

**CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER
2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY, FORT MITCHELL, KY 41017
March 23, 2026, 6:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Pohlgeers called the regular council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Pohlgeers led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Guenther called roll. Council members present: Jared Arlinghaus, Jerry Deatherage, Jeff Dietrich, Brad Leeke, and Kim Nachazel. Absent: Vicki Boerger and Dr. Alyson Roeding. Mayor Pohlgeers stated that a quorum of the City Council was present.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor, Greg Pohlgeers; City Attorney, Olivia Amlung; City Administrator, Edwin King; City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther; Police Chief, Rob Nader; Fire Chief, Dave Slusser; Public Works Director, Nick Tewes; and Programs and Communications Coordinator, Joe Christofield.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Pohlgeers asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, Mr. Dietrich made a motion to approve the agenda, and Ms. Nachazel seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked whether there were any questions and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve the council meeting minutes from February 2, 2026. Mr. Arlinghaus seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked whether there were any questions and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve the council meeting minutes from March 2, 2026 , and Mr. Arlinghaus seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked whether there were any questions and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

Shelly Phelps and Jennifer Wiehe of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services spoke to address the shortage and need for foster parents and respite care providers. The biggest need is for placements of sibling groups and teenagers. Virtual and in person training is provided to certify foster homes. Benefits of adopting through foster care include free in-state tuition at public universities, a medical card, adoption tax credits, discounts and monthly stipends. Operation Angel Closet is a program where basic daily necessity bags are made up for new foster children.

Mark Nienaber stated that he and some of his neighbors would like a speed hump on West Orchard to address speeding. Mayor Pohlgeers stated that City Council updated the speed hump ordinance to allow them to install speed humps and speed humps are budgeted. West Orchard will be added to the list for consideration.

Scott Scholz, also a resident of West Orchard, has a master's degree in Traffic Engineering from UC. Mr. Scholz does not want a speed hump and believes that there are better solutions for traffic calming and reducing speed. If a traffic study shows there is a problem, then bump outs are most effective.

Presentation of Audited Financial Statements by Bramel and Ackley, CPA's: Stephanie Huhn

Ms. Huhn presented the audited financial statement for fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. The Independent Auditors Report, stated that the financial statements were fairly presented in all material respects in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States of America. This is considered an

unmodified or a clean opinion on the City's financial statements. No material weaknesses in internal control, noncompliance, deficiencies or management comments were reported. Mr. Deatherage offered kudos to our department heads, Ms. Guenther, and Mr. King, for performing a wonderful job with the budget and financial statements. Mayor Pohlgeers asked if there were any questions. Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve the audited financial statements and reports, and Mr. Dietrich seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers called for a voice vote, and the motion carried unanimously.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ms. Amlung presented a reading of **Resolution 2026-02: Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement for Kenton County Joint Code Enforcement Board**. This resolution authorizes the mayor to sign that interlocal agreement and any other documents that arise to implement this. Mayor Pohlgeers stated that the City of Fort Mitchell has always had its own Code Enforcement Board made up of volunteers. The City recently moved to PDS for code enforcement. Since then, there has been very little need to have a Code Enforcement Board, because PDS does such a good job in rectifying situations that arise. This will also save legal fees since PDS will file the liens for unpaid violations. Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-02, and Mr. Dietrich seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked for a roll call vote, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arlinghaus	Yes	Mr. Leeke	Yes
Mr. Dietrich	Yes	Ms. Nachazel	Yes
Mr. Deatherage	Yes		

Ms. Amlung performed a first reading of **Ordinance 2026-02: Amending Chapters 41 and 92 to align with Kenton County Joint Code Enforcement Board**. Mayor Pohlgeers asked for any questions or comments and there were none.

Ms. Amlung performed a reading of **Municipal Order 2026-05: Appointing Anna Pfaehler to the Tree Commission Board**. Mayor Pohlgeers asked for any questions or comments and hearing none, Mr. Arlinghaus made a motion to approve Municipal Order 2026-05, and Ms. Nachazel seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked for a voice vote, and the motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- The Stonewell Trail sidewalk demolition will begin this week.
- If the weather cooperates, the sidewalk from Pleasant Ridge to Burdsall will begin on April 6 during Blessed Sacrament's spring break.
- The City's contract with Lakeside Park for Fire and EMS services ends this year and the City is working on a contract with Lakeside Park.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Demolition began at 251 Grandview Drive where a dog park will be constructed. In the future, the City may seek grant funding for a senior/community center at this site.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS - No comments.

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT

Public Works Director, Nick Tewes

- The Stonewell Trail and Dixie sidewalk construction projects are starting. Informational notices have been sent to the affected residents.
- Chelsea Drive reconstruction should be completed by mid-April.
- A Bocci ball court and the shade canopies will be added at the Park. These projects were approved by the Park Board and should be completed in May.

Programs and Communications Coordinator, Joe Christofield

- On Saturday the City had its largest attended Egg Hunt. Next year the entire field will be used instead of half of the field and there will be three different age groups (1-3, 4-7, and 8-10).
- The community-wide yard sale will be on Saturday, April 11 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and residents can register at www.fortmitchell.com.
- Best Way Large Item Pick Up Day will be held on Saturday, April 18.
- The Arbor Day Tree Giveaway is also on Saturday, April 18, in the City building parking lot from 8:00 a.m. until the trees run out. Our Tree Board will have 17 varieties to give away. Residents can drive up or walk up to pick up their trees.
- The annual Document Destruction Day will be held on Saturday, April 25 in the City Building parking lot and will be from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. We ask that everyone limit their documents to one carload.
- Ms. Nachazel stated that the City could provide information about the need for foster homes at each event to raise awareness. Mr. Christofield agreed.

Fire Chief, Dave Slusser

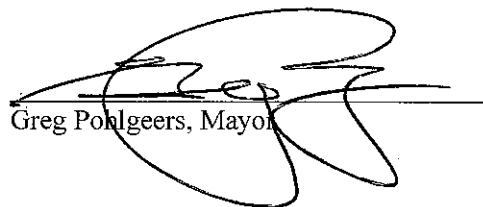
- All apparatus is repaired and back in service.
- The annual DOT inspection for the ladder truck will be in the next few weeks.
- On April 25, the department will host a community CPR class from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Firehouse. Register on the City's website.
- Spring hydrant flows begin in early April and locations will be listed on the City's Facebook.
- Three members are in EMT class. One member is in Greenville, Kentucky, at the Fire Academy. They are all doing well and are scheduled to graduate in May.

Police Chief, Rob Nader

- The police recruit is doing great at the Academy.
- SRO Maier has transitioned well to Blessed Sacrament. The police and fire departments are regularly receiving requests to speak to the students.
- The Kenton County shared Law Enforcement Navigator from Kenton County, Cassie Hensley, comes into the office a couple of times a week and talks to the officers about our issues.
- The City has received our up-fitting bids to install lights and sirens on the new police cruisers.
- Mr. Dietrich stated that recently, he has seen much more police activity on the expressway. It seems that mostly Covington is present between Dixie and Buttermilk. Chief Nader responded that it is the Federal Highway Safety Grant through the City of Erlanger to prevent accidents and speeding.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deatherage made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Dietrich seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers called for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.


Greg Pohlgeers, Mayor

Prepared By:


Amy Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer