

**CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBER  
2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY, FORT MITCHELL, KY 41017  
October 11, 2021, 6:30 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

Mayor Jude Hehman, called the regular council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mayor Hehman asked Ms. Schawe to call roll. The following council members were present: Mary Burns, Vicki Boerger, Kim Nachazel, Greg Pohlgeers, Alyson Roeding, Jerry Deatherage and Michael Stoeckle. Mayor Hehman stated that there was a quorum present.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

City Administrator, Edwin King; Deputy City Clerk, Casie Schawe; Police Captain, Bill Zerhusen; Fire Chief, Adam Fuller and City Attorney, Claire Parsons

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor Jude Hehman stated that he would like to move the “Award Presentation” to after the approval of the minutes on the agenda. Mayor Hehman asked if there were any other changes to the agenda. No other changes were noted. Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Stoeckle 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 September 20, 2021, minutes. No changes were noted. Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2021, council meeting. Ms. Burns seconded the motion. After asking for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried with all ayes.

**AWARD PRESENTATION TO STATE REPRESENTATIVE KIM BANTA**

Chief Fuller stated, this year, the Legislative Committee of the Kentucky Fire Chiefs Association has chosen to recognize two Representatives who have proven their support of the Kentucky Fire Service by their actions. This year the Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs recognized Representative Kim Banta and Representative Ken Fleming. During the 2020 Regular Session, Representative Banta stepped up to support our Kentucky Fire Service when she first introduced HB 436.

This bill appropriates \$1.25 million each fiscal year for the treatment of career and volunteer firefighters affected by PTSI and/or PTSD. This bill also made firefighters eligible for crisis intervention team training similar to law enforcement. During this session this bill progressed through the house and on March 17, 2020, it was posted for passage in the Regular Orders of the Day for Wednesday, March 18, 2020. This was the same day the Governor basically shutdown

the state and closed the State Capitol to non-essential personnel due to COVID-19. The bill stalled due to other legislative priorities.

In 2021, Representative Banta reintroduced the same bill. Now, referred to as HB 44 in the 2021 session, it picked up many co-sponsors including the #2 listed sponsor Representative Ken Fleming. HB 44 quickly moved through the House and unanimously passed the chamber with a 97-0 vote on February 25, 2021. Representative Fleming presented the bill to the Senate's Appropriation & Revenue Committee where it unanimously passed the Senate with a vote of 36-0. The bill was sent to the Governor for his signature on March 16, 2021.

On behalf of our Association's President, Chief Cathy Rigney, the Legislative Committee of the Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs, the members of this Association, and every firefighter in Kentucky, we thank you for your support of the Kentucky Fire Service and present you with this small token of our appreciation for your service to the Commonwealth.

Mayor Hehman expressed his gratitude for the hard work of Representative Banta.

Representative Banta stated the need for taking care of the people that take care of our community.

#### **CITIZENS AND GUESTS**

Rob Davis of Park Hills, Kentucky, made a request to name the Dixie Highway Corridor in honor of Paul F. Michels. He stated he did not know Mr. Michels personally. Mr. Michels passed away in 2015. Mayor Hehman stated there is not a process for naming a state highway on the City side. The Mayor stated we do have a Wall of Honor in the City of Fort Mitchell. Mr. Pohlgeers agreed the Wall of Honor would be a great first step. Ms. Boerger stated nomination forms are on the City's website.

#### **PRESENTATION BY BRANDICORP/FORMER DRAWBRIDGE SITE DEVELOPMENT UPDATES**

The development team of Mike Brandy, Rudy Kreutzjans and Chuck Berling made a presentation about the development at the Drawbridge site. Mr. Berling stated they are ready to present a concept plan to the public. He stated they have picked a roadway design and are proposing to relocate the road down the center of the property. The engineer Jay Bayer, is working on relocating several utilities. He said Greenbriar Development is working on a proposal for the senior housing concept. A fair amount of property will be used for the multi-story senior housing concept. They are working on making the site more walkable in the center.

The Mayor stated this is the best site plan he has seen in the last seven years.

Ms. Burns asked if the main entrance would remain the same off of Buttermilk Pike. Mr. Berling stated yes, and it will be expanded due to the required turning lane.

Mr. Brandy stated they are excited about the senior living facility because it gives people the opportunity to stay in the community. It will be mostly independent living. Possible tenants are a grocery store, hotel, pharmacy, coffee shop and multi-family living.



Ms. Burns stated she did not see where the plan included a gas station. She believes a gas station is very important to have on this site so people do not have to cross Buttermilk Pike. Mr. Brandy stated they work with several gas stations and they could work to get a gas station on the site plan.

Mayor Hehman said the senior living concept keeps moving forward in the process which is exciting. He stated there would be upwards of \$5 to \$6 million of taxable payroll from the senior living portion. There would be additional payroll tax with the other developments on the site. Mayor Hehman stated the Z-21 process will be very important for this development. Mayor Hehman mentioned the development team asked how the City felt about drive throughs. He stated it could be possibly handled on conditional type uses. He also mentioned possibly working on a percentage complete process to release monies to help with infrastructure. Also, Mayor Hehman stated the development may not meet the requirements of the existing TIF. Mayor Hehman addressed Grace Avenue concerns. There are no cut throughs and there will be more green space adjacent to Grace Avenue.

Ms. Burns asked when they plan to start moving some earth. Mr. Kreutzjans stated they are trying to clean the site up with existing utility issues. Mr. Berling stated possibly around the first of the year.

Mr. Deatherage thanked the development team for their diligence. He asked if they have had any discussions about the traffic pressures on Buttermilk Pike. Mr. Berling stated Bayer Becker will be completing a traffic study in the next few weeks.

Mr. Pohlgeers stated he is excited and believes this is the best option the City has seen over the years.

Mayor Hehman stated he believed the timeline to finish was three to five years. Mr. Berling agreed.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Ms. Parsons provided a first reading of **Ordinance 2021-08: Amending Ordinance 2021-04: Increasing the number of public works laborer positions from three to four.** Mayor Hehman stated Chris Feighery is still on military duty, so they hired a seasonal worker. The department realized they were getting a lot more work accomplished. Mr. King added that the additional employee will be very beneficial if other employees are out sick or on vacation.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Hero's Night was a huge success. Captain Zerhusen and Chief Fuller did a great job. Ms. Nachazel acknowledged Ashley Kennedy with State Farm started Hero's Night. Mayor Hehman and Council thanked her, as well.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- The Planning Commission Committee will be reviewing the City's proposed ordinance on October 20, 2021, and the public can offer their input. Once the Planning Commission makes a recommendation it will then come to Council for approval.

- TBNK completed negotiations on the Cincinnati Bell franchise agreement. The agreement has been drafted and will be presented to Council in November for a first reading.
- The City has an opportunity to purchase a Chevy Tahoe for the canine unit which was planned to be replaced next year. With shortages in many industries and the fact a vehicle is available to purchase now, the City has budget authority to purchase the vehicle, but would like to present it to Council to make sure Council agrees. Mayor Hehman added the current canine unit has been in the shop a few times and when that occurs Tony cannot come to work. Several council members agreed.

#### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- Ms. Burns thanked Mr. King, Mayor Hehman and the Public Works Department for the hanging baskets. Several council members stated they received many positive comments about the baskets.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion at 7:04 p.m. to go into Executive Session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(f), discussions or hearings which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee, and KRS 61.810(1)(c), discussions of proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the public agency. Ms. Nachazel seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Nachazel made a motion at 7:27 p.m. to come out of Executive Session and Ms. Roeding seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion at 7:28 p.m. to adjourn the City Council Meeting and Ms. Nachazel 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:



Casie Schawe, Deputy City Clerk