

Minutes: City Council Special Meeting  
June 11, 2020  
6:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in special session on Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 6:00 PM with Mayor Arthur Green presiding. Due to the current state of emergency regarding threats to public health presented by the novel coronavirus, this special meeting of the Elkton City Council was conducted in the Historic 1835 Courthouse Welcome Center, 1 Public Square, Elkton, Kentucky to maintain social distancing guidelines.

City Council members present: Michael Case; Doug Gibson; Danny Laster; Frank McReynolds; George Orr; and, David Powell.

Others present: Jeffrey Traughber, legal counsel; Laura Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer; Robert Toombs, Police Chief; and, Todd Mansfield, Todd County Judge/Executive.

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Invocation
4. Approval of Minutes
  - a. May 14, 2020 Special Meeting
  - b. May 28, 2020 Special Meeting
5. Approval of Bills Payable and Financial Report
6. Elkton Die Casting Property
7. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading ORDINANCE 2020-04 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020
8. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading ORDINANCE 2020-05 - AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021
9. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Ordinance 2020-06 - AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NON-EXCLUSIVE CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE WITHIN THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY
10. Municipal Order 2020-07 - MUNICIPAL ORDER AMENDING THE CITY OF ELKTON FIXED ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY
11. Police Department Report
12. City Council Concerns
13. Mayor's Report
14. Adjournment

Mayor Green called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Doug Gibson led invocation.

Mayor Green called for approval of the minutes of the May 14, 2020 special city council meeting. Case motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green called for approval of the minutes of the May 28, 2020 special city council meeting. McReynolds motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green called for discussion and approval of the bills payable, financial reports and additional bills payable. After discussion, Powell motioned to approve, seconded by McReynolds, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green welcomed Mansfield, who was present to give two proposals regarding use of the Elkton Die Casting property the city owns on East Jefferson Street. Mansfield stated the council previously committed to giving approximately 7.3 acres appraised at \$105,000 to the Elkton-Todd County Park for use as soccer fields. The county has applied for a grant to use the property to construct the soccer fields and a draft layout was presented showing soccer fields, parking lot and future lighting and restroom facility. Mansfield is requesting an additional 3 acres to allow more soccer fields and the increased assessed value of \$69,000 will provide more matching funds for the grant. Mayor Green stated grading of the land that has the environmental covenant may be a challenge and the state will have to give approval. Mansfield also presented a proposed use of the Die Casting building as a recreational complex in partnership with the Todd County Board of Education. This idea was discussed with the previous Superintendent and will be brought up to the new Superintendent who starts July 1<sup>st</sup>. Finally, Mansfield presented a proposal from Elk Fork Country Club requesting the city lease 0.81 acres of the Die Casting property to them for future construction of new cart storage building outside of the flood area and potential new tennis court. Mansfield stated the Club is trying to promote industrial and corporate memberships and has recently been given several new golf carts for this purpose. Mayor Green asked Traugher to address the city leasing or selling the property to a private club. Traugher stated there would be an issue selling it to them as it would need to be surplus and bid out, however a long-term lease could be done. There was discussion from council members that a package deal with the School Board for all the purposes discussed would be very beneficial to the citizens and county. There was also considerable discussion about “whittling” all the vacant land down away from the building making it undesirable for future industry. Mansfield stated the grant announcement will not be made until September, so there is time to review the proposals and meet with the new Superintendent. Mansfield thanked the Mayor and council and left the meeting.

Clerk Brock read second reading of Ordinance 2020-04, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020.” Gibson motioned to adopt, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

Clerk Brock read second reading of Ordinance 2020-05, “AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021.” Powell motioned to adopt, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

Mayor Green reminded the council the city has been working with an attorney and Mediacom for about a year regarding renewal of the cable franchise. Presented tonight is the final franchise ordinance proposed by the city’s attorney. Green stated Traugher has prepared a Summary of Ordinance 2020-06, “AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NON-EXCLUSIVE CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE WITHIN THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY.” Laster motioned to read the Summary of Ordinance in lieu of the full ordinance, seconded by Powell and carried unanimously. Clerk Brock read first reading of Summary of Ordinance 2020-06.

Municipal Order 2020-07, “MUNICIPAL ORDER AMENDING THE CITY OF ELKTON FIXED ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY” was presented. Clerk Brock explained the city’s auditor recommended the city change the capitalization threshold from \$250 to \$5,000 and some definitions have been included for clarification. After review, Orr motioned to adopt Municipal Order 2020-07, seconded by McReynolds, and carried unanimously.

Police Chief Robert Toombs reported 507 calls for service last month with six calls being alcohol related. Toombs also reported the city has been awarded a COPS grant in the amount of \$125,000 to hire a new School Resource Officer for the Middle School. John “Ed” Higgins has been hired by the department beginning June 18<sup>th</sup> and will serve in this position starting at the school in August. Higgins has worked with Toombs previously and has served as SRO in another location. Toombs also reported there is a peaceful protest scheduled for this Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> starting in the park with prayer and speakers and then marching to the Square and back to the park. Toombs has met with the organizers

and prepared a statement to be read to the participants. The department will provide security for safety concerns for the march. There was discussion if the department has issued any speeding tickets recently and the Chief stated due to the COVID-19 virus, the department has been trying to reduce personal contact as much as possible. With everything starting to open back up they will begin issuing tickets more. Council members reported speeding concerns on Allensville Street and South Streets Avenue.

#### CITY COUNCIL CONCERNS

Orr questioned why the contribution to the Industrial Foundation was reduced in next year's budget. Mayor Green stated he could only comment on why he proposed a lower amount in the budget the city council passed. His recommendation was based on the Foundation receiving nearly \$130,000 this year in TVA in-lieu-of taxes and the fact the city has contributed more than any other entity or county for many years. He believes the city has many other areas of concern the funds can be used for.

Laster commented on sidewalks being repaired by the construction crew working on the city's sewer lines. Green stated the crew did not repair the sidewalks correctly and the city employees had to train them how to make the repairs. Some of the repairs will have to be torn out and replaced. Laster also reported a section that needs to be replaced in front of the park.

McReynolds asked if the city could request the state spray for mosquitos. Green stated we can make the request but we have not received any other complaints.

Case asked for an update on the Commerce Street closure and noise ordinance. Traughber stated he has not worked on those issues. Case also reported several complaints about yards being damaged on Standard Drive and Allensville Street. Mayor Green stated no one knows who made the damage on Allensville Street.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Green reported the city has been allotted \$152,298 in COVID relief funds awarded to the state. The city can apply for expenses incurred from March 1<sup>st</sup> through December 30<sup>th</sup> this year due to the COVID-19 virus. The city will be applying for reimbursement of all police salaries during this time and the Mayor will present a proposal at the next meeting to use some of the funds for grants to local small businesses effected by the shutdown due to the virus.

Green reported Carter Hendricks, Executive Director, South Western Kentucky Economic Development Council, will be attending the next city council meeting.

Green reported the city of Elkton currently has a 54.2% response rate on the 2020 Census. Notices to citizens encouraging them to complete the Census will continue to go out on utility bills.

Green read a thank you card from David and Sue Powell regarding the gift received after the loss of David's mother.

The next meeting is planned for the regular meeting date but will also be held as a special meeting since it will be held in the Welcome Center in order to maintain social distancing.

Laster motioned to adjourn, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

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Arthur Green, Mayor

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Laura M. Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer