

**CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE  
MEETING AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING AT TBNK.ORG UNDER "TBNK TO GO"  
April 13, 2020, 6:30 p.m.**

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

Mayor Jude Hehman, called the regular council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., announced roll call, led a moment of silence and Jerry Deatherage led a small prayer.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor Jude Hehman asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Burns seconded the motion. After asking for any discussion and hearing none, Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried with all ayes.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Mayor Jude Hehman asked if there were any changes to the March 2, 2020 minutes. Hearing none, Mayor Jude Hehman asked for a motion. Ms. Burns made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2020 council meeting. Mr. Stoeckle seconded the motion. After asking for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed by all ayes.

**CITIZENS AND GUESTS**

Mayor Jude Hehman asked City Administrator Ms. Reddy if there were any guest's questions or concerns, Ms. Reddy stated none were submitted.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Ms. Parsons read **RESOLUTION 2020 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR FUNDS FROM AND ADMINISTERED BY THE KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FOR A POWER COT AND LOAD SYSTEM** for an ambulance. Mr. Deatherage made a motion to accept this resolution as read and Ms. Nachazel seconded the motion. Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote and the motion passed with all ayes.

Ms. Parsons read **RESOLUTION 2020-04 AUTHORIZING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SMALL BUSINESS LOAN OR GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST SMALL BUSINESSES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**. Ms. Reddy stated that small businesses are struggling. Federal loans will take

some time. This resolution is proposing to distribute \$2,500 to up to 50 small businesses. The terms have not been defined yet and still need to be worked out but small businesses could be defined as three to fifty employees. The City could tie this grant or loan to whether the business applied to the federal loan program. The City would like to start taking applications Friday, April 17th, 2020 and run checks the following week. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that federal money will run out and that it is important for cities to step up to help small businesses as part of economic development for the City. Ms. Burns agreed and asked how the City would be getting the word out. Ms. Reddy stated that the City would get the word out by advertising this program through the City's Facebook page, website and e-newsletter. Ms. Nachazel would like this money for locally owned businesses. Mr. Deatherage asked if the number of employees includes the business owners. Ms. Reddy stated yes. The Mayor stated that this resolution is broad and the City will continue to fine tune the terms. The Mayor stated that the goal is to help businesses to stay open and keep their businesses in the City of Fort Mitchell. Mr. Pohlgeers would like Council to be kept abreast of the terms. Mr. Deatherage made a motion to accept this resolution as read and Mr. Pohlgeers seconded the motion. Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote and the motion passed with all ayes.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Hehman read **EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-09 to DECLARE SURPLUS PROPERTY** including a fire truck, public works pickup truck and equipment. Ms. Burns made a motion to approve the Executive Order as read and Ms. Nachazel seconded the motion. Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote and the motion passed with all ayes.

- Governor Beshear announced a drive-through testing site for COVID-19 in Summit View School in Kenton County. Appointments begin Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Kenton County Judge Executive Knochelmann and Emergency Management Director, Steve Hensley worked hard to get this testing in Northern Kentucky. Governor Beshear is encouraging the Commonwealth to light up buildings in green in for those we've lost to COVID19. The City Building's will continue to be lit up in green.
- The Mayor's group continues to have weekly meetings with Kenton County Judge Executive Knochelmann.
- The City's parks are still open for walking. Playgrounds, tennis and basketball court areas are closed due to COVID-19. Residents should continue to practice social distancing.
- Thanks to the first responders for adopting all of the new policies and keeping the City safe. The City's administration continues to work remotely and will return phone calls and emails, but the office is closed to the public.
- Bestway will only pick up garbage that are in trash cans. Residents can phone Bestway if their trash can is full, to schedule an extra pick up for free or order an additional trash can for \$3.00 per month. A 30 yard dumpster was placed at the City building today, April 14, 2020, for large item drop off and yard waste. It is not for hazardous materials. Ms. Nachazel commented that Bestway has said that there will be a charge for an extra pickup. Ms. Reddy stated that she will check into this.
- Thanks to Senator Chris McDaniel, Senate bill 249 passes and will keep Retirement contribution percentage rates the same as this fiscal year.
- 56% of Fort Mitchell residents have completed the Census. Continue to encourage residents to complete the Census.
- The City's Program and Communication Coordinator, Janie Patterson, will be missed. She has moved on to a new opportunity.

## **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- Thanks to first responders, public works and administrative staff for adapting to changes in a short time frame.
- Thanks to volunteers Stacey Grabow, Anna Kirschner, Craig Grabow and Nicole Clements for bagging and giving away 800 trees for Arbor Day.

## **COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mayor Jude Hehman thanked Councilman McVey for coming up with the idea of the City developing a video with a united COVID-19 message.

Mr. Pohlgeers stated that he was on the committee to reorganize the Planning and Development Services (PDS) Management Board and Executive Committee. The Executive Director of PDS announced that he will retire in August and the committee members are conducting interviews.

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

### **City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther**

- Kentucky is delaying the certification process of property values so the tax rates will not be able to be set until October. The City may need to modify property tax collection deadlines within the City's ordinance and add council meeting dates to adopt a property tax rate.

### **Public Works Director, Matt Stegman**

- City Building drive way, sidewalk and curb project is delayed and should be starting later this week.
- Riegler Construction was awarded the Ridge and West Orchard project. There will be a Zoom public meeting with residents to discuss.
- Highland Avenue resurfacing project will be advertised next week and start in May or June.

### **Police Chief, Andrew Schierberg**

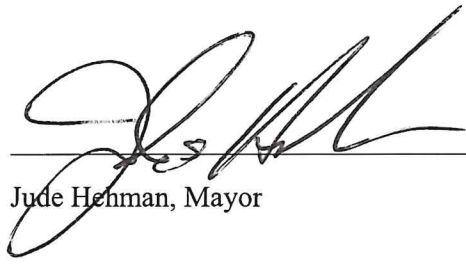
- Reviewed the March police report.
- Call volume dropped 40% due to COVID-19.
- Domestic violence calls increased 42%.
- Aleatha Brown is now in field training. She is riding in her own cars to maintain social distance.
- Detective Stulz and the Chief are working from home and will provide a healthy reserve if other officers are quarantined.
- Thanks to Nancy Conner for making custom masks for the officers.

### **Fire Chief, Adam Fuller**

- Reviewed the March Fire and EMS report.
- All trucks renumbered and lettered to avoid duplication with other area fire departments.
- Three fire department employees, Paul Griffith, Kyle Kilby and Melina Schuler, will be receiving awards from American Heart Association for quick stroke patient run time.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Stoeckle made a motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting and Ms. Burns seconded the motion.. After asking for discussion or questions and hearing none, Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously at 7:21 p.m.



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Jude Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:

Amy K. Guenther  
Amy Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer