

**FORT MITCHELL CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
March 4, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / ROLL CALL

Mayor Hehman called the regular council meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Vicki Boerger, Greg Pohlgeers, Michael Stoeckle, Mary Burns, Jerry Deatherage, Scott McVey and Kim Nachazel.

OTHERS PRESENT

City Administrator, Sharmili Reddy; City Attorney, Claire Parsons; Fire Chief, Adam Fuller; Police Chief, Andrew Schierberg; Public Works Director, Matt Stegman; and City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Hehman asked for a motion for approval of the agenda. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to approve the agenda. 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 all ayes.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mayor Hehman asked for a motion for approval of the February 4, 2019 minutes. Ms. Burns made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2019 council meeting as presented. Mr. McVey offered a second to the motion. After asking for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed by all ayes.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

Mayor Hehman asked if there were any citizens or guests that wanted to speak.

Lisa Sweasy, the curator for Vent Haven Museum, stated that anyone can adopt a dummy on their website for \$50 per year. She showed all of the dummies adopted by council and the Mayor. So far this campaign has raised \$23,000. The Vent Haven Museum is also raising \$1,000,000 for a capital campaign. So far they have raised \$536,000. Also, on April 20, 2019 at 3:00 PM there will be a Ventriloquist Show at the Notre Dame Academy Performing Arts Center.

James Sparrow from Rankin, Rankin & Company presented the audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018 to Council. Mr. Sparrows stated that the City of Fort Mitchell is in a strong financial position and received an unqualified opinion, which is the highest opinion.

Jill Conniff, Associate Planner for Planning & Development Services of Kenton County (PDS), went over the Z21 Zoning Code Update. Direction 2030 suggested zoning ordinance changes 130 times. PDS has completed the first phase which included a professional audit of all of the different area ordinances. PDS is currently working on the second phase-Master Blue Print Code. Cities will be able to customize and implement zoning ordinances in phase three.

The new zoning ordinances will be user friendly by:

- Using consistent graphs and tables
- Using consistent and easier language

- Streamlining 100 zoning districts to 25 zoning districts
- Including picture as examples
- Placing processes and procedures in one location

Katie Dillenberger, Traffic Engineer from Bayer Becker, handed out and went over the Highland Avenue traffic summary and public feedback. On January 15, 2019 The City hosted an open house. 71 residents attended and comments were received from 16 additional residents. Overall, the residents agreed with the traffic issues but did not agree with the potential solutions. It was decided that the City would wait to see how the Beechwood Turn Lane will improve traffic after it is constructed this summer. Ms. Dillenberger and Sharmili Reddy are going to meet with Blessed Sacrament to discuss traffic flow as it relates to the school. This City is considering placing temporary no parking signs on Highland Avenue from Oak to Floral to see if that is an acceptable solution. Council members suggested that they be given some time until the next meeting to take all this information in and figure out the next steps.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ms. Parsons performed a reading of **Resolution No. 2019-3. Authorizing an Application to be submitted to the Kenton County Planning Commission for a Text Amendment to the Fort Mitchell Zoning Ordinance Amending the Requirements of the Neighborhood Commercial (NC) Zone.** Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve the resolutions and Mr. Deatherage seconded the motion.

The text amendment would add microbreweries as a permitted use and allow music and sound amplifying systems in the outdoor dining area during the hours of 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and between 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays provided the property is not adjacent to residential uses. Also, it would increase the outdoor seating capacity from 25% to 50% of the maximum indoor seating area.

Mayor Hehman asked if there was any more discussion and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion passed with all ayes.

Ms. Parsons performed a reading of **Resolution No. 2019-4. Authorizing the mayor to apply for Federal Emergency Management Assistance funds from the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant (SAFER) Program to provide a portion of wages and benefits for up to four additional full-time firefighter/paramedics and further authorizing the expenditure of the required matching contribution if awarded.**

Mayor Hehman asked if there was any discussion and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion passed with all ayes.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Pikeville, Kentucky's Superintendent, Fire Chief, Police Chief, Economic Development Director, Mayor and CAO visited Fort Mitchell's leadership team. The two cities learned a lot from each other.
- The finance Committee will be meeting next week and the Mayor is going to present the Duke Franchise Fee as a revenue option to pay for the increasing pension liability. The allowable tax rate is up to 5%.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- There is a public hearing at PDS on the text application for the Mixed Business Land Use Zone at 6:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 7th. Ms. Parson advised that council not speak at this meeting since the application will come back to them for final approval.

- The Dixie Highway Tree Removal and Replacement project will be starting soon. The City will hang signs, post on Facebook, send E-newsletter and hopefully get River City News to post an article to educate the public. The City will be removing 21 trees, grinding the stumps and planting 29 trees.
- We had one inquiry from a resident about renting his second home as a short term rental (like Airbnb). The City is taking the stance that short term rentals are less than 30 days and are not currently permitted in the City's residential zone. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that the City can either disallow short term rentals or allow them and then tax them. Ms. Nachazel asked, what if someone is selling their house and rents the house for a short period of time before they move. Ms. Reddy stated that this is not allowed, but since citing is complaint driven, that has never been an issue.
- Since a child was hurt last year in the parade, we are looking at a minimum age (possibly 12 years old) to walk in the parade to prevent future accidents.
- Some downtown businesses are inquiring if the City could help with façade improvements. Ms. Reddy stated that the City could implement a program that offers an interest free loan or offer matching grants. Council would need to approve this and it would need to be included in the budget.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Mr. Pohlgeers stated that Lakeside Park's Mayor and our Assistant Fire Chief, Dave Jansing, has been appointed President and Mr. Pohlgeers has been appointed as Secretary of the PDS Management board.

Ms. Burns announced that Party in the Fort will be May 18, 2019. They are looking for sponsors and basket donations.

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORTS

Public Works Director, Matt Stegman

- The City received three bids for constructing a sidewalk along Orphanage Road. JPS Construction was the lowest bidder at \$325,000 including the alternate bid. We are still waiting for the encroachment permit from the State.
- The State is bidding out the Beechwood Road turn lane project this month. Most of the work will be done this summer after school closes. Mr. Stegman will be meeting with the State to go over how traffic will be affected.
- The City has signed the Deauville lighting contract with Duke Energy. The Homeowners Association are installing coordinating lights in the parking lot.
- SD1 is starting the Royal Drive storm sewer project next week. Construction time will be 6-8 weeks during which time Royal Drive will be closed and there will be detours during construction. The Mayor expressed concerns over Duke Energy's contractor storing equipment at the Drawbridge site. Ms. Reddy stated that she would work with Christ Hospital to address that issue.
- Beechwood Road striping will be done as soon as the weather is warmer.
- SD1 is currently working on the storm sewer from Avon Drive to Chelsea.
- Ms. Burns asked if there was any more discussion regarding a stoplight on Buttermilk near Chelsea. The Mayor stated that Dave Heidrich has asked the State to add a light in front of Graeters Ice Cream on Buttermilk Pike. The Mayor thinks this request will be denied, but if a light was granted the Chelsea intersection would likely need to be eliminated.

Fire Chief, Adam Fuller

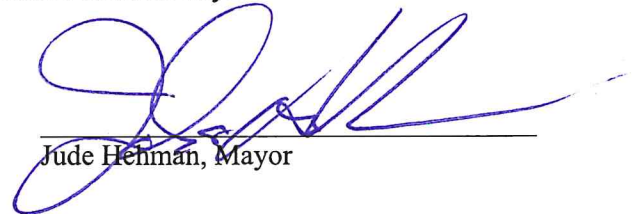
- On March 12th the fire department will have a budget meeting and they will also be announcing their volunteer of the year award.
- The fire department has received 3 volunteer applications.

Police Chief, Andrew Schierberg

- The police department has received 40 applications for the open position.
- The police served lunch at the Diocesan Children's Home. It was a great experience and he would encourage other businesses and people to serve there.
- Crime dropped in February compared to February 2018 and there were no accidents.
- The radar speed data has shown that very few cars are speeding. Based on the data the police will come to council with suggestions.
- The Mayor stated that three residents called to thank the police for monitoring traffic on Dixie when school is starting and dismissing. Two people complained because they received speeding tickets.
- The Safety Committee recommended expanding school zone lights to make the school zones more visible.
- The Mayor stated that the City cannot force the state to fill potholes, so on occasion the public works crew will fill some of the pot holes that are dangerous. The Mayor asked council if they are alright with using City resources for filling large pot holes. Council agreed that they are fine with it for safety purposes. Ms. Reddy said that we encourage our residents to call the State to file a complaint.

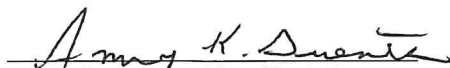
ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Nachazel made a motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 8:14 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 unanimously.



Jude Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:



Amy Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer