

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

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ms. Guenther called roll and the following council members were present: Vicki Boerger, Jeff Dietrich, Greg Pohlgeers, Alyson Roeding, Michael Stoeckle, and Kim Nachazel. Council member Jerry Deatherage was absent. Mayor Hehman stated that a quorum of the City Council was in attendance.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

City Attorney, Olivia Amlung; City Administrator, Edwin King; City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther; Public Works Director, Nick Tewes.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor Jude Hehman asked if there were any changes to the agenda. No changes were suggested. 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 Hehman asked if there were any changes to the July 17, 2023, minutes. No changes were noted. Ms. Boerger made a motion to approve the July 17, 2023 council meeting minutes. Dr. Roeding 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**

Mayor Hehman introduced Casmir Thornberry, a recent graduate of the University of Cincinnati, who has just joined Adams Law. Ms. Amlung stated that attending a Council meeting is a good way for Mr. Thornberry to obtain exposure to city law.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Ms. Amlung performed a second reading of **Ordinance 2023-10 Granting and Issuing a Franchise Agreement with Spectrum Mid-America, LLC**. Dr. Roeding made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-10 and Mr. Stoeckle seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

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

**Ordinance 2023-11 Adopting the Real Property Tax Rate.** Mayor Hehman stated that the Kenton County Property Valuation Assessment's (PVA) job is to adjust property values, which increased this year. The City is required to calculate the compensating (comp) rate based on the PVA's assessment which will bring in comparable revenue as last year, excluding new property. The comp rate is .106 per

\$100 of the property value. Mayor Hehman stated that the City can take the compensating rate plus 4%, which would be 0.110, which is lower than last year's property tax rate of .136. The difference between comp and comp plus 4% is \$43,000. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that we have reduced the rate almost every year. Mayor Hehman said that we have often left the rate the same or lowered it. Mr. Dietrich asked what the budgeted surplus was for this year and Ms. Guenther budgeted surplus is \$2,267.

Ms. Amlung stated that Mayor Hehman should survey Council members for their opinion as to what the rate should be this year. Ms. Nachazel stated that she is not comfortable with adopting compensating plus 4%, as she feels that residents will be paying high school taxes even though those taxes do not cover City expenses. Ms. Boerger stated that she is not completely sold on the comp plus 4% rate but is concerned about how the City will be able to meet the budget. Both Ms. Nachazel and Dr. Roeding stated they have heard from several people whose home value doubled due to the new assessment. Mr. Dietrich stated some residents will be seeing a drastic increase in their taxes. After hearing the Council's comments, Mayor Hehman proposed a rate of .108. Ms. Amlung performed a first reading of **Ordinance 2023-11 Adopting the Real Property Tax Rate of .108 on Each One Hundred of Real Property Assessment Value.**

Ms. Amlung performed a first reading of **Ordinance 2023-12 Adopting the Park Tax Rate of .02 on Each \$100 of the Real Property's Assessment Value.** Mayor Hehman stated that any adjustment will need to be voted on by the residents and stated that no action is needed on this tonight.

Ms. Amlung performed a first reading of **Ordinance 2023-13 Setting the Waste, Garbage, Trash and Recycling Collection Charge for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 of \$216.36 for each Residential Unit.** Ms. Amlung stated that no action is needed on this tonight.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Hehman stated that he had nothing to report.

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

- Any elected official planning on attending the upcoming KLC conference in September should notify either Mr. King or Ms. Guenther.
- The Drawbridge project is progressing with zoning and the state consultant report. The next step is talking to PDS to get their input. There will be more information to present to Council within the next month or two, then a resolution will be brought to Council to authorize the mayor to apply for map and text changes.

#### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- Mr. Pohlgeers stated that a resident reached out to him who was concerned about speeding. Mr. Pohlgeers mentioned this to Chief Nader, who responded that he would take care of this. A few days later, Mr. Pohlgeers received a text from the resident thanking him. Mr. Pohlgeers wanted to give kudos to Chief Nader.
- Dr. Roeding asked if there has been any action on a motorized scooter ordinance. Mayor Hehman stated that we did not pass an ordinance but did host a scooter safety event. Mayor Hehman also stated that this was a difficult thing to enforce. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that he is not sure if we need to change the ordinance prohibiting motorized vehicles on the sidewalks, but he does not want police to legislate minors on scooters. Ms. Boerger stated that parents need to educate their children. Ms. Nachazel stated that we can educate through the Fort Mitchell magazine and on the

marquis. Mr. Dietrich also stated that Kentucky does have some laws for motorized scooters, in which you must be 16 years or older to ride a scooter on the road or a bike path. Ms. Nachazel stated that she wondered if the City could offer a permit for kids if they pass a short test. Ms. Amlung stated that the City does not have legal authority to require anyone to have a permit to ride a motorized scooter. Ms. Nachazel suggested a presentation at Hero's Night, with some type of scooter booth and pamphlets. Ms. Nachazel stated that she could work with Chief Nader and Mr. Christofield to develop a pamphlet on scooters that could be handed out at the Fort Mitchell schools. Mayor Hehman stated that he would be meeting with Joe Christofield about social media scooter safety posts.

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT**

### **Public Works Director, Nick Tewes**

- Mr. Tewes contacted the City of Crescent Springs about an I-75 sign in the shopping complex on Clock Tower Way. Crescent Springs stated that this is not a city road and is a private road. Both Crescent Springs and Mr. Tewes reached out to the company that owns this property and Mr. Tewes has not heard back from them. Mr. Tewes will follow up on this and Crescent Springs stated they will do the same.
- Last week Precision Concrete did some sidewalk rehab on Dixie Highway, Beechwood Road and Grandview Avenue. This work involves grinding down uneven spots on sidewalks to avoid trip hazards and make the sidewalks ADA accessible.
- Pavement has been torn out on Requardt Drive from the bend in the road up to Virginia Avenue. This work should be completed in about two months.
- Ms. Boerger had been asked about seeing the barrels on Requardt and wondered if the street was still open to residents. Mr. Tewes stated there may be times when residents are not able to use the road for an hour or two, if there is construction going on.
- Dr. Roeding asked about the signs in the underpass and Mr. Tewes stated that cameras have been installed in the underpass.

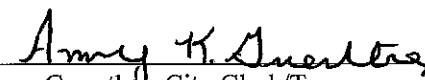
## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 7:20 p.m. and Dr. Roeding 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 S. Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:



Amy Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer