# CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING 2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY COUNCIL ROOM

# MEETING AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING AT TBNK.ORG UNDER "TBNK TO GO" September 14, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

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

Mayor Jude Hehman, called the council meeting to order at 6:31 p.m., called roll and announced that there was a quorum.

# MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Jude Hehman, Scott McVey, Mary Burns, Jerry Deatherage, Kim Nachazel, and Greg Pohlgeers. Vicki Boerger arrived at 6:33 p.m.

### OTHERS PRESENT

Acting City Administrator and Police Chief, Andrew Schierberg; City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther; City Attorney, Claire Parsons; and Park Director, Kyle Bennett

# APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Mayor 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 Hehman asked if there were any changes to the August 24, 2020 minutes. Ms. Boerger made a motion to approve the August 24, 2020 minutes. Mr. Pohlgeers seconded the motion. After asking for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed with all ayes.

#### STETT TRANSPORTATION GROSS RECEIPTS TAX

This presentation was postponed to the September 21, 2020 council meeting. There was no discussion.

## PARK RENOVATION DISCUSSION

Mr. Jeff Epplen, from the Park Board, presented the drawings of the Park Renovation that was bid out. The renovations added parking, a walking trail, improved drainage, a rearranged baseball field, a new pavilion with restrooms and storage and it would make the park ADA compliant. Mr. Epplen stated that the park is a 40 to 45-year-old park. Mr. Epplen said that the Park Tax and Board were there to maintain the City's park. The Park Board has \$400,000 for the Park renovation. Mr. Epplen asked for the City to pay the additional \$787,636. Mr. Epplen stated that there is a five-year plan after the renovation to improve other areas like the fields and the playground equipment. Mr. Bennett stated that the Park is used for events and the recreation program and the City residents deserve a nice park. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that he does not think patchwork renovations is fiscally responsible. Mr. Bennett stated that the City would recognize a 33% savings by renovating the park all at once. Mr. Pohlgeers would like to see a spreadsheet of the five-year plan. Mr. Deatherage asked what other cities do and asked for a projection of

revenue. Chief Schierberg stated that the current bids are open until September 28<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor stated that he would like to see a five-year plan.

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

- Mayor Hehman asked Ms. Parsons if taxing business personal property is mandatory. Ms. Parsons reviewed KRS 92.280 and the Kentucky Constitution and stated that it is mandatory to charge the tax on commercial personal property. Ms. Parsons stated that most cities do charge this tax.. Mr. Deatherage, Ms. Nachazel and Ms. Burns stated that in the current environment due to COVID-19, they did not feel comfortable starting taxing this type of property this year and would like to give businesses notice so that they can plan for this. Mr. Pohlgeers agreed, but stated that Council should commit to looking at revisiting next year. Mr. Deatherage moved that the personal property tax language be removed from this year's ordinance to be read.
- Mayor Hehman stated that there is a financial summary in the Council Packet. Ms. Guenther stated
  that business revenue was budgeted to decrease from April-June, but overall, it increased 16-20%
  from the same quarter last year.

# CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Parsons performed a first reading on Ordinance 2020-05: Amending Chapter 39 of the City of Fort Mitchell Code of Ordinances and Ordinance 2017-16 to Allow a Grace Period, Change of Penalty and Interest Rates and Add a Hardship Payment Plan. Ms. Guenther stated that the interest rate for delinquent property taxes would increase from 6% to 12% per annum, the late payment penalty would decrease from 15% to 10%, the grace period would be extended from three days to November 30<sup>th</sup> and a hardship payment plan process was added. Ms. Guenther stated that these changes were discussed at the planning meeting.

Ms. Parsons performed a first reading on Ordinance 2020-06: Levying a Tax of \$.02 on Each One Hundred Dollars for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for the Purpose of Purchasing and Maintaining Parks. The Mayor stated that this rate has remained the same since the tax was implemented.

Ms. Parsons performed a first reading on Ordinance 2020-07: Providing for the Assessment of Property within the Corporate Limits of the City of Fort Mitchell, Kentucky and Levying an Ad Valorem Tax of \$0.136 on Each One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of Assessed Valuation of Real Property for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 and Specifying the Purpose for Which the Taxes are Levied. Mayor Hehman stated that this rate is the same as last year's tax rate.

Ms. Parsons performed a first reading of Ordinance 2020-08; Enacting and Adopting a Supplement of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Mitchell, Kentucky.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deatherage made a motion at 7:41 p.m. to adjourn the City Council meeting and Ms. Burns seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Jude Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:

Amy Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer