

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE ELSMERE CITY COUNCIL

February 11, 2014

6:30PM

LOCATION: Elsmere City Building, 318 Garvey Avenue, Elsmere, KY 41018

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Lenhof called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: The invocation was given by Councilman Tim Greene, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: The following members were present:

Mayor Marty Lenhof
Councilwoman Joanne Barnett-Smith
Councilwoman Nancy Bowman
Councilman Tim Greene
Councilwoman Gloria Grubbs

Councilman Billy Bradford and Councilwoman Mary Lou Neal were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilwoman Barnett-Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2014 Council Meeting. Councilman Greene seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. **Motion carried and so ordered.**

AUDIENCE REMARKS:

Serena Owen – 1086 Henry Street – Ms. Owen asked City Council for ideas on how to resume TANK bus service on the Garvey Ave. area of Elsmere. Ms. Owen reported her husband fell while walking to the Dixie Highway bus stop and also reported many individuals are walking in the middle of the street due to the icy sidewalks. Mr. Mattingly stated that the City has inquired in the past if the stop can be added and TANK reported the ridership was not enough for the Garvey Ave. route to be reactivated. Mr. Mattingly offered to invite a TANK representative to attend one of the City Council meetings for them to report on this matter. Mr. Mattingly also reported that city ordinance requires property owners to clear off ice and snow from the sidewalks, and the City would remind property owners of this obligation on the Elsmere website. Mayor Lenhof added he serves on the OKI advisory board and many stops, not just in Elsmere but in other cities, have been removed. Councilman Greene questioned if we can survey residents to find out if the ridership is there for TANK since many businesses have been added in the industrial area.

Karen Haskell Sullivan – 640 Bedinger – Ms. Sullivan questioned whether there are any laws that address residential rental properties. Ms. Sullivan reported she lives in a rental home in the city which had a small electrical fire due to poor wiring and oversized heaters. She reports she has brought several items to the landlord's attention, but the problem is not getting fixed. Ms. Sullivan also reported the vacant property at 638 Bedinger has been purchased by a company from Cleveland, OH that has poor ratings with the Better Business Bureau. Mayor Lenhof noted that she can always request the Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector to inspect the property. Mayor Lenhof also reported a rental inspection ordinance was proposed to City Council in the past and many rental properties are not known unless there is a police or fire call to the property. Mr. Mattingly stated the city is aggressive in addressing code enforcement issues and a second version of the proposed rental inspection ordinance is being drafted. Councilwoman Grubbs added she was very sorry to hear about her issues and plans to look into the ordinance. Ms. Sullivan will contact Mr. Mattingly regarding her code enforcement matter following the council meeting.

GENERAL ITEMS:

Family Court Judge Lisa Osborne Bushelman – Fifth Division

Ms. Osborne Bushelman addressed Council regarding her qualifications for re-election on the November ballot for the position of Family Court Judge. She also discussed the circuit level position that involves everything surrounding children and families.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Building Inspector Bill Stith reported for the month of January, 2014 there were seven zoning and building permits with \$227,150.00 in total construction costs, \$1,790.00 in building fees, and \$150.00 in zoning fees. These permits included an addition to a building on Erlanger Street, an addition of a wall to make a room on Ash Street, remodeling of the store on Garvey, replacing an antenna and cabinet on a cell tower, five large retaining walls at the new apartment complex, and a new sign at US Bank and a remodel of existing space on May Street due to broken water lines.

City Engineer Ray Erpenbeck was not present but submitted a written report to Council.

City Clerk Jessica Chaney reported at the end of January a delinquent property tax bill was mailed to property owners which we have received numerous payments from this notice and hopes this will improve collection efforts. Mrs. Chaney also reported she has been working on information for the Feb. 18 Code Enforcement Board meeting.

Code Enf. Officer & Zoning Administrator Rich Aliff was not present but submitted a written report to Council.

Parks and Recreation Director Denise Donahue reported there were 231 people in attendance at the last skating party. Mrs. Donahue also reported she will start planning the Easter egg hunt and has been working on items for the student government meeting and a crumb rubber grant for two parks.

City Attorney Tom Miller reported he has been working on various ordinance revisions, tax and waste fee liens, board of adjustment and code enforcement issues.

Police Chief Thames presented to City Council the 2013 annual report. Chief Thames encouraged Council members to review the information since it contains the highlights, accomplishments in training and statistical numbers for 2013. He also reported Officer Metzger has been released from field training and the department is fully staffed at this point. He also reported he is currently completing performance reviews and will be submitted on Friday to the Mayor and Mr. Mattingly. He also reported on the success of the Town Hall meeting that was held at Lloyd High School for drug awareness and commended all who were involved. Chief Thames also reminded residents to watch the news for posted snow emergencies and to remove cars off the street to allow the Public Works crew to do their job. Chief Thames also submitted a written report to Council.

Public Works Director Chris Zerhusen reported for the month of January they have been dealing with snow removal and are fortunate to be at maximum salt supply unlike other cities. He also requested residents to remove parked cars off the street since it makes it difficult for the plows to maneuver around them. Mr. Zerhusen also submitted a written report to Council.

Councilwoman Grubbs made a motion to approve the Administrative Reports. Councilman Greene seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. **Motion carried and so ordered.**

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS:

Administrative Liaisons Gloria Grubbs and Nancy Bowman had no report.

Adopt-A-Troop Liaison Joanne Barnett-Smith had no report.

Economic Development Liaison Billy Bradford was absent.

Code Enforcement Liaison Mary Lou Neal was absent.

Parks and Recreation Liaison Mary Lou Neal was absent.

Student Government Joanne Barnett-Smith reported the student government meeting was cancelled this evening and rescheduled for March 11, 2014. It was rescheduled since many students have been out of school recently due to the weather. Councilwoman Barnett-Smith also reported that, as of now, she has six interested students.

Streets Liaison Tim Greene reported most of the work has stopped due to the weather, although, there are still dump trucks going down Caldwell and work is moving forward on this project. Councilman Greene also reported once the weather warms back up some of the other road jobs will start which the city hopes to get them done this year.

City Administrator T. Alex Mattingly reported he has collaborated with Parks and Recreation Director Denise Donahue and Public Works Director Chris Zerhusen on submitting the crumb rubber grant for the parks which utilizes recycled tires for rubber mulching. Mr. Mattingly also reported the city has received the Safety Grant from KLC in the amount of \$3,000.00 which Chief Thames, Chris Zerhusen, Finance Officer/Treasurer Jessica Lucius and City Clerk Jessica Chaney assisted in this effort.

Mayor Marty Lenhof reported he attended the Town Hall meeting at Lloyd High School which was very informative regarding the drug problem in northern Kentucky. Mayor Lenhof reported a Lloyd graduate provided his testimony on his experience with drug addiction and recovery. In addition there were school officers, law enforcement and individuals from treatment centers that presented at the meeting. Mayor Lenhof also addressed Council regarding continuation of members serving on the scholarship committee.

GENERAL ITEMS CONT.:

Executive Order 1-2014 – Appointing Chairperson to Code Enforcement Board

Mayor Lenhof summarized the Executive Order naming Alanna Gillen as the official chairperson to the Elsmere Code Enforcement Board.

Order/Resolution 2-2014 – Re-appointing Members of Board of Adjustment

City Clerk Jessica Chaney read by title the Order/Resolution.

Councilwoman Grubbs made a motion to accept Order/Resolution 2-2014 as read. Councilwoman Barnett-Smith seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. **Vote: 4-0. Motion carried and so ordered.**

Order/Resolution 3-2014 – Accepting Bid for Park Ave. Reconstruction and Easements

City Clerk Jessica Chaney read by title the Order/Resolution.

Councilman Greene made a motion to accept Order/Resolution 3-2014 as read. Councilwoman Grubbs seconded the motion. Mayor Lenhof requested a Roll Call vote. Roll Call – Councilwoman Bowman – abstained; Councilman Greene – aye; Councilwoman Grubbs – aye; Councilwoman Barnett-Smith- aye. **Vote: 3 ayes, 1 abstention. Motion carried and so ordered.**

Order/Resolution 4-2014 – Accepting Bid for Dell Street Storm Sewer Extension and Easement

City Clerk Jessica Chaney read by title the Order/Resolution.

Councilwoman Bowman made a motion to accept Order/Resolution 4-2014 as read. Councilwoman Barnett-Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Lenhof requested a Roll Call vote. Roll Call – Councilman Greene – aye; Councilwoman Grubbs – aye; Councilwoman Barnett-Smith- aye; Councilwoman Bowman – aye. **Vote: 4-0. Motion carried and so ordered.**

Ordinance 1674-2014 – Amending Insurance Premium Tax Budget Transfer

City Attorney Tom Miller performed a summary reading for the Second Reading of Ordinance 1674-2014.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING § 144.06 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO MANDATE ALL INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX PROCEEDS BE DEPOSITED IN THE GENERAL FUND, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014.

Councilman Greene made a motion to accept Ordinance 1674-2014 as read. Councilwoman Bowman seconded the motion. Mayor Lenhof requested a Roll Call vote. Roll Call – Councilwoman Grubbs – aye; Councilwoman Barnett-Smith- aye; Councilwoman Bowman – aye; Councilman Greene – aye. **Vote: 4-0. Motion carried and so ordered.**

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL:

Councilwoman Gloria Grubbs had no report.

Councilwoman Mary Lou Neal was absent.

Councilwoman Joanne Barnett-Smith had no report.

Councilman Bradford was absent.

Councilman Greene wished his mother a Happy Birthday.

Councilwoman Bowman also wished Ms. Greene a Happy Birthday.

Executive/Closed Session

Councilwoman Bowman made a motion to enter executive session under KRS 61.810(1)(b) – Deliberations on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency, but only when publicity would be likely to affect the value of a specific piece of property to be acquired for public use or sold by a public agency. Councilwoman Barnett-Smith seconded the motion. Council entered executive session at 7:40 p.m.

Councilwoman Bowman made a motion to exit Executive Session and reconvene regular session. Councilman Greene seconded the motion. Council exited Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Grubbs made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Greene seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. **Motion carried and so ordered.** Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Mayor Marty Lenhof

Attest:

Jessica Chaney, City Clerk