

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF THE ELSMERE CITY COUNCIL

February 14, 2023

6:30 PM

LOCATION: Elsmere Senior Center, 179 Dell Avenue, Elsmere, KY 41018.

Invocation – Gloria Grubbs

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

Mayor Lenhof Each student representative was introduced.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Diamonique Barnett	Dominick Tivao	Dayra Angeles	Angel Othere
Brody Papin	Trevor Middendorf	Destiny Owen	Patrick Donahue
Zeal Treanor	Meadow Simmons	Lindsay Larison	Ghada Lafi

ROLL CALL: The following members were present: Mayor Marty Lenhof, Councilwoman Maria Vogt, Councilwoman Joanne Barnett Smith, Councilwoman Gloria Grubbs, Councilwoman Serena Owen, and Councilwoman Missy Tester

Councilman Malcolm Daniels was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilwoman Grubbs made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2023 Special Council Meeting. Councilwoman Owen seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. **Motion carried and so ordered.**

Councilman Barnett Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2023, Caucus Meeting. Councilwoman Vogt seconded the motion. Councilwoman Serena Owen asked to have the minutes changed to reflect her report as read. Councilwoman Owen made the motion to correct the minutes and Councilwoman Tester seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. **Motion carried and so ordered.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

City Engineer Ray Erpenbeck was not in attendance he submitted a written report.

Code Enforcement Officer & Zoning Administrator Rich Aliff submitted a written report to Council. Chris Preston with Planning Development Services also submitted a written report to Council.

City Attorney Greg Voss – Dayra Angeles - gave a brief description of the City Attorney duties. There

Public Works Director Chris Zerhusen – Meadow Simmons -summarized items in his written report to Council. It was reported that trash was picked up on a weekly basis along the roadsides and parks. The department also patched potholes, approximately 2.5 tons of cold patch was used. The department worked a couple of snow events during January, using approximately 200 tons of salt.

All of the gas services, water meters, and sanitary sewer cleanouts were removed at the Woodside Park Expansion site. Several holes were filled with gravel and topsoil and the temporary construction fencing around the area was removed.

Police Chief Joe Maier – Zeal Treanor - reported that the Kentucky State Police recently partnered with ATF on a new E Trace function for firearms through KYOPS. It was tested with KSP in January and then was turned over statewide. Chief Maier stated that within the new city building, the police department contracted with AMK Services from Louisville to have an amplified antenna system installed in the lower level. The antenna system

provides a blanket of safety for the officers at this system will allow for uninterrupted communication on the portable radio system.

Parks and Recreation Director Denise Donahue – Ghada Lafi - reported that the Parks and Recreation Director has been planning and getting ready for the Spring and Fall Programs. The city will be having a Strike and Spare on February 28 starting at 4:00 pm. The Easter Egg Hunt will be on March 25th at 11:00 am.

City Clerk Misty Ezell – Trevor Middendorf - reported that the month of January was spent preparing for the move. A game plan was devised, and the staff has been working to move files into our new filing system. Also, preparations have begun to send out the next installment of the city newsletter.

City Treasurer Jessica Lucius submitted a written report. She stated that the city will need to have a budget amendment which will be presented to council in March or April. There were no questions for this department.

Community Center Director Carol Cope was not in attendance but submitted a written report. There were no questions for this department.

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

City Administrator's Report Matthew Dowling – Dominick Tivao – Mr. Dowling reported that the administration is working for a smooth transition into the new city building.

Mayor's Report Mayor Marty Lenhof – Diamonique Barnett – Mayor Lenhof reported that the process to move into the new city building began on March 25, 2018, when the city contracted with Summit Architectural to design the new building. After almost five years to the day, I would like to report that the next council meeting will be held at the new city building. He would also like to thank Councilwoman Joanne Barnett Smith and Parks and Recreation Director Denise Donahue for coordinating the student government meeting.

GENERAL ITEMS:

Executive Order 7-2023 – Kenton County Emergency Operation Plan and Support Plans

Resolution 1-2023 – Accepting Change Order for the New City Building

City Clerk Misty Ezell – Trevor Middendorf read in summary the Resolution. Councilwoman Grubbs made a motion to accept Resolution 1-2023 as read. Councilwoman Barnett Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Lenhof called for a roll call vote. Councilwoman Maria Vogt – Yes, Councilwoman Missy Tester – Yes, Councilwoman Serena Owen – Yes, Councilwoman Joanne Barnett Smith – Yes, and Councilwoman Gloria Grubbs – Yes. All members present voted aye. **Vote: 5-0. Motion carried and so ordered.**

Municipal Order 2-2023 – Authorizing the Mayor to E

City Clerk Misty Ezell – Trevor Middendorf read in summary the Resolution. Councilwoman Grubbs made a motion to accept Resolution 1-2023 as read. Councilwoman Barnett Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Lenhof called for a roll call vote. Councilwoman Maria Vogt – Yes, Councilwoman Missy Tester – Yes, Councilwoman Serena Owen – Yes, Councilwoman Joanne Barnett Smith – Yes, and Councilwoman Gloria Grubbs – Yes. All members present voted aye. **Vote: 5-0. Motion carried and so ordered.**

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL:

Councilwoman Grubbs – Lindsey Larison – wanted to thank everyone for attending the student government meeting, as this is her favorite meeting of the year. She explained that she had planned to not run for re-election, but was encouraged to file as a write-in candidate by the administration. She serves on the scholarship committee and as an alternate for the mayor on the PDS council.

Councilwoman Vogt – Angel Octhere – stated that this was her first time running for office and she looks forward to learning.

Councilwoman Barnett Smith report was read by Patrick Donahue.

Councilwoman Owen – Destiny Owen -

Hello and thanks! Thank you to the City of Elsmere for providing the Community Center for my 2nd annual Holiday Outreach. Along with the Freestore Foodbank, United Christian Volunteers, United We Stand, Jump Zone, Big Blue Shaved Ice, Community Heroes, and other doners, we helped over 100 people including students and their families with food, warm coats, hats, gloves, gifts, toys, books, games and more! Thanks so much! We appreciate you!

Councilwoman Owen attended the Kentucky League of Cities Academy and brought back information and goodie bags for everyone! Enjoy!

In the fall, former School Board member & current Councilwoman Serena Owen received applications from students in Erlanger-Elsmere Schools & NKU for her Community Heroes Scholarship of Service. One scholarship recipient is here today. Ms. Dominique Barnett will you please stand? Ms. Dominique Barnett is a Senior leader at Lloyd HS. She was nominated by Ms. Meloni Pickett & her parents for outstanding service in her school and our community.

Congratulations Dominique, you are a winner of the \$1,000 Community Heroes Scholarship of Service sponsored by Councilwoman Serena Owen. Congratulations! We are proud of you!

Last, but not least, Councilwoman Serena Owen along with Elsmere’s Community Heroes nonprofit organization that has been honoring those who go above and beyond the call of duty to give back to our community since 2010. We received a nomination from Ms. Dominique Barnett and a couple other community members for Councilwoman Joanne Barnett-Smith. They all shared the that for many years Councilwoman Barnett-Smith has led with love, never expected anything in return, and she will drop everything to talk to Elsmere residents and help them.

Congratulations Councilwoman Barnett-Smith! For these reasons and more, you are one of our Community Heroes. Thanks for all you do including organizing this Student Government Day! We salute you and we thank you!

Councilman Missy Tester – report was read by Brody Papin.

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 7:29 p.m.

Attest:

Misty Ezell
Misty Ezell, City Clerk

Marty Lenhof
Mayor Marty Lenhof