

**CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER
2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY, FORT MITCHELL, KY 41017
MAY 5, 2025, 6:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Jude Hehman asked for a moment of silence in appreciation and respect for a long-time volunteer, Tom Becker, who passed away. Mr. Becker spent over 40 years serving this city. Mayor 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

Mayor Hehman asked Ms. Guenther to call roll. The following council members were present: Jared Arlinghaus, Vicki Boerger, Jerry Deatherage, Jeff Dietrich, Kim Nachazel, Greg Pohlgeers, and Dr. Alyson Roeding. Mayor Hehman stated that a quorum of the City Council was in attendance.

OTHERS PRESENT

City Attorney, Cazmir Thornberry (in for Olivia Amlung); City Administrator, Edwin King; City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther; Fire Chief, Dave Slusser; Public Works Director, Nick Tewes; and Police Chief, Rob Nader.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Hehman asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, Mr. Dietrich made a motion to approve the agenda; Mr. Deatherage seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman asked whether there were any questions and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mayor Hehman asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, Mr. Pohlgeers made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Boerger seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

Bob Kaiser, 35 Virginia Avenue, asked about the status of the Drawbridge project. There is a nice fence, but it does not seem that they are moving any dirt. The mayor stated that they are working and going through inspections. It will be slow at the beginning and then they will begin carving in the road. The road may be constructed by the end of the year. The rain has not helped move the project forward.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Thornberry performed the first reading of **Ordinance 2025-02 Amending Chapter 71 to Prohibit Through-Truck Traffic on City Streets**. Mr. King stated that there are only a few streets in the city in which thru traffic is an issue. Those are Pleasant Ridge, Burdsall, Thompson, and Beechwood Roads. Beechwood has a ban on thru traffic for tractor-trailers. Besides the state-maintained streets, Dixie, Orphanage, and Buttermilk, the City's streets are residential. Considering everything going on with Royal Drive and the Brent Spence Bridge Project (which will increase traffic), an ordinance is proposed that would prohibit thru traffic and allow the City's police officers to cite those who abuse the ordinance. The mayor stated that we can do something to protect the residents. GPS systems cannot re-route the truck drivers through Thompson or Burdsall if this restriction is in place. Mr. King noted that this restriction will not keep trucks from traveling on our roads when they are going to a residence or business within the city.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hehman stated the property at 13 Silver has been sold. The permits that were in place are void now. The owner will be required to apply for new permits.

Mayor Hehman stated that the staff and the department heads did an amazing job on the budget. With the uncertainty of the economy, the budget will hold the line. There are no plans to increase tax rates, but it is expensive to provide services. The City put aside money for Royal Drive and some other things. The Finance Committee and department heads will be mindful. Please consider an increase in pay for the next council and mayor. The City of Fort Mitchell elected officials are some of the lowest paid in the area and it takes a lot of work and time to serve the City. Action is required from the council this year, since it is a non-election year.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Duke Energy had to tear out pavement and repair the concrete to complete a repair at Requardt and Dixie. Mr. Tewes monitored that situation.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Nachazel mentioned that there were a lot of calls to the police from residents during the garage sale regarding blocked driveways and traffic. It is difficult to bring in an influx of non-residents on thru streets like Pleasant Ridge Burdsall, and Thompson, which already have traffic problems. Ms. Nachazel heard a lot of complaints and was asked by residents to share their feedback. The mayor stated that it is an amazing event. Ms. Nachazel asked whether it is worth the headache, because some residents stated that they ended up donating a lot of their items that did not sell.

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT

Police Chief, Rob Nader

- During the community yard sale, one officer issued seven city citations; another issued two. The first officer gave six verbal warnings, and the other officer issued twelve verbal warnings. Thompson, Burdsall, and Pleasant Ridge were probably the roads most impacted by this event. The main problem is blocked driveways, and one way to resolve this is to have the owners block their own driveway before the beginning of the sale.
- Regarding the truck ban, deliveries are still permitted. This change will help since; the police officers will be able to stop vehicles.

Public Works Director, Nick Tewes

- The speed hump was installed on Thompson last week. This speed hump is more pronounced than the one on Beechwood. The one on Beechwood is about 22' long and about 5' thick; and the one on Thompson is 12' long and 4" thick. Drivers will tend to slow down when they hit this speed hump. The City intentionally tried something different with this speed hump to see how each one affects the traffic.
- The milling on West Maple was completed last week. The contractor plans to resurface the road and complete thermal work, including the Beechwood cross walk and speed humps tomorrow. There is a speed hump sign in each direction and cones placed at each of the speed humps.

City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther

No report

○ **Fire Chief, Dave Slusser**

- Chief Slusser thanked the mayor for the moment of silence for Tom. Assistant Chief Jansing met with the family today and the City's firefighters are participating in the visitation and funeral service for him.
- Hydrant testing in the City of Fort Mitchell begins on Monday for about three weeks.
- Six high school interns have been selected for the next school year. They are from Beechwood, Covington Catholic, and Ignite. The fire department will attend a signing day this Friday at Beechwood for those new interns to sign their letters of intent, and will conduct a meeting with their parents Monday, May 12.
- Two volunteers, Peyton Fernbach and Will Smith, graduate from Basic One Recruit Class on May 17. Both are at the top of their class and will be great for our team. With the closing of the school year, two interns are going away for school, and three are staying as active volunteers.
- Mr. Pohlgeers asked the Chief whether he agrees that Mutual Aid is under control. Chief Slusser agreed that it is better.

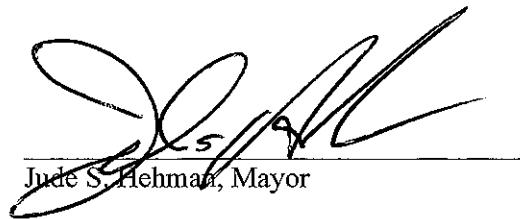
EXECUTIVE SESSION

The mayor asked the council to consider going into an Executive Session. Mr. Pohlgeers made the motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(b) deliberations on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency. The motion was seconded by Ms. Boerger. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously. The mayor stated that there would be no further business after the Executive Session.

○ The Executive Session adjourned at 7:02 p.m. The motion was made by Ms. Boerger and seconded by Mr. Deatherage. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion carried with all ayes.

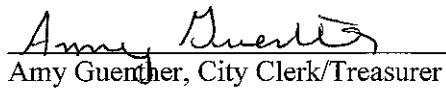
ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Nachazel made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting at 7:03 p.m. Mr. Pohlgeers seconded the motion. Mayor Hehman called for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.



Jude S. Hehman, Mayor

Prepared By:



Amy Guenther
Amy Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer