

**CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER
2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY, FORT MITCHELL, KY 41017
June 1, 2026, 6:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Pohlgeers 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. Council members present: Jared Arlinghaus, Vicki Boerger, Jerry Deatherage, Jeff Dietrich, Brad Leeke, Kim Nachazel, 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; 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. Boerger 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

Dr. Roeding made a motion to approve May 4, 2026, Council Meeting minutes, 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.

Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve May 18, 2026, City Council minutes, and Ms. Nachazel seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked if there were any questions and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS

None

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ms. Amlung performed a second reading of **Ordinance 2026-03: Amending Chapter 34 Public Records to Comply with State Statutory Changes and Opinions**. Ms. Boerger made the first motion to approve Ordinance 2026-03, and Mr. Deatherage seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked for questions or comments and hearing none, asked for a roll-call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arlinghaus	Yes	Mr. Leeke	Yes
Ms. Boerger	Yes	Ms. Nachazel	Yes
Mr. Dietrich	Yes	Dr. Roeding	Yes
Mr. Deatherage	Yes		

Ms. Amlung performed a second reading of **Ordinance 2026-04: Amending Chapter 72 to Update Parking Violation Penalties**. Dr. Roeding made the first motion to approve Ordinance 2026-04, and Ms. Boerger seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked for questions or comments and hearing none, asked for a roll-call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arlinghaus	Yes	Mr. Leeke	Yes
Ms. Boerger	Yes	Ms. Nachazel	Yes
Mr. Dietrich	Yes	Dr. Roeding	Yes
Mr. Deatherage	Yes		

Ms. Amlung performed a first reading of **Ordinance 2026-05: Approving the Recommendation of Kenton County Planning Commission to Allow for Applicable to Qualified Manufactured Housing to Comply with State Statute that has recently changed**. Andy Videkovich from PDS was present to field any questions. There were none.

Ms. Amlung performed a first reading of **Ordinance 2026-06: Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026**. Ms. Guenther stated that there were a few changes from the budget meeting that are highlighted in yellow for both the amended budget and the budget for next year. The investment income was lowered by \$25,000. Other Fire Contractual Services, Municipal Road Aid Salt, and Dixie Highway Sidewalk expenses were increased and the Dixie Highway Sidewalk was moved to from Municipal Road Aid to the Capital Fund Replacement fund.

Ms. Amlung performed a first reading of **Ordinance 2026-07: Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2027**. Mayor Pohlgeers stated that there are two changes made from the May budget meeting. The first is that \$15,000 was added to this budget to bring back the Business Council. The Chamber of Commerce of Northern Kentucky offers a program to administer area city business councils. The City does not have enough information yet to determine whether we will use this service and will meet with the Chamber to discuss various options. \$15 million was added to both the Road Tax Fund donation revenue and Road Tax Fund expenses for the transfer of the new Royal Drive back to the City. The net effect to the City fund balance is zero. The bid for Sunnymede/Cornell realignment came in higher than expected, so Road Tax expenses were increased by \$100,000.

Ms. Amlung performed the first reading of **Municipal Order 2026-06: Authorizing Treatment of Uncollected Sewer Assessments**. Mr. King stated that when the City managed storm water and sewer, some houses along Beechwood Road were double lots. The owners petitioned Council not to assess the undeveloped lots unless they were developed in the future. The City has carried approximately \$24,000 for six lots at \$4,000 each of related accounts receivables (asset) and deferred revenue (liability) for decades now, and SD1 now manages stormwater and sewer for Northern Kentucky cities. The City will likely never collect these receivables, so this is an effort to get it off the City's books. There was legislation back then that was passed, and this Municipal Order will authorize the accounts receivable and deferred revenue to be removed from the City balance sheet. Mr. Deatherage made the first motion to approve Municipal Order 2026-06 and Mr. Dietrich seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked for questions or comments and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion was carried unanimously.

Ms. Amlung performed the first reading of **Municipal Order 2026-07: Adopting New Mission and Vision Statements**. Mayor Pohlgeers stated that Mr. Deatherage went to a leadership seminar, and one of the takeaways was the importance of cities having a mission statement. Mr. Deatherage thanked Council for the opportunity to participate in this phenomenal program. There was quite a bit of discussion about what your city means and how it represents the citizens. Mayor Pohlgeers stated that a citywide mission statement would be beneficial. Dr. Roeding made a motion to approve Municipal Order 2026-07, and Mr. Deatherage seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers requested questions or comments and hearing none, requested a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- The City is entering into a new legal services contract with Adams Law. There is a requirement to disclose that Amy Guenther's husband is a partner and has ownership interest in Adams Law; he does not have any involvement with the city for any legal aspects, so we do not foresee any issues there.
- Flock cameras will continue to be a point of interest. Council members have the responsibility to research this topic and Mayor Pohlgeers stated that he is a proponent of Flock cameras. Council has had discussions about Flock cameras and the concerns behind them. People may have concerns about security vulnerabilities, which is understandable. However, we do not want to lose the opportunity to find a kidnapped child, for example, because we do not have Flock cameras. Mr. Deatherage stated that a few months ago, an individual walked into a bank in Berea and murdered two employees. Using the Flock cameras, Berea located the individual within 24 hours in Lexington and made an arrest. Several council members stated that they support Flock cameras being used in the City.
- If potholes become a safety issue on Dixie Highway (a state road), there is no issue with the City filling them. It is not ideal, because the State should take care of state owned roads. Mr. Tewes and the mayor are working on this issue and hope to find a resolution with the state. The City's responsibility is to spend the taxpayers' money appropriately, and District Six of the Kentucky Department of Transportation needs to be carrying their obligations. Mr. King stated that if the City bills the State for filling potholes on state roads, the State will expect the City to take full responsibility if someone's tires pop or there is any kind of liability that arises. Right now, if a driver pops tires going over a pothole on a state road, the State is liable. The state has a link where drivers can report potholes and file claims.
- The City will be applying for two federal grants. The first grant requires a 20% match and is an OKI grant and would cover replacing the sidewalk along Dixie Highway on the east side (if you are heading north), from Orphanage Road to Kroger. The concern with this grant is that as of today, the State is budgeting to replace that sidewalk as part of the Dixie Highway Corridor Project. The City administration will be meeting with District Six. If the City is confident that the State would take care of the sidewalk as planned, the City will not apply for this grant.
- The second grant is an AFG grant. Fire Chief, Dave Slusser, will apply for this grant with a 5% match for the city. It could help pay for the replacement of the SUV that is in the fire department's budget this upcoming fiscal year or the fire truck on the Capital Replacement plan in 2030.
- The City is working with Mayor Markgraf of Lakeside Park to finalize the EMS and Fire contract. This should be completed by the end of the week.
- There are many complaints about e-bikes on City sidewalks. Scooters have unofficial classifications, but e-bikes have official manufacturer classifications. Class 1 does not have a throttle and will go up to 20 miles per hour, Class 2 e-bikes do have a throttle and go up to 20 miles per hour. Class 3 e-bikes have a throttle and go at least 28 miles per hour. The City administration must do more research, but currently, Mayor Pohlgeers is in favor of banning Class 3 e-bikes on city sidewalk. The City's ordinance on scooters could be updated to include e-bikes. The safety of the walker must take precedent over the safety of the e-bike rider. Ms. Amlung stated that it is very difficult to enforce bans. KLC is considering this issue, as it is a common problem in our cities.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- The Tree Board wants to determine whether council has any interest in legislation regarding invasive species like bamboo. In looking at various city ordinances around, if the owner planted an invasive species on their property and that became a right-of-way issue where the city needs to clean out a public right-of-way, that work would be done at the cost of the homeowner. Several council members stated that they would be interested in this proposal.
- Adams Law is hosting a “lunch and learn” session for Open Records on Wednesday at noon in the County building. Be sure to register if you are interested in attending.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

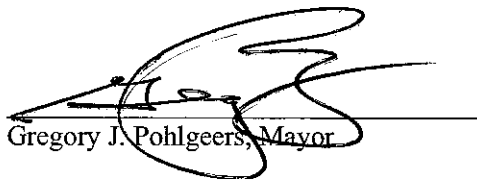
No comments.

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT

No reports currently.

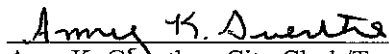
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pohlgeers asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting at 7:13 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