

**CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER
2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY, FORT MITCHELL, KY 41017
May 17, 2021, 5:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Jude Hehman, called the regular council meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Present: Mayor Jude Hehman, Mary Burns, Vicki Boerger, Greg Pohlgeers, Alyson Roeding and Michael Stoeckle

Absent: Jerry Deatherage and Kim Nachazel

OTHERS PRESENT

City Administrator, Edwin King; City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther; Police Chief, Andrew Schierberg; Public Works Director, Matt Stegman; Fire Chief, Adam Fuller and Programs Coordinator, Joe Christofield.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Jude Hehman asked if there were any changes to the agenda. It was noted that Resolution 2021-08 was listed three times and the Resolution numbers should be 2021-08, 2021-09 and 2021-10. Ms. Burns made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Boerger 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 May 3, 2021 minutes. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that the tally of the vote for Ordinance 2021-01 Adopting a Gross Receipts Tax Incentive for Job Development needed to be changed from 7 Ayes and 0 Nays to 6 Ayes and 1 Nay. Mr. Pohlgeers then made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2021 council meeting with the change. Ms. Boerger seconded the motion. After asking for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed by all ayes.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR PARK AND RECREATIONAL NEEDS

The Mayor opened the public hearing for park and recreational needs. Mayor Hehman stated that the park improvements are in the budget. Mr. King stated that the City is applying for a grant for park improvements from the Kentucky Department of Local Government Land and Water Conservation Fund. Mayor Hehman asked if there were any comments from the public related to park and recreational needs within the City. Mrs. Kaiser stated that the tennis courts were in bad condition and the City Park should be handicap accessible. Mrs. Kaiser asked how long the park will be closed for renovation. The Mayor stated that the contractor has asked for nine months. The Mayor stated that the City has held multiple public meetings to gather the public's input on park and recreational needs. The Mayor asked if there were any other comments. Mr. Pohlgeers asked about the utility lines. Mayor Hehman stated that the utility lines would

be taken under ground, Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to come out of the public hearing and Mr. Stoeckle seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hehman read **Resolution 2021-08: Authorizing the Mayor to Apply for a Land and Water Conservation Grant for Park Renovations and Playground Equipment for General Ormsby Park.** Ms. Burns made a motion to accept this resolution as read and Ms. Roeding seconded the motion. Mayor Jude Hehman asked if there was any discussion and hearing none, he called for a voice vote and the motion passed with all ayes.

Mayor Hehman stated that **Resolution 2021-09** is requesting **authorization to apply for OKI SNK Grant for reconstruction of Beechwood Road.** Chief Schierberg stated that the Beechwood Road safety improvements project was a result of the Safety Committee's research and discussion for at least a year and a half. The committee includes Police Chief Schierberg, Matt Stegman, Kim Nachazel, Michael Stoeckle, and Michael Yeager. Beechwood School has been informed of the plans and a panel of six Beechwood Road residents gave supportive input. The improvements include narrowing the road to slow traffic, add parking and add a grass strip. This OKI grant would only be approved if Beechwood Road is reclassified as a collector by the State. The construction would not be until the fiscal year ending June 2023. The grant application would be completed by committee member Michael Yeager and the grant is due June 4th. The road improvements will be over \$1,000,000 and the grant match is for 20%. Ms. Burns asked if the City would need to take land. Chief Schierberg stated the city would need to acquire approximately three to five feet of right-of-way on one side of Beechwood Rd. from Dixie Highway to Page. Mayor Hehman stated that the City had to withdraw a grant in the past because public meetings did not occur prior to the grant being submitted. The Mayor stated that the committee has done a great job, but this resolution seems rushed, and he would like to get more input from the residents. Mr. Pohlgeers asked what the repercussions were if we submitted the grant and then decided not to do the project. Mr. King said that OKI can penalize the City. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that he is in support of making Beechwood Road safer, but he does not have enough information to make a decision tonight and he will be abstaining. Ms. Boerger stated that the safety of Beechwood Road has come up many times and she would support a special meeting. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that he does not want to rush the special meeting. **Resolution 2021-09 was tabled due to lack of motion.**

Mayor Hehman read **Resolution 2021-10: Authorizing the Mayor to Apply for a OKI TA Grant for Reconstruction of a Section of Sidewalk on Burdsall Road.** Chief Schierberg stated that the sidewalk on Burdsall around the underpass is three feet with no protection between the roadways. Also, the stop sign is past the crosswalk, so cars stop in the middle of the cross walk. The proposed project would narrow Burdsall Ave. slightly, widen the sidewalk, install a curb, and pull the stop sign back prior to the crosswalk to make the area safer for kids walking to school. Mayor Hehman asked Mrs. Kaiser if she thought this would help and she stated that this would help. Mayor Hehman asked if this is in the budget and Mr. Stegman stated that this would be in the sidewalk budget and would cost approximately \$50,000. Chief Schierberg stated that there is a 20% match. Ms. Boerger made a motion to accept this resolution and Ms. Burns seconded the motion. Mayor Jude Hehman asked if there was any discussion and hearing none, he called for a voice vote and the motion passed with all ayes.

- The planning commission approved the zone change for 260 Grandview Drive and the City has 90 days to act on the planning commissions decision. The Mayor stated that the City can have a public hearing if they would like or not. An action can be taken at the next council meeting.
- The Mayor, City Administrator and Public Works Director will have a preconstruction meeting with the Watch Hill Road residents. Council members need to let Mr. King know if they are

attending this meeting. If a quorum of Council members attends the meeting, then we will need to send notification to newspapers 24 hours in advance, have an agenda and take minutes.

- The Tree Board Chairman, Craig Grabow, is not advising the City to cover the new trees on Dixie Highway to protect them against the Cicadas.
- The Governor has stated that by June 11, 2021 the mask mandate will be lifted, and restaurants and bars will be at full capacity. The Mayor will prepare and Executive Order that extends outdoor seating as long as each business' occupancy is not exceeded until the Z21 Ordinance is implemented.
- The Mayors' group recommends for cities not to rescind the State of Emergency because it will affect funding and Executive Orders for local businesses.

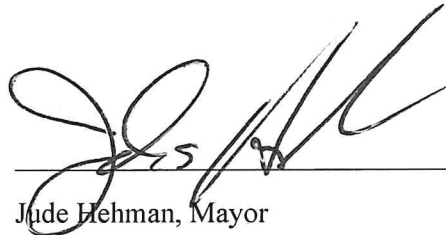
BUDGET DISCUSSION

The Mayor stated that the first and second budget readings will be in June.

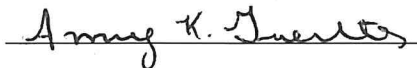
Mrs. Guenther gave a review of the 2020-2021 amended budget and the 2021-2022 proposed budget.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Burns made a motion at 7:52 p.m. to adjourn the City Council Meeting and Ms. Roeding seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman asked if there was any discussion or questions and hearing none, Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.


Jude Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:



Amy Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer

Addendum to Minutes
Budget Summary for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022
May 17, 2021

Revenues:

- Real estate Taxes to remain the same.
- Budgeted (Payroll Taxes, Insurance Premium Taxes, Gross Receipts, & Annual License Fees) rates to remain flat, but increase 3% due to economic growth.
- Bank Franchise tax was returned to Fiscal Year 2020 levels.
- City Contractual Service will increase by \$36,700.
- Grants will probably be higher due to the American Rescue Plan Funding.

Transfers:

- Transfers to Road Tax Fund are budgeted to be \$350,000.
- Transfers to Capital Replacement Fund are budgeted to be \$800,000.

Expenses

General Expense Comments:

- Inflation is currently at 4.2%.
- Raises are budgeted at an average of 3.5% unless there is a promotion or catch-up pay.
- Health insurance increase is 2%
- Retirement-Nonhazardous increased from 24.065 to 26.95% and Hazardous increased from 39.58% to 44.33%.

Administration:

- Filled position of CAO.
- Part-Time increased for Monday and PTO coverage
- Includes Project Management Training.
- Adding Human Resources onboarding software.
- Single Audit required by Federal Grants.
- Tax Incentive for new Business.
- Business Grants to be paid by American Rescue Plan
- Dixie Highway Tree Removal & Replacement-Phase 3 will resume.
- CDBG Utility Pass-Thru Grant is included in both Grant Revenue and Grant Pass-Thru Expense.

Police:

- Budgeting for 15-16 officers throughout the year to cover training and to fill vacant positions.
- Premium Pay covered by the American Rescue Plan.
- Hire a police cadet that can also be a crossing guard.

Fire/EMS:

- Premium Pay increases covered by American Rescue Plan
- Setting minimum "required" staffing at 5 instead of 4.
- Increase staffing to two part-time to cover shift call-ins.
- SAFER grant OF \$173,843 to cover recruitment coordinator, benefits, uniforms, tuition for volunteers, and 7 sets of gear.

Public Works:

- Adding 1 full-time position for 9 months and one full-time will also cover property maintenance and park.
- Additional hours in part-time/seasonal.
- 3% increase in garbage collection contract.
- \$20,000 for gateway project.

Recreation

- Remains the same.

Municipal Road Aid Fund

- \$33,720 for Kenton County joint Bromley/Crescent Spring Road Improvements (2 payments of \$33,720 remaining).
- \$15,000 for Beechwood Rd. (Dixie to Thompson) Safety Project
- \$40,000 Beechwood Rd. Sidewalk Planning (Grandview to Fort Mitchell Place)-2024 Grant

Park Fund:

- \$150,000 of grant revenue or donations for park improvements.
- \$1,567,000 for site work, tennis court resurface, pavilion, handicap accessible restrooms, some landscaping, contingency and \$200,000 budgeted in the 20-21 amended budget.
- No loan payment back to the City is budgeted for one year.

Road Tax Fund:

- Includes \$158,000 of intergovernmental revenue from SD1 for Grace Avenue.
- Wrap up of Ridge Rd., West Orchard and Coleman projects.
- Sewer Line & Partial Road Replacement-Grace Avenue budgeted for \$150,000 in amended budget and \$200,000 in FY2022 budget. Estimate came in \$150,000 higher, so this item will need to be increased (approximately \$500,000 with engineering).
- Watch Hill Rd. Reconstruction (\$300,000 FY2021 & \$500,000 FY2022)
- Sunnymede/Cornell planning study \$40,000.
- Engineering for Requardt/Virginia (\$70,000) and Cornell (\$20,000)
- Chelsea Lane Concrete repairs \$100,000.

Capital Replacement Fund:

- \$100,000 Public Works Building Design.
- \$130,000 for Virginia Avenue Sidewalk Improvements
- Miscellaneous Building Improvements including Electronic Sign, Fence and Gate.
- Police-Three Vehicles
- Fire- Ambulance and Cot
- Public Works-Back Hoe