes	Mr. Hicks:	Yes
Mr. Hummeldorf:	Yes	Mrs. Nachazel:	Yes
Mr. Rice:	Absent	Mr. Zahler:	Yes
Ayes: 7	Nays: 0	Absent: 1	Motion Passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Mayor stated that he received a call from Mr. Zahler today with some questions about proposed Ordinance 2013-15, Solicitation. The Mayor recommended sending this Ordinance back to the Public Safety Committee for another review. The Council agreed and the Ordinance will be sent back for review.

The Council discussed this proposed Ordinance 2013-15.

Mr. Ziegler performed a first reading of Ordinance 2013-16 – Alcohol Beverage Control.

Mr. Zahler made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-08 - Approving contract for city attorney. Ms. Burns offered a second to the motion. After asking for any further discussion or questions and hearing none, the Mayor called for a voice vote. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Moriconi stated that insurance went out to bid and that we will realize over \$10,000.00 savings from the rates we got last year. The Mayor stated that a lot of work went into bidding the insurance. He thanked Mr. Moriconi and City Treasurer Amy Guenther for their work. Mr. Zahler made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-09 - Approving liability insurance and workers compensation. Mr. Hummeldorf offered a second to the motion. After asking for any further discussion or questions and hearing none, the Mayor called for a voice vote. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The Mayor stated that this was an option year for our waste management contract. We negotiated with Bavarian and they agreed to reduce the rate increase by half of what it would have been, which amounts to \$0.20 per resident per month. Mr. Moriconi noted that these rates seem to only go up with the price of gasoline. Ms. Burns made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-10 – Approving waste contract option year with renegotiated lower rates for option year. Mrs. Boerger offered a second to the motion. After asking for any further discussion or questions and hearing none, the Mayor called for a voice vote. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Hummeldorf presented proposed Ordinance 2013-17 – Speed Humps. He stated this Ordinance is a proposed set of standards for determining where a speed hump shall be placed. Residents have input as to where the speed humps will go. Data will be collected concerning traffic patterns on streets. In addition, standards for removing speed humps are also included in this Ordinance. The Public Safety Committee will be discussing this Ordinance again. The Council discussed proposed Ordinance 2013-17 – Speed Humps.

#### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Moriconi stated that soccer field bids were received. Team All Sports was the low bidder. The bids were voted on by the Park Board who approved this company to complete the work. This project will start at the end of July.

Mr. Moriconi stated that he, the Mayor and the City Clerk worked with our health insurance agents to get the best rates that we could before the likely rate increase in health insurance that will occur in December 2014. Many local entities are looking into self insurance. We are looking at pooling with other cities to see if there is cost savings. We were able to reduce our rates for the upcoming year and will work hard to plan avoid the anticipated increases of next year. The Mayor stated that we budgeted for a 15% increase and we were actually able to get a 9% decrease in our rates.

Mr. Moriconi stated that he and the Mayor visited Redzone to welcome the new business to the area. He noted that the City received a number of resident inquiries about the business, and we are certain that the business will be a welcome addition to the City. The anticipated opening date is sometime in the third week in July.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor stated that there is a developer for the Drawbridge property. The developer is close to securing the two anchor tenants. There may be a possible map or text amendment which we discussed with the Planning Commission. The entire Drawbridge would be raised.

The Mayor stated that he went to a meeting at the Planning Commission to discuss goals and objectives. Although, not all of the cities agree on the goals and objectives the meeting was productive.

We will be setting a certain amount of money aside over a period of time for the repairs to be made on Bromley-Crescent Springs Road. Our portion of that road and our payment for this is relatively limited. We may be doing an agreement with the county to budget for these funds.

We will need a special meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup> for tax rates. A representative from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet will be present to talk about the Brent-Spence Bridge project.

The grand marshal of the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade John Hiltz will be flying in on Wednesday at 11:00 am. We will be going to greet him upon his arrival. The roads will be shut down for the parade around 11:50 am on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Zahler made the motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting. Mr. Hicks 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. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Signed wa Aug 5, 2013



Christopher Wiest, Mayor

Minutes Prepared and  
Signature Witnessed By:



Martha Allen, City Clerk