

**CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBER  
2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY, FORT MITCHELL, KY 41017  
May 4, 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, Vicki Boerger, Jeff Dietrich, Brad Leeke, Kim Nachazel, and Dr. Alyson Roeding. Absent: Jerry Deatherage. 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, Mayor Pohlgeers called for a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Boerger made a motion to approve the agenda, and Dr. Roeding 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**

Mayor Pohlgeers asked for a motion to approve the council meeting minutes from April 13, 2026. Mr. Arlinghaus made a motion to approve the council meeting minutes, and Mr. Leeke 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**

- Lori Evans thanked the council for their time and commitment to the City. Ms. Evans stated that when the expansion of the sidewalk from Pleasant Ridge to Burdsall Avenue was originally proposed years ago, there was a protest from the community. Mayor Pohlgeers responded that the proposed 12-16 foot wide multi-use path 11 years ago was much wider than the current sidewalk. Ultimately, the council at that time voted to pull the grant applied for. Mayor Pohlgeers stated that the current sidewalks along Dixie Highway are 5 foot wide and the expansion would be only three feet. The long-term goal is to expand the sidewalk along Dixie Highway from Sunnymede to Beechwood Road. The City has been approved for a grant. This issue arose again because scooters, bikes, walkers, and strollers need more space.
- Ms. Evans asked about the neighborhoods where there are no sidewalks. Ms. Nachazel responded that sometimes residents on the street are opposed to sidewalks when roads are being reconstructed. Ms. Boerger asked Ms. Evans whether she is opposed to widening that sidewalk or opposed to some streets not having sidewalks? Ms. Evans stated that she would like to see sidewalks on all the streets. Ms. Evans thinks the widened sidewalk is unattractive and money is being spent unnecessarily.

- Mayor Pohlgeers stated that it is the City's policy to have a public meeting when roads are being constructed. If the residents in the neighborhood do not want sidewalks, then the City does not add them.
- Mr. King stated that another thing to consider is that the State also has a reconstruction project along Dixie Highway. Ms. Evans asked whether there is a plan to expand the sidewalks on Beechwood Road as well. Mayor Pohlgeers confirmed that there is potential for that project. Ms. Evans asked whether the Beechwood Road yards would be affected by this. Mayor Pohlgeers stated that no engineering or design work has been done, so that question cannot be answered at this time.
- Ms. Evans is concerned about losing the green space between the main road and the sidewalk. Ms. Nachazel stated that Beechwood Road is wider than the lanes on the expressway, and that encourages drivers to speed. Mayor Pohlgeers stated that when the project has been designed and engineered, public input will be part of it. City representatives will meet with the school and the residents on Beechwood Road.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Ms. Amlung performed a first reading of **Ordinance 2026-03: Amending Chapter 34 to Comply with State Statutory Changes and Opinions**. The City's initial public records ordinance was drafted and enacted in 1988 and has been largely untouched since then. This amendment is updating the ordinance to include changes made in the Kentucky Revised Statutes and placing the open record procedures in the City's policies and procedures adopted by Executive Order.

Ms. Amlung performed a first reading of **Ordinance 2026-04: Amending Chapter 72 to Update Parking Violation Penalties**. Mr. King stated that this is a simple change in our parking violation penalties to a 30,60, 90-day schedule from a 10, 30, 60-day, then a dollar per day schedule to improve efficiencies.

Ms. Amlung performed a reading of **Resolution 2026-03: Approval of Interlocal Agreement Related to Opioid Settlement Funds – Motion Needed**. Mr. King stated that the opioid settlement funds are going towards the case worker/social worker at the Kenton County Drug Policy Office that assists City residents and police officers. Dr. Roeding made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-03, and Mr. Dietrich seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked for any questions or comments, and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- The contract with Lakeside Park for Fire and EMS services ends this year. The City is in the negotiation phase of the contract, and council will be updated on any movement.
- Mayor Pohlgeers, Mr. King, and Mr. Deatherage are planning to revive the City Business Council. In the past the business council did not have a cohesive group that met regularly and then COVID occurred. The City has some new young business owners that can restart the City Business Council.
- The Finance Committee is meeting on Wednesday to review the budget and the budget will be presented at the next council meeting.
- Royal Drive is completed except for the entrance at Buttermilk Pike. The City initially thought the project was waiting on Duke Energy to move some utilities, but the project was stalled at the State level. The City's administration will put pressure on the State to get the project moving.

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

- The City received notice about the Board of Adjustments meeting for the City of Crescent Springs regarding a convenience store by the Speedway since the adjoining property is within the City of Fort Mitchell.
- The next council meeting is the budget meeting, which will begin at 5:30 instead of 6:30 p.m. in the fire training room of the City building, since the voting machines will be set up in the council chambers.

### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- Dr. Roeding and Mr. Leeke stated that they would like to be a part of the Business Council when it is established.

### **DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT**

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

- The Stonewell Trail sidewalk project is complete and the City has received positive feedback. The driveway restoration will begin tomorrow. The City's public works crew will be watering the grass along the sidewalk.
- The final surface was placed on Chelsea Drive last week.
- The public works crew has hung the flower baskets in the business district today and will be watering those throughout the Summer.
- Mr. Tewes is waiting for quotes regarding speed humps.
- Demolition of the 251 Grandview building is complete, and the yard restoration will be started soon. Mayor Pohlgeers has received positive comments from the Fire Department having the building available for six months to use for training.

#### **Programs and Communications Coordinator, Joe Christofield**

- The community-wide yard sale and large item pickup went very well.
- The Arbor Day Tree Giveaway was held on April 18th and the supply of trees was given away in about an hour.
- Over 11,000 pounds were shredded on Document Destruction Day.
- The Cincinnati Observatory at General Ormsby Park will be held on Thursday, May 28, from 9:00 pm to 10:30 pm.
- Mayor Pohlgeers thanked Joe Christofield, Casie Stacy, Dave Jansing, Nick Tewes, and Bill Zerhusen for organizing the Employee Appreciation Dinner.

#### **Fire Chief, Dave Slusser**

- Friday, May 15th, Jeff Groneck, the Fire/EMS Recruiter Coordinator, and I will be attending the graduation of a volunteer from the Kentucky Fire Academy in Greenville.
- The Beechwood High School signing ceremony for the fire department's internship program was well attended by the parents.
- The department will continue to test fire hydrants.
- The department has two new full-time firefighter/medics starting in May and will be introduced at a June council meeting.

- The Fire Department had a direct line to a Water District Fire Hydrant Maintenance Division employee, but the role was eliminated. Response and repairs are slow and the local fire chiefs are meeting with the Water District about the issues.

**Police Chief, Rob Nader**

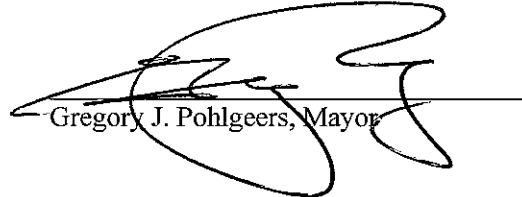
- Beechwood students' cars are being towed off the private Kroger lot and students are parking their cars on our side streets such as Deauville Court. Officer Warner and Chief Nader spoke to parents blocking driveways during pickup. Extra signs have been added to prevent illegal parking. School Resource Officer Pangallo coordinated with school administration to put out communication to parents about the parking issues.

**City Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Guenther**

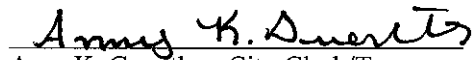
- Ms. Guenther passed out a financial statement as of 04/30/2026. The two financial statement graphs show the revenues and expenses are coming in on target. Occupational license taxes are collected in April but many of them are not processed by Kenton County until May.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Boerger made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting at 7:07 p.m. Mr. Arlinghaus seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers called for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

  
Gregory J. Pohlgeers, Mayor

Prepared By:

  
Amy K. Guenther, City Clerk/Treasurer