

**FORT MITCHELL CITY COUNCIL
MEETING
September 18, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Vicki Boerger, Mary Burns, Kim Nachazel, Greg Pohlgeers, Beth Rose and Michael Stoeckle. Jim Hummeldorf was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT

City Administrator Sharmili Reddy, City Attorney Louis Kelly, Fire Chief Gary Auffart, Police Chief Andrew Schierberg and Park Director Kyle Bennett.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve the agenda as amended by removing the Volunteer Service Award Recognition for Bob Williams, Park Board member. Mr. Williams was unable to attend the meeting. Mrs. Rose 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.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Stoeckle made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2017 council meeting. Mrs. Boerger 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.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS - None

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD RECOGNITION

Mayor Hehman presented Eric and Amy Redfield, owners of Camparosso, with Fort Mitchell's Community Investment Award. Mayor Hehman explained the award is given to business owners who invest a significant amount of time and resources to the community. He thanked them for all they have done to improve the area.

PRESENTATION

Mayor Hehman stated in a recent interview with TBNK he was asked, "What is Fort Mitchell's hidden gem?" His answer was Vent Haven Museum. People come from all over the world to visit Vent Haven. He introduced Lisa Sweasy, Director/Curator and Anne Roberts, Director, of Vent Haven Museum. Ms. Sweasy explained William Berger spent his lifetime collecting everything related to ventriloquism. When he died in 1972 he left behind more than 500 dummies and puppets. Today they have almost twice that number along with books, correspondence, photographs, audio recording and much more. The collection has grown, but the building has not. Currently they are trying to raise

money to construct a new building that will house the collection and still fit in with the neighborhood. One way to help with the fund raising is to sponsor a dummy as Mayor Hehman did. They presented the Mayor with a document showing he sponsored Howdy Doody, a new addition to the Museum.

SNOW REMOVAL ON PRIVATE STREETS

Mayor Hehman stated that there may be some new developments in the City that will bring in more private streets. The City is not responsible for maintaining the private streets. However, four years ago the City entered into contracts with all but one private street to do the snow removal for \$50 per street per year. Mayor Hehman asked that Mr. Stegman review these contracts and make a recommendation. Mr. Stegman recommended they increase the cost to \$0.55 per linear foot per year. This would be a more equitable system. Now a street 365' is paying the same rate as one that is 1,585'. Private streets are not normally built to public street standards and the residents usually pay a fee to have an Association maintain the street. After discussion, council agreed to increase the cost to 0.55 per linear foot per year for snow removal. This will go into effect July 1, 2018. The rate of \$50 per street will still be in effect this winter.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Kelly performed the reading of Municipal Order 2017-13, Snow Removal on Private Streets, the change will go into effect July 1, 2018. Mrs. Burns made a motion to pass Municipal Order 2017-13. Mrs. Boerger made a second to the motion. Mayor Hehman asked for further discussion or questions and hearing none, he called for a voice vote. The vote was answered by all ayes. The motion passed.

Mrs. Reddy introduced Mr. David Heidrich of Zalla Companies. She stated Mr. Heidrich is asking the City to submit a text amendment application to Kenton County Planning Commission. If KCPC approves the amendment, it will return to Council for their approval before it is final.

Mr. Heidrich explained they want to update the strip center behind Graeters. They propose to remove the exterior and remodel the inside. He currently has a hair salon, fitness place, financial services, real estate office and a high end hamburger restaurant interested in moving into this location. The restaurant would like to have some outdoor seating and that is currently is not allowed in the zone. That is why he is requesting the text amendment.

Mr. Kelly performed a reading of Resolution 2017-13 authorizing the submission of a text amendment application to add conditional uses to the Commercial Planned Unit Development (C-PUD) zone and add outdoor dining as a conditional use in the Limited Highway Service (LHS) zone. Mrs. Nachazel made a motion to pass Resolution 2017-13. Mrs. Rose made a second to the motion. Mayor Hehman asked for further discussion or questions and hearing none, he called for a voice vote. The vote was answered by all ayes. The motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hehman said Ashly Development plans to build ten new homes at the end of Floral Drive. He said this is exciting and concerning at the same time. There is only one way in and one way out on Highland Avenue. The Fire Department is meeting with Ashly Development to discuss possibilities.

Mayor Hehman announced Chief Schierberg is going to submit a bid on providing police services to the City of Crescent Springs. Chief Schierberg stated Fort Mitchell has a lot to offer Crescent Springs. He will met with the City Treasurer this week to discuss the finances of the project.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Mrs. Reddy said a resident on Beechwood Road, who gets around the City in a wheelchair, thanked the public works crew for repairing a very bad part of the sidewalk on his street.
- Tax bills will go out within two weeks. They are due October 31st without penalty. The bill will include a survey. Please encourage all residents to complete and return it.
- If the State increases the pension percentage at the current stated rates, our share of the contribution will be approximately \$400,000 to \$500,000. Senator McDaniel is backing a more phased in plan for increases. Please continue to push for the separation of CERS from KRS, Kentucky Retirement System. Now is the time to contact our legislators and encourage others to contact them.
- The City will allow earlier trash pickup on streets that are under construction.
- PDS is working on updating land use in the comprehensive plan. It is a very important part of the plan.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Pohlgeers stated that Chris Gangwish has offered help for first responders that could be potential suicide victims and hopes they take advantage of it.

Mrs. Burns asked if it was possible to have a quiet zone for the trains. Mrs. Reddy said she will look into it but is hard to get the railroad to change.

Mrs. Burns asked about a pedestrian that was hit on the Highway recently. Mayor Hehman said Greg Ziegler was hit and he is in the audience tonight. Mayor Hehman asked Mr. Ziegler if that was why he was attending the meeting tonight. Mr. Ziegler said yes, he is very concerned about the safety of crossing streets. Chief Schierberg stated he looked at the area and would like to do something to remind drivers to watch for pedestrians.

Mr. Stoeckle said Kenton County is holding the annual Citizen's Academy soon and he encouraged everyone to attend. He also stated that the lawsuit regarding the telecommunications tax has been settled however we are still waiting for some clarification from Department of Revenue regarding collection.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Parks – Kyle Bennett

- Shelters were booked every Friday, Saturday and Sunday all summer.
- Currently hosting flag football, soccer, baseball and volleyball. There will be a Frisbee event soon.
- The Park Board met with the community and reviewed the surveys submitted to developed a list of priorities – General Ormsby Park

1. Teardown the current pavilion and construct a new building with the possibility of including a recreation center. Build an amphitheater near the current stage area.
2. Develop a walking trail that is handicap accessible
3. Expand the parking lot by 24 to 25 parking spaces
4. Move the baseball field, add batter cage and in ground dugouts

Mr. Bennett said they are working with Bayer Becker to see what is feasible and the approximate cost.

Police Department – Chief Andrew Schierberg

- He is looking at the intersection of Dixie Highway and Orphanage Road to see if there is a way to make drivers more aware of pedestrians. Mayor Hehman said he appreciated Mr. Ziegler bringing up a potential safety issue in the area around Remke's. He will have the Fire, Police and Public Works Departments look at the area.
- There is a vacancy in the Department now with Mark Spanyer retiring.
- The Police will be in Bigby's on November 1st for Coffee with Cops.

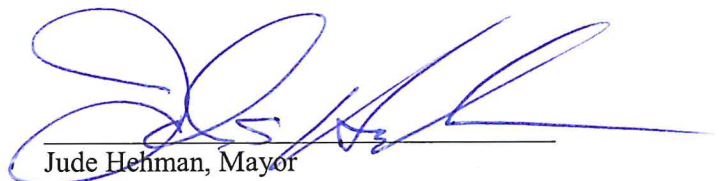
Fire Department – Chief Gary Auffart

Chief Auffart submitted a packet of information regarding open burning. He stated there are always problems with issuing permits. There are a lot of complaints regarding the fire and smoke. Volunteer Fire Chief/Mayor of Lakeside Park Dave Jansing said in Lakeside Park they went with PDS for nuisances and added controls for burning. All outdoor fires are banned except for torches, grills and approved fire pits no larger than three square feet. Now permits are not needed as no open burning is allowed. It is working well in Lakeside Park. It cut down on calls and complaints. Mrs. Reddy asked if there were any objections to her bringing an ordinance banning open burning to council. There were no objections.

Mayor Hehman wished Mrs. Reddy a Happy Birthday!

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Boerger made the motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 8:35 p.m. Mr. Pohlgeers 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 unanimous voice vote.



Jude Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:



Linda Bartels, City Clerk