

## MEETING MINUTES OF THE ELSMERE CITY COUNCIL

November 9, 2021

6:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Elsmere Senior Center, 179 Dell Street, Elsmere, KY 41018.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Marty Lenhof called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:** The invocation was given by Councilman Malcolm Daniels, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** The following members were present: Mayor Marty Lenhof, Councilwoman Gloria Grubbs, Councilwoman Joanne Barnett Smith, Councilwoman Nancy Bowman, Councilman Malcolm Daniels, and Councilman Aaron Moore.

Councilwoman Lisa Mitchell was not in attendance.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilwoman Bowman made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2021, Council Meeting. Councilwoman Grubbs seconded the motion. All members voted aye. **Motion carried and so ordered.**

Councilman Moore made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2021, Caucus Meeting. Councilman Daniels seconded the motion. All members voted aye. **Motion carried and so ordered.**

### GENERAL ITEMS:

Public Works Director Chris Zerhusen introduced Public Works Forman Christopher Overstreet to the Council.

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

**City Engineer Ray Erpenbeck** Was not in attendance and had no report. There were no questions for this department.

**Code Enforcement Officer Chris Preston & Zoning Administrator Rich Aliff** were not in attendance but submitted written reports to Council.

**City Attorney Greg Voss** was not in attendance. Attorney Donnie Warner attended the meeting in his absence.

**Public Works Director Chris Zerhusen** submitted a written report. Chris reported that the department has started a floor drain project at the maintenance building. While tearing out the concrete floor they found a large void under the concrete which was likely the cause of the floor collapse last winter.

The department tore out the asphalt pavement at the intersection of Main Street and Buckner Street. The area was then replaced with concrete

A representative from Certified Power helped the department calibrate the salt spreaders. While on site Chris had him look at the PTO on our 2019 Ford F-550, the representative contacted Henderson Equipment Company and asked that the vehicle be looked at.

Councilwoman Joanne Barnett Smith stated that she had been asked by residents about leaf collection. Public Works Director Zerhusen stated that the main issue with doing leaf collection is staffing. Most cities who do this do it from November until the second week of December which is not practical for a city our size.

**Police Chief Joe Maier** submitted a written report. Chief reported that the department assisted the FBI SWAT Team on a mission on Shadowridge Drive. The suspect was wanted for trafficking in drugs and being a persistent felony offender. The department launched an investigation into an adult male who was allegedly committing sex crimes against a female family member. The resident was arrested and charged with incest, sodomy 1<sup>st</sup>, sexual abuse 1<sup>st</sup>, and rape 1<sup>st</sup>.

Detective Higgins completed on-line training for G.E. executives, he was contacted for expert advice on how the employees could identify clues that may uncover human trafficking activities. Detective Higgins will be putting on a class at St. Henry Church for elder abuse.

The Haverkamp Foundation presented the Elsmere Police with a new ballistic vest for K-9 Onyx. The Elsmere Police Department would like to thank K-9 Creed Armour and the Haverkamp Foundation for their unwavering support of K-9 units in the tri-state and for graciously donating equipment in keeping them safe.

The department responded to Erlanger in an attempt to locate four juveniles who struck a Boone County Sheriff's Lieutenant deploying stop sticks in Florence. Sgt. Metzger, Officer Jones and K-9 Wenning responded to the area after the suspect's vehicle was found abandoned. Officer Wenning deployed K-9 Onyx. The four juveniles were located a short time later after someone arrived to pick them up.

Sgt. Metzger in in process of launching the sUAS drone Unit.

Officers participated in the Ralph Fulton #6423 VFW trunk or treat. The event was a huge success for local children. Officers also participated in the Kenton County Jail trunk or treat.

**Parks and Recreation Director Denise Donahue** submitted a written report. The city hosted the Halloween party in October. The event was successful. Denise would like to thank Mayor Lenhof and City Attorney Greg Voss for judging the costume contest. She would also like to thank Councilwoman Joanne Barnett Smith and volunteers from 4H and Elsmere neighborhood youth for all of their help. The next event will be the Light Up Elsmere and Holiday Party on December 12<sup>th</sup>. The event will have carriage rides, music, and Mr. & Mr. Claus will be in attendance.

**City Clerk Misty Ezell** reported that tax bills were mailed on October 15<sup>th</sup> and shortly after collection began.

**Treasurer Jessica Lucius** submitted a written report. There were no questions for this department.

**Senior Center Director Carol Cope** submitted a written report. There were no questions for this department.

**City Building Update** – City Administrator Dowling reported that the building has a new foreman that is overseeing the project. He stated that the roof insulation for the building comes in 2 pieces and needs to be put together and there is a delay in receiving it. The finished product is not scheduled to arrive until May. The contractor has a solution to keep the project on schedule. They will be installing a membrane on the roof to keep the inside dry.

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

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Lenhof reported that he participated in the VFW Trunk or Treat. He also attended the Halloween Party and helped judge the costume contest. He stated that Denise did a good job planning the event and hopes next year to add more to the event.

**City Administrator's Report** - City Administrator Dowling reported that he attended the Homeless Summit that was put on through the Kentucky League of Cities. He stated that Tax Collection has begun, and it has been very busy at the city building. He stated that the police department has had to handle some difficult calls lately and they have handled them very professionally. He is looking into Occupational licensed for revenue options. He also stated that the Industrial projects continue to move along.

He stated that last month a resident attended the meeting asking about trees and landscaping that were supposed to be placed as a buffer at the Cornerstone Crossing development. He contacted the development and was told the trees should be planted soon.

**GENERAL ITEMS:**

**Resolution 16-2021 – Authorizing the Public Works Director to order a Street Sweeper.**

City Clerk Misty Ezell read the resolution in summary. Councilmember Malcolm Daniels asked about the price range that was discussed at the recent caucus meeting. The price range that was discussed was \$221,000.00. Councilwoman Bowman made a motion to approve the resolution as read. Councilwoman Grubbs seconded the motion. All members voted aye. **Motion carried and so ordered.**

**Ordinance 1807-2021 – Renewal of Franchise Agreement for Cincinnati Bell**

**Attorney Donnie Warner Read in Summary Ordinance 1807-2021 for the second Reading**

**AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AND ISSUING A COMPETITIVE, NON-EXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE FOR A COMBINED TERM OF TEN (10) YEARS TO, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH, CINCINNATI BELL EXTENDED TERRITORIES LLC, ITS PERMITTED SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, ERECTION, INSTALLATION, UPGRADE, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND OPERATION OF A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM FOR THE PROVISION OF CABLE TELEVISION SERVICES IN THE CITY OF ELSMERE, ALL UPON THE TERMS, CONDITIONS AND COVENANTS CONTAINED IN THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT.**

Councilman Moore made motion to accept the Ordinance as read. Councilwoman Barnett Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Lenhof called for a roll call vote. Councilman Daniels – Aye, Councilwoman Barnett Smith – Aye, Councilman Moore – Aye, Councilwoman Grubbs -Aye, and Councilwoman Bowman - Aye. Motion carried and so ordered.

**Ordinance 1808-2021 – Amending Criminal Nuisance Code**

**Attorney Donnie Warner Read in Summary Ordinance 1808-2021 for the first reading**

**REPORTS FROM COUNCIL:**

**Councilman Daniels** asked Chief Maier if he was aware of the incident involving juveniles behind the Family Dollar Store after school. Chief Maier stated that he was not, Family Dollar is in the City of Erlanger.

**Councilwoman Barnett Smith** wanted to remind residents of the Christmas Party on December 12, 2021, from 4:00-6:00 pm the event will be held at the Billy R. Bradford Park. She also wanted to remind residents of the Lights up Elsmere judging that will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>. The judges will go throughout the city each of these nights so please have your decorations lit up. She also wanted to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**Councilman Moore** had no report.

**Councilwoman Grubbs** wanted to remind citizens about assistance programs through Duke Energy. The program will help with paying utility bills this winter.

**Councilwoman Bowman** had no report.

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**Councilwoman Mitchell** was not in attendance.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Barnett Smith made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Grubbs seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. **Motion carried and so ordered.** Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

  
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Mayor Marty Leihof

Attest:

  
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Misty Ezell, City Clerk