

CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE
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January 10, 2022, 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 called roll. The following council members were present: Mary Burns, Kim Nachazel, Greg Pohlgeers, Alyson Roeding, Jerry Deatherage and Michael Stoeckle. Mayor Hehman stated that Vicki Boerger is absent.

OTHER STAFF PRESENT

City Administrator, Edwin King; City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther; Police Chief, Andrew Schierberg; Fire Chief, Adam Fuller; Programs Coordinator, Joe Christofield and City Attorney, Claire Parsons,

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Jude Hehman asked if there were any changes to the agenda. 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 December 6, 2021, minutes. No changes were noted. Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2021, council meeting. Ms. Roeding seconded the motion. After asking for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried with all ayes.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS-None

CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT

Ms. Parsons provided a first reading of **Ordinance 2022-01: Z21 Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment**. Mayor Hehman stated that this ordinance has been reviewed by the Z21 committee consisting of Mr. Pohlgeers, Ms. Nachazel, Mr. Stoeckle, and the City Administrator and has been discussed at length with City Council.

Ms. Parsons provided a first reading of **Ordinance 2022-02: Park Tax and Capital Budget Amendment**. Ms. Guenther stated that the City adopts a departmental summary budget and explained the changes to the Park Tax Fund and Capital Replacement Fund budgets.

- The park budget beginning fund balance increased by \$143,000, and the grants/donations budget increased \$100,000.
- The budgeted engineer fees were increased \$10,000 for project management.
- The park capital improvements expense budget increased \$184,000 for delayed expenses that were budgeted last year, change orders for an unforeseen lateral sewer rerouting and additional volleyball court and soccer field fencing. Mr. King stated that the sewer lateral

was not on the SD1 map. The cost of rerouting and reconstructing this lateral sewer will be approximately \$40,000. The ARPA grant funds the City received are eligible to be used for park expenses.

- The Capital Projects Fund beginning fund balance on the amended budget increased \$319,000. The capital replacement intergovernmental revenue budget increased \$139,000. for the federal Assisting Firefighter Grant to cover the SCBAs (self- contained breathing apparatus) for all of the firefighters. The SCBAs were in the capital replacement plan for next year. Since the City received this grant, the SCBA purchase was moved into this year's budget.
- The grant revenue and miscellaneous building expense budget both increased \$25,000 to cover the donation for the baby box and installation. The net effect on the budget was zero.
- The contractor fees budget increased \$60,000 for building renovation fees that were budgeted last year.
- Architect and engineer fees decreased \$90,000 for the public works building design that will be completed next year.
- The land budget increased for a lot that the Sanitation District offered to the City on Avon Drive.
- The sidewalk budget increased \$50,000 to complete the Virginia Avenue project and replace approximately 30 trees.
- The police vehicle budget increased \$75,000 for the canine police cruiser.
- The police equipment budget increased \$44,000 for the body cameras that were budgeted last year that were received this year along with the server and digital conversion.
- The fire vehicle budget decreased \$15,000 to adjust to the actual ambulance expense.
- The public works equipment budget increased \$20,000 for the actual cost of the backhoe, skid steer and trailer.

Ms. Parsons read **Municipal Order 2022-01: Appointing a Public Works Director.**

Mayor Hehman welcomed Mr. Nick Tewes to the City. Mr. Tewes introduced himself and stated that he is an engineer and has worked for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and Kenton County Public Works department. Ms. Burns made a motion to approve Municipal Order 2022-01. Ms. Roeding seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously with all ayes. Mayor Hehman stated that Mr. Tewes will start with the City on January 31st.

Ms. Parsons read **Resolution 2022-01: Authorizing Assistance to the Tri-ED Build & Elevate Northern Kentucky Initiative.** Mayor Hehman stated Tri-Ed is asking for an annual contribution of \$2,500 for five years to study land and office space and to bring businesses to this area. Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-01. Ms. Nachazel seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously with all ayes.

Ms. Parsons read **Resolution 2022-02: Authorizing the Purchase of Land on Avon Drive.**

Mayor Hehman stated that this lot would be purchased from the Sanitation Department for the assessed property tax value of \$15,000. The lot has a sanitary and water line that go on each side of the property and could be used for green space, parking, or a cut through. Mr. Pohlgeers made

a motion to approve Resolution 2022-02. Mr. Stoeckle seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously with all ayes.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hehman stated that the Royal Drive and the land purchase are covered in other reports.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A sewer lateral was discovered during park construction and is being rerouted.
- The parking lot at the park was not able to be paved because of it being too wet and was pushed off until the Spring. This will delay the project one or two months.
- The contractors are now making progress on the pavilion.
- The planning meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2022, but if COVID cases are still high the meeting may be rescheduled. Mr. King asked Council members to let him know what items they would like to discuss at the planning meeting.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Mary Burns thanked Police Chief Schierberg and Officer Stulz for helping with an incident in her neighborhood.
- Ms. Burns asked about the condition of the road on Royal Drive. Mayor Hehman stated that Mr. Tewes will look into temporary patching royal as soon as he starts with the City.
- Ms. Roeding asked when the work will start on Royal Drive and Mayor Hehman stated the work will begin early spring or summer.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Fire Chief, Adam Fuller

- The baby box should be live Wednesday.
- The number of runs increased by 190 in 2021 compared to 2020.

City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther

- 99.2% of 2021 taxes have been collected. Fort Mitchell's portion of collected taxes is \$2,224,356. The uncollected portion of Fort Mitchell's taxes are just under \$18,000.

Programs Coordinator, Joe Christofield

- Senior Bingo will be held at the City Building on March 15, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
- Document Destruction Day will be April 16, 2022, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the City Building parking lot.
- A Community Wide Yard Sale will be publicized for April 23, 2022, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Large Item Pick Up Day has been scheduled for April 30, 2022 with Best Way Disposal.

Police Chief, Andrew Schierberg

- Citizens have been complaining about the traffic issues caused by the COVID testing sight on Royal Drive. Approximately 350 tests have been given each evening. The Police Department began shutting the line down at 6:00 p.m. and using the lower lot at the Drawbridge property to route the cars to alleviate traffic. The parking lot can hold 150 to

200 cars. Two police officers are working overtime every day, and this is billed to Gravity Diagnostics. Other cities are helping, but this is taxing the City's staff.

- There was a S.W.A.T. call at Super 8 involving mental health and drugs. Police Officer Brown helped negotiate a peaceful surrender by the suspect.


ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hehman stated that Ms. Boerger's father-in-law passed away and he offered condolences. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting and Mr. Deatherage 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, and the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.



Jude Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:



Amy Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer