

**CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER
2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY, FORT MITCHELL, KY 41017
November 14, 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. and started the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Attorney, Mary Ann Stewart; City Administrator, Edwin King; City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther; Police Chief, Andrew Schierberg; Fire Chief, Adam Fuller; Public Works Director, Nick Tewes and Programs Coordinator, Joe Christofield.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Hehman stated that there was an updated agenda. A resolution was added to surplus police equipment. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Pohlgeers seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman asked if there was any discussion. 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 October 3, 2022 minutes. Hearing none, Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2022 council meeting. Dr. Roeding seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Jude Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried with all ayes.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

Mayor Hehman stated that some of the guests at the meeting were present for the City's intent to annex a portion of unincorporated Kenton County. Mayor Hehman stated that the Bromley-Crescent Springs Road was no longer a county road and is now a state road. Annexation would allow citizens residing in that area have more of a say regarding the road. Mayor Hehman stated that this is a logical boundary, and the City has mutual aid agreements in place. William Risch, from 1863 Amsterdam Road presented to Council a petition signed by all of the residents of the unincorporated area stating that they wish to remain part of the county. Mr. Risch stated that only vacant property did not sign the petition.

Debbie Blair stated that she walked along Beechwood Road at Page Road on October 16th. Her dog was attacked by two unrestrained dogs whose owner resides in that area. She contacted police. Ms. Blair is especially concerned since this happened near Beechwood School. She believes this is a safety issue. Ms. Blair also stated that there had been a previous unrestrained dog issue with this owner and that the owner only received a small \$60 fine. Ms. Blair wanted Council to be aware of this situation and asked if the City's ordinances can be changed to avert future problems. The Mayor stated that our animal control ordinance needs to be updated. Mr. King is looking through Kenton County's animal control ordinances and will present a revised ordinance to Council in the next couple of months.

Patty Kaiser, 35 Virginia Avenue, stated that some of the proposed council meetings conflict with Beechwood School District board meetings. Ms. Kaiser requested that the City Council meetings dates be moved to another date or start at 7:00 p.m. on the dates when the Beechwood School Board meetings conflict.

Joanna Skeen, 6 East Drive, spoke about her pet cat being attacked and injured in her yard by a dog who was taken off leash by its owner. Ms. Skeen also asked for changes in our animal control ordinance.

Angela Wright, 1850 and 1856 St. Johns Road, stated that the residents within the area that the City is intending to annex has their own community and are very much against annexation. She asked what the next steps would be and how they will be notified. Mayor Hehman stated the procedures will be explained prior to the vote on the ordinance in the City Attorney's report.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ms. Stewart performed a second reading on **Ordinance 2022-16 Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023** for pass-thru grants for Redwood and Diocesan Catholic Children's Home. Mr. King stated that revenues and expenses were increased by the same amount, so the net effect is zero to the budget. Mayor Hehman asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-16. Ms. Burns seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Nachazel	Yes	Dr. Roeding	Yes
Mr. Deatherage	Yes	Mr. Pohlgeers	Yes
Ms. Burns	Yes		

Ms. Stewart performed a second reading on **Ordinance 2022-17 Intent to Annex Portion of Unincorporated Kenton County**. Mayor Hehman stated that there are 19 cities within Kenton County. and he believes all unincorporated property will be within a city in the future. In order for the City to annex unincorporated property, it must be touching the Fort Mitchell border. The first reading of the intent to annex ordinance was on October 3, 2022. Certified letters were then sent later in October. This is the second reading and vote for intent to annex ordinance. Mr. King stated that if the Council votes yes, letters will go out to residents of their rights and explaining the process. If 50% of residents or 50% of property owners petition within 60 days and then the annexation will be put on the ballot next November.

Mr. Pohlgeers stated that the annexation would improve services and not provide a windfall of taxes to the City. Ms. Stewart suggested that Council may want to make a motion to approve, even if they want to vote against it. Mayor Hehman added that St. John's Road is in bad condition and that the City has a road improvement program in place. The Mayor stated that having a City forum will help protect the residents and their property. Mr. Pohlgeers asked if the discussion tonight had changed anyone's mind. The residents said no.

Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-17 as read. Mr. Deatherage seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a roll call vote. The motion did not pass.

Ms. Burns	No	Mr. Deatherage	No
Ms. Nachazel	No	Mr. Pohlgeers	No
Dr. Roeding	No		

Mr. Pohlgeers stated how he appreciated how the residents handled this discussion and Mr. Deatherage thanked the residents for participating in the discussion.

Ms. Stewart performed a first reading on **Ordinance 2022-18 Setting 2023 Council Meeting Dates**. Mayor Hehman stated that we are obligated by the State to hold one Council meeting per month. Discussion was made about changing the start time of Council meetings from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. due to Beechwood School Board meetings starting at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Nachazel stated that she would like to keep the 6:30 p.m. for family reasons. Mayor Hehman will look at the dates for School Board meetings before the second reading.

Ms. Stewart read **Municipal Order 2022-05 Appointment of Rob Nader as Police Chief** beginning January 1, 2023. Mr. Nader will be starting December 5, 2022 as Police Lieutenant to work with Chief Schierberg. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that we had outstanding candidates for this position. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to approve Municipal Order 2022-05 to appoint Rob Nader as Police Chief. Mr. Pohlgeers seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and was passed unanimously.

Ms. Stewart read all of the CDBG resolutions for Redwood:
Resolution 2022-14 Approval of Redwood CDBG Development Agreement,
Resolution 2022-15 Anti-Displacement Plan,
Resolution 2022-16 Procurement Code,
Resolution 2022-17 Clearing House Comments,
Resolution 2022-18 Cost Overrun Provisions and
Resolution 2022-19 Miscellaneous Revenue Resolution.

Dennis Elrod, the CDBG Consultant, stated that the City is the recipient of these funds. One of these resolutions holds Redwood to a standard and protects Fort Mitchell from cost overruns. DCCH is included in all of these resolutions, except for the development agreement. We are required to have a certified administrator, which is Dennis Elrod. The City draws funds twice a month and has five business days from receipt to pay the funds to Redwood. Mr. Pohlgeers made a blanket motion to approve Resolutions 2022-14 through 2022-19 (Items E, F, G, H, I and J) as read. The motion was seconded by Dr. Roeding. A voice vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Ms. Stewart read **Resolution 2022-20 Amendments to Z21 Zoning Ordinance Cleanup and Adding Conditional Use for Coin Laundromats**. The City received a request for a coin laundry. If this ordinance passes, the coin laundry request will go to Kenton County Planning and Development Services and then it would come back for City Council's approval. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-20. The motion was seconded by Mr. Deatherage. A voice vote was taken and was passed unanimously.

Ms. Stewart read **Resolution 2022-21 Surplus of Police Equipment**. Police Chief Schierberg stated that old rifles are falling apart, and they will be surplus under the law and traded to a registered firearms dealer. A motion to approve Resolution 2022-21 was made by Ms. Burns and seconded by Dr. Roeding. A voice vote was taken and was passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Congratulation to Ms. Burns who received a Certificate of Training Award from Kentucky League of Cities.
- A new local monthly magazine called Fort Mitchell Neighbors has been created. Local journalists will write articles about City government, business, families and activities. The City will be able to communicate with the residents through this magazine. The cost will be \$4,000 for this year's budget and every household in the City will receive it.
- The Mayor introduced Jeff Dietrich, who is the newly elected Council member. He also congratulated all Council member on their reelection.

- The Mayor showed two historic items that were dug up by Jim Ryan that are on loan to the City. The items are a Civil War era Eagle breastplate and two bullets. These items will be on display at the City building.
- The Mayor stated that there is a grand reopening on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, for Socco's, formerly Montoya's Mexican restaurant.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT-Nothing to report.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT

City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther

- 98% of property taxes have been collected.
- The interest rate on our checking account is up to 3.5%.

Police Chief, Andrew Schierberg

- The Police Department is fully staffed.
- The Mayor stated that there will be a retirement party for Chief Schierberg in December.

Public Works Director, Nick Tewes

- Baylee Moffett started as a Public Works laborer on November 1st. The department is excited to have him as part of their team.
- All trucks are ready for snow and ice.
- Next construction season design work is being prepared by the engineers.
- 50% engineer drawings have been prepared for Requardt and the engineers are in the revision process.
- Ms. Burns asked if the City would reach out to Crescent Springs about painting crosswalks at Beechwood and Anderson roads.

Programs Director, Joe Christofield

- The Garden Club meeting is at the City Building on Thursday, November 17th at 7 p.m.
- The City's annual ice skating party is on Wednesday, November 23rd from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Northern Kentucky Ice Center. There is no charge for Fort Mitchell residents.
- The Merry Business and Tree Lighting Event is Sunday, November 27th in the business district from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The tree lighting will be at 7:30 p.m. at the City Building.
- Holly Jolly Days (Fort Mitchell Day) at the Behringer Crawford Museum is on Sunday, December 4th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. There is no charge for Fort Mitchell and Lakeside Park residents.
- St. Nick's Senior Bingo is Thursday, December 8th from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. at the Lakeside Park City Building (in the Council Chamber). This is for Fort Mitchell and Lakeside Park residents.
- The 12 Houses of Christmas Lights contest will be from Friday through Sunday, December 9th through 11th.
- The Santa Claus Parade will be on Tuesday, December 13th and Thursday, December 15th, starting at 5:00 p.m.
- The PNC Festival of Lights tickets go on sale starting Monday, November 14th. The event runs from November 18th through January 8th. Fort Mitchell Night is on Saturday, December 17th. Discounted tickets are available to Fort Mitchell residents.
- The Polar Express Movie Private Screening will be on Monday, December 19th at 10:00 a.m. at Cinemark Florence 14. Discounted tickets will be sold to Fort Mitchell residents starting on Monday, November 21st.

- Mayor Hehman stated that the Veteran's Day parade was great and commended Mr. Christofield for doing a great coordinating and promoting the Veteran's Day parade.

Fire Chief, Adam Fuller

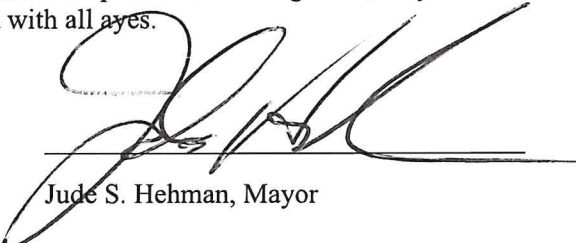
- There were 201 total runs in October.
- Hero's Night in October was attended by close to 5,000 people and approximately \$6,000 was raised for the Diocesan Catholic Children's Home.
- The Northern Kentucky Poster contest was completed, and Chief Fuller emailed the award winners to several Fort Mitchell students.
- The department is fully staffed for full-time employees.
- Kenny Schroeder, a retired employee, was recently hired as a full-time fire fighter/paramedic.
- Adam Schierberg was recently promoted to Lieutenant.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

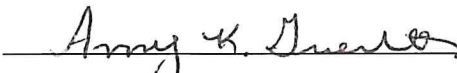
- Ms. Burns commented that she had to wait in line for two hours to vote on Election Day at Lakeside Christian Church. She also stated that there should be a separate line for residents in wheelchairs.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deatherage made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting and Dr. Roeding seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman asked if there was any discussion or questions. Hearing none, Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion to adjourn passed with all ayes.


Jude S. Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:


Amy K. Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer