

**CITY OF FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBER  
2355 DIXIE HIGHWAY, FORT MITCHELL, KY 41017  
August 31, 2026, 6:30 p.m. ET (5:30 p.m. CT)**

**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. Stacy 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 City Council was present.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Mayor, Greg Pohlgeers; City Administrator, Edwin King; City Attorney, Mary Ann Stewart; Assistant City Clerk/Treasurer, Casie Stacy; Police Chief, Rob Nader; Public Works Director, Nick Tewes; and Programs and Communications Coordinator, Joe Christofield.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Dr. Roeding made a motion to approve the agenda, and Ms. Boerger seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked whether there were any changes or discussion and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Mr. Leeke made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 17, 2026, meeting, and Mr. Arlinghaus seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers asked whether there were any changes or discussion and hearing none, called for a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously.

**CITIZENS AND GUESTS**

No one was there for this portion of the meeting. Mr. Bob Pille came in close to the end of the meeting and signed in but missed speaking at this portion of the meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR REAL PROPERTY TAX RATE**

Mayor Pohlgeers stated that the City Council was going to open the property tax hearing and asked for a motion to go into the public hearing. Dr. Roeding made a motion to enter the public tax hearing. Ms. Boerger seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers called for a voice vote. The motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Pohlgeers stated pursuant to KRS 132.027 the City of Fort Mitchell will hold its public hearing on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of August 2026, at 6:30pm. The proposed real estate property tax rate is .108, which is the same as last year. The expected revenue is \$1,202,738. Mayor Pohlgeers then stated no one from the public was in attendance to speak at the public hearing for property tax.

Mayor Pohlgeers asked for a motion to close the hearing. Ms. Boerger made a motion to close the hearing, and Mr. Deatherage seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Pohlgeers stated that the property tax rate public hearing was closed.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Ms. Stewart performed a second reading of **Ordinance 2026-09: Adopting the Real Property Tax Rate of 0.108 Per \$100 of Assessed Value for Fiscal Year July 2026-June 2027**. Mayor Pohlgeers stated the compensating rate would be .107. The current proposed rate will remain the same at .108 per \$100 of assessed property. The difference between the two rates is approximately \$11,000. Mayor Pohlgeers stated he believes this number is insignificant, especially for the uncertain economic times right now and inflation. This rate results in a \$21,000 budget deficit which was discussed at the last meeting. Mayor Pohlgeers stated he has zero concern about the deficit based on how the budget is handled each year. Mayor Pohlgeers stated this is the 11<sup>th</sup> straight year of the same or reduced rates. Historically Fort Mitchell has been around the fourth lowest property tax rate in Northern Kentucky. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-09 and Mr. Dietrich seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Stewart performed a second reading of **Ordinance 2026-10: Adopting the Park Tax Rate of .02 Per \$100 of Assessed Value for Fiscal Year July 2026-June 2027**. Mayor Pohlgeers stated if the Park Board ever wanted to change the tax rate that would have to be an item on the ballot. Mr. Deatherage made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-10 and Mr. Arlinghaus seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Stewart performed a second reading of **Ordinance 2026-11: Setting the Waste, Garbage, Trash and Recycling Collection Charge of \$222.84 for Fiscal Year July 2026-June 2027**. Mayor Pohlgeers stated the rate will remain the same as the City is still under contract and will go out for bid next year on waste collection hopefully with Lakeside Park. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-11 and Ms. Boerger seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Stewart performed a second reading of **Ordinance 2026-12: Amending Chapter 73 to Regulate Electric Bicycles and Other Devices on City Sidewalks**. Mayor Pohlgeers stated this will mirror E-bikes to the existing E-scooter ordinance. This ordinance will ban Class 3 E-bikes from City sidewalks and E-motors from City sidewalks. Three changes that Mayor Pohlgeers mentioned as possibilities were reducing the speed limit from 15 to 10 mph, a "Walk Your Wheels" program, which suggests the first hour before school starts and the last hour after school ends that everyone would have to walk your wheels on Beechwood Road. The third possible change would be confiscation of E-bikes for egregious behavior or repeat offenders or escalating fines, but these could have some legal challenges. Ms. Nachazel likes the idea of certain times of day should be designated to walk your bike. Ms. Nachazel believes those on E-bikes and scooters with horns and bells forget pedestrians have the right of way, especially on Beechwood's narrow sidewalks. Dr. Roeding agreed with Ms. Nachazel. Ms. Nachazel also mentioned the current ordinance for bicycles has a limit of 15 mph. Mr. Leeke stated he would be fine with the monitoring of 15 mph before any changes are made for a miles per hour reduction. Dr. Roeding stated enforcement for certain miles per hour may be difficult to enforce. Mr. Arlinghaus made a motion to

approve Ordinance 2026-12 and Ms. Nachazel seconded the motion. Mayor Pohlgeers called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

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

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Pohlgeers stated Mr. Deatherage would give an Investment Committee update. Mr. Deatherage stated in 2022 the City formed the Investment Committee. Prior to this, all investments fell to one or two people, which was a lot of fiduciary responsibility for only one or two people. In the last year the committee has engaged Redtree Investments, which manages fixed income investments for municipalities. During the recent Investment Committee review, another \$3 million dollar transfer was initiated into Redtree Investments and secured US notes/treasuries extending from 3-5 years with an average interest rate of 4.25%. The City currently has 3 positions that are managed, including short term through Heritage Bank Checking Account with a competitive interest rate, Redtree Investment Group which has slightly under a 4.00% on average balance in returns for the entire investment pool, and the City has about \$635,000 with Kentucky League of Cities investment pool that is diversified into 5 different funds which is being managed by PNC Investments out of Lexington. After revisions are started on the investment policy, the Investment Committee will be updating Council. Mayor Pohlgeers stated he has been very impressed with Redtree Investments so far. The City is governed by KRS and how money is invested, which is very conservative. Mr. Deatherage stated Redtree Investments is taking fiduciary responsibility off the City.
- Mayor Pohlgeers stated Mr. King has done a fantastic job bringing the Fort Mitchell Civic Academy to fruition. The Civic Academy is still in the planning phases, but the initial plan includes four classes that residents can sign up for. The first class will be a Kenton County Government Center tour which includes Sheriff, Homeland Security, Emergency Management Services and Dispatch. The second class will be Kenton County Detention Center which will involve the County Attorney, Commonwealth Attorney, US Attorney, and Jailer. The third class will be a tour of the Fort Mitchell City Building which will include Fire, Police and Planning and Development Services. The fourth class will be a round table discussion hosted by Mayor Pohlgeers and Judge Executive Kris Knochehlmann.
- Mayor Pohlgeers specified that the State informed the City in August they will be discontinuing the direct sale of salt to the City. Currently plans are being developed to handle this winter but also long-term salt storage in the City.
- The Mayor stated with the most recent update received, Royal Drive should be open in the middle of next week.
- The Mayor stated the City has implemented a City Employee/Council spotlight. Mayor Pohlgeers stated he wanted to spotlight employees and council members because he is extremely proud of the team currently at the City.

#### **CITY ADMINSTRATOR'S REPORT**

- Duke Energy reached out to the City to notify the residents on the college streets that the Duke Energy project has not been completed yet and Duke Energy will complete the restoration work once the project is completed.

- Residents of Thompson and Greenbriar experience regular outages when it storms, primarily due to the lines being in the backyards (according to Duke Energy). Tree trimming was originally scheduled for 2028, but now tree trimming will take place this week and next week.
- Chief Nader turned off all access to all officers for the Flock cameras the morning after the last council meeting. Sharing with other agencies was also turned off and cameras were unplugged. Since then, all cameras have been removed by the Public Works Department. The solar panels remain, though they are not hooked up.
- Mr. Deatherage stated the Kentucky League of Cities Conference is coming to town in a few weeks to Covington. Every year some sort of campaign is done for local charities. This year KLC is doing a winter coat drive. If anyone would like to participate, they are encouraged to bring a new or excellent condition children's winter coat to the City Building. Whichever city donates the most winter coats will win a pizza party.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT**

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

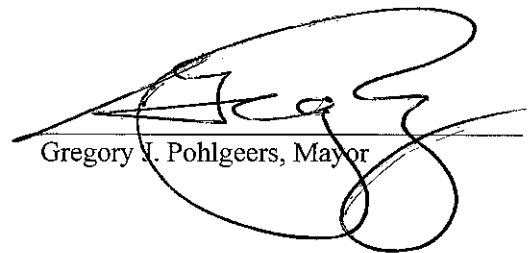
- The Park Board meeting will be held at General Ormsby Mitchel Park at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 1, 2026.
- Bingo for Seniors will be held Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at the Fort Mitchell City Building.
- The Wall of Honor ceremony will take place on Saturday, September 12, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in the fire bay. The honorees include Jim Hils, David Stoeckle and K9 Officer Tony.

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

- The pickleball court project including cracks sealing and repainting was completed and the courts opened last Wednesday. Positive feedback has been received from these updates.
- Volleyball construction project should start in the next two weeks.
- Work on Sunnymede is continuing with Riegler Blacktop is scheduled to start mid-September and continue until the project is complete in the spring. Mayor Pohlgeers stated the original catch basins for storm water are no longer needed now so there should be a negative change order ahead for this project.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Pohlgeers asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Nachazel made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting at 6:56 p.m. Dr. Roeding 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