# CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING FIRE TRAINING ROOM DIXIE HIGHWAY FORT MITCHELL, KY 410

2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY, FORT MITCHELL, KY 41017

# June 24, 2024, 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 Hehman asked Ms. Guenther to call roll.

# MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

The following council members were present: Vicki Boerger, Jerry Deatherage, Jeff Dietrich, Kim Nachazel, and Greg Pohlgeers. Council Members Dr. Alyson Roeding and Mike Stoeckle were absent. Mayor Hehman stated a quorum of the City Council was in attendance.

# OTHERS PRESENT

City Attorney, Olivia Amlung; City Administrator, Edwin King; City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther; Fire Chief, Dave Slusser; Programs and Communication Coordinator, Joe Christofield; and Police Chief, Rob Nader.

# APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Hehman mentioned a modification to the agenda regarding the dates for the next two meetings of Council previously documented as June 24<sup>th</sup> and July 22<sup>nd</sup> to be changed to July 22<sup>nd</sup> and August 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve the agenda with the mentioned correction. Mr. Deatherage seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

# APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mayor Hehman referenced the council meeting minutes from June 3, 2024, and asked if there were any changes needed. Hearing none, Ms. Boerger made a motion to approve the June 3, 2024, council meeting minutes. Mr. Dietrich seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

# INTRODUCTION OF NEW POLICE K-9

Mayor Hehman introduced Commonwealth Attorney, Rob Sanders, who was a long-time volunteer firefighter for the City. Mr. Sanders presented Mayor Hehman with a check for \$15,500 for the purchase and training of the City of Fort Mitchell's newest K-9 Officer, Gunny. The funds donated are from money seized from drug dealers. Mayor Hehman expressed that the community has been supportive of the K-9 program and Officer Best's efforts. Mr. Sanders shared that when medical marijuana becomes legal in Kentucky on January 1, 2025, there will be issues for those K-9 officers already imprinted with marijuana. Gunny's training does not include being imprinted with marijuana. Officer Best introduced K-9 Officer Gunny, who is eleven months old. Officer Best expressed appreciation for the support of Commonwealth Attorney Sanders, Mayor Hehman, and City Council.

# CITIZENS AND GUESTS

Police Chief, Rob Nader, introduced Denise Govan, President and CEO of DCCH Center for Children and Families and presented her with a check for \$5,898.55, the proceeds from the 2024 "Raise the Roof" golf outing. Ms. Govan expressed appreciation to everyone who supported the outing. Ms. Govan explained the significance of naming this fundraising effort "Raise the Roof", as the funds were raised to replace a roof over the booths at their festival ground location.

Mayor Hehman acknowledged and congratulated special guest, Jared Arlinghaus, who has filed to run for City Council.

# CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ms. Amlung read **Ordinance 2024-02 Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024 (Second Reading)**. Mayor Hehman asked council to approve the budget. Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-02. Mr. Deatherage seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman asked for any comments. Ms. Boerger complimented all departments for being fiscally responsible with the budget. Mayor Hehman called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Boerger Yes Ms. Nachazel Yes Mr. Dietrich Yes Mr. Pohlgeers Yes Mr. Deatherage Yes

Ms. Amlung read Ordinance 2024-03 Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 (Second Reading). Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-03. Ms. Boerger seconded the motion. Ms. Guenther summarized immaterial changes. Mayor Hehman called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Boerger Yes Ms. Nachazel Yes Mr. Dietrich Yes Mr. Pohlgeers Yes Mr. Deatherage Yes

Ms. Amlung read Ordinance 2024-04 Amending Chapter 111 of the Fort Mitchell Code of Ordinances Relating to Alcoholic Beverages (Second Reading). Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-04. Mr. Dietrich seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Boerger Yes Ms. Nachazel Yes Mr. Dietrich Yes Mr. Pohlgeers Yes Mr. Deatherage

Ms. Amlung read Ordinance 2024-05 Adopting the Pay Scale for the Period of July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026 (First Reading). Ms. Boerger stated that the pay scale is adjusted to make pay competitive for the purpose of recruitment and retention.

Ms. Amlung read **Resolution 2024-08 Surplus of Public Works Property**. Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-08. Mr. Deatherage seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

# **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Hehman shared a reminder for the upcoming Fourth of July parade.

Mayor Hehman proposed changing the ordinance relating to speed humps. He mentioned that council would have the authority to add a speed hump and would like to first obtain opinions from the Safety Committee and guidance from the City Engineer. Mayor Hehman shared that as the construction at Beechwood School approaches completion, the crosswalk will be moved back to Beechwood Road near the center of the building from its current temporary location at Page Road. The school has asked for striping at the crosswalk and would like the city to consider a speed hump at that location. Mayor Hehman stated he would like to try some manufactured speed humps in a few locations and proposed bringing the ordinance changes to the next meeting of City Council for a first

reading. Ms. Nachazel mentioned the history of the ordinance and the way it was written is cumbersome. Ms. Nachazel expressed she is in favor of speed humps, as she feels they do slow people down.

# CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. King reported that there is a signed proposal for the new HVAC system, and work on that will potentially start in the next few weeks. The construction on Cherrywood is going well. The contractors have finished the sanitation lines and some of the catch basin work and will start the road construction after July 4<sup>th</sup>.

# CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Nachazel expressed continued concern with scooter safety and referenced a recent incident on Beechwood Road. Mayor Hehman shared a recent conversation he had with Officer Joe Maier who spoke of his encounters with stopping scooter riders explaining the need for obeying traffic laws.

Mr. Dietrich asked what the city's response/actions will need to be in regard to medical cannabis. Mr. Pohlgeers stated that the city can override Kenton County if they vote it down. City Attorney Amlung suggested the city wait to see what Kenton County will do. Fort Mitchell would only qualify for retail licensing.

# DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

There were no reports from department heads.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deatherage made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting at approximately 6:58 p.m. Mr. Pohlgeers seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Jehman Mayor

Prepared By:

Amy Guenthe. City Clerk/Treasurer