

**CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER
2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY, FORT MITCHELL, KY 41017
June 26, 2023, 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 stated that the following council members were present: Vicki Boerger, Jerry Deatherage, Greg Pohlgeers, Michael Stoeckle, Kim Nachazel and Alyson Roeding. Council member Jeff Dietrich was absent. A quorum of the City Council was in attendance.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mary Ann Stewart (filling in for City Attorney, Olivia Amlung); City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther; Public Works Director, Nick Tewes; Fire Chief, Adam Fuller; Fire Captain, Cody Hembree; Police Chief, Rob Nader and Programs Coordinator, Joe Christofield.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Hehman stated that there was an amended agenda with Number 10, **Pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(c)**, requesting an Executive Session. Ms. Boerger made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Dr. Roeding seconded the motion. After asking for any discussion and hearing none, Mayor 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 June 5, 2023, minutes. Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2023, council meeting. Mr. Stoeckle seconded the motion. After asking for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed with all ayes.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

David Hentz, 2179 Tantallon Drive, asked if Fort Mitchell has taken a stand on smoking in businesses and public places. Mayor Hehman stated that the City does not have a smoking ordinance in place and each business makes its own decision regarding smoking. Mayor Hehman also stated that city parks are non-smoking. Ms. Stewart stated Kenton County adopted a county-wide ban on smoking in restaurants and businesses with a few exemptions for bars. Mr. Hentz asked Council to consider a smoking ban, as he is concerned about second-hand smoke.

Mr. Hentz asked who the grand marshal for the July 4th parade was and Mayor Hehman stated that the grand marshal is Coach Noel Rash, former Beechwood High School football coach. Mr. Hentz also asked about the progress of the Drawbridge project. Mayor Hehman stated that the project is progressing, and that the developer will work with Council to make zoning changes.

R. B. Davis, 18 Pleasant Ridge Avenue, commented that he was pleased with the responses from two Council members on social media, regarding General Ormsby Mitchel Park. Mr. Davis stated that he thought their replies were positive, respectful, and accurate, which he really appreciated. Mayor Hehman stated that he would prefer people to call the City Building with questions about issues as opposed to posting on social media. The park's playground equipment is certified, and an engineer is looking into the

static electricity issue and any safety concerns. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that he is appreciative of Mr. Davis' comments and all that the Park Board does.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ms. Stewart performed a second reading on **Ordinance 2023-07 Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023**. Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-07 as read. Ms. Nachazel seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Boerger	Yes	Mr. Deatherage	Yes
Ms. Nachazel	Yes	Mr. Pohlgeers	Yes
Dr. Roeding	Yes	Mr. Stoeckle	Yes

Ms. Stewart performed a second reading on **Ordinance 2023-08 Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024**. Ms. Guenther stated there was a slight change to Ordinance 2023-08, concerning a formula error with Public Works wages. Mayor Hehman stated that this budget contains an allowance for trees for General Ormsby Mitchel Park to be planted in the fall. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-08 as read. Mr. Stoeckle seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Boerger	Yes	Mr. Deatherage	Yes
Ms. Nachazel	Yes	Mr. Pohlgeers	Yes
Dr. Roeding	Yes	Mr. Stoeckle	Yes

Ms. Stewart performed a first reading on **Ordinance 2023-09 Adopting Wage and Salary Scale for Fiscal year Ending June 30, 2024**. No action is needed on this tonight.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Hehman stated that he had nothing to report besides the comments regarding the park under Citizens and Guests.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- No Report

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Mr. Pohlgeers stated that he has noticed that Public Works have been trimming bushes to improve visibility for drivers and pedestrians and gave kudos to them.
- Ms. Boerger asked that there be reminders of road closure times for the July 4th parade.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT

Programs Director, Joe Christofield

- The July 4th parade starts at 12:30 p.m. and the roads close at noon. Anyone interested can still participate in the parade. Mr. Christofield stated that participation is up this year from last year.
- The Park Board Meeting will be Tuesday, July 11th at 7:00 p.m. at General Ormsby Mitchel Park. There will be a discussion about planting a butterfly garden in the park. Members of the Garden Club will also be attending this meeting. Mayor Hehman stated that the park has some erosion

areas that need to be corrected and he has gotten recommendations from the Park Board and Garden Club.

- Fort Mitchell Putt-Putt Night will be held on Thursday, July 13th from 6:00 p.m. till 9:00 p.m. at Putt-Putt Fun Center, 3139 Dixie Highway in Erlanger. This event is for Fort Mitchell residents only. When residents show their ID, they get to play two games for free.
- Fort Mitchell FC Cincinnati Night is sold out. This event is on Saturday, July 15th at 7:30 p.m. at TQL Stadium in Cincinnati. This is the third year that the City has held this event for residents and the first year that tickets sold out within the first couple of hours of availability.
- Mr. Deatherage commented that the pickleball program last week was great and thanked the Cincinnati Pickleball Club and the coaches. Mr. Christofield stated we had about thirty-five participants in the program. Mr. Christofield received a lot of positive feedback about the entire program.

Police Chief, Rob Nader

- Sergeant Bill Ryan just graduated from sergeant's school, which is a 3-week school for first-line supervisors. Sergeant Matthew Caudill also recently graduated.
- Officer Brandon McNeese just started employment today. Officer McNeese was a Major in the Kentucky National Guard with a 20 plus year. He is also a graduate of ECU.
- Axon is here to train the police staff.

Public Works Director, Nick Tewes

- Public Works employees have been doing a lot of trimming and clearing around sidewalks and intersections to prepare for the upcoming July 4th parade and school year.
- Public Works employees painted the entire underpass to cover offensive graffiti.
- Milling and patching will be done on Beechwood Road before school starts in August to smooth out the bumps. Work should begin after July 4th.
- Reardon Lane reconstruction should be starting after July 4th.
- Dr. Roeding asked if signs could be put up at the underpass to discourage graffiti. Mr. Tewes stated they are considering options to prevent graffiti in the underpass. Ms. Nachazel asked if a mural could be painted on the walls to discourage graffiti. Mr. Deatherage asked if there are cameras in the underpass and Mayor Hehman stated that there are no cameras at present, but they are considering purchasing them.

Fire Chief, Adam Fuller

- Chief Fuller stated that he had nothing to report.

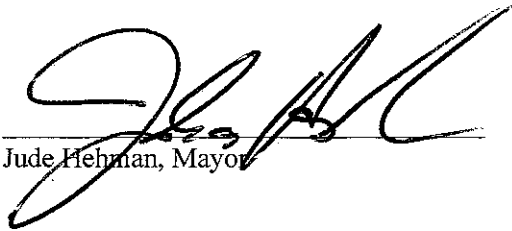
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Boerger made a motion to go into Executive Session, pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(c) discussions of proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the public agency. Mr. Pohlgeers seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried with all ayes.

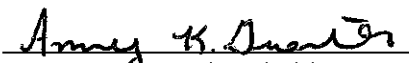
Mayor Hehman asked for a motion to leave Executive Session. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to leave Executive Session and Ms. Boerger seconded the session. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried with all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Nachazel made a motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 7:28 p.m. and Mr. Stoeckle seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman asked if there was any discussion or questions and hearing none, Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed with all ayes.


Jude Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:


Amy Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer