

Minutes: City Council Meeting
January 13, 2022
6:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session at Elkton City Hall, 71 Public Square, on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 6:00 PM with Mayor Arthur Green presiding.

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

Others present: Jeffrey B. Traughber, Attorney; Laura Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer; Chris Orr, Public Works Director; Robert Toombs, Chief of Police; and, Derrell Waggoner, Fire Chief.

Mayor Green called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Council member Orr led the Pledge of Allegiance and McReynolds led invocation.

Mayor Green called for review of the minutes of the December 9, 2021 regular meeting. Mayor Green stated if there were no changes then the minutes would be passed by consent. There were no changes and minutes were approved by consent.

Mayor Green called for discussion of the bills payable and financial reports. Clerk Brock reported that funds have been transferred to the Kentucky League of Cities Investment Pool and current market value is reflected on the Balance Sheet on the new report attached from Kentucky League of Cities. Brock also reported receiving a thank you letter from Kentucky Humanities for the city's \$100 contribution. Brock reported the sewer department paid off two loans last month that were for the purchase of a new work truck and the sewer jetter. Finally, Brock noted on the Budget Performance report that in both water and sewer departments that line extensions are currently over the line-item budget, however reminded the council that these expenses for extensions will eventually show as an offsetting income as the developers reimburse the city and the budget will need to be amended to show both the income and expense for line extensions. There were no other questions, and McReynolds motioned to approve the bills payable and financial reports, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

MUNICIPAL ORDERS

Municipal Order 2022-01, "MUNICIPAL ORDER OF THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY AMENDING EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK FOR THE CITY OF ELKTON" was presented to the council. Clerk Brock explained the changes proposed were allowing department heads to accrue up to 160 hours in compensatory time and correcting a typographical error allowing terminated employees to cash out 33% of accumulated sick time instead of 30%. Laster motioned to adopt Municipal Order 2022-01, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Mayor Green distributed a survey of the Mallory property on S Main Street the city recently purchased. Mayor Green stated that the Todd County Library Board had an option on approximately 0.87 acres of the property the city purchased, and the exact location of that parcel has been re-surveyed and agreed upon by the Library Board as shown on the survey map. Therefore, that 0.87 parcel of property needs to be transferred to the Library. Gibson motioned to authorize the Mayor to transfer 0.87 acres to the Library Board and sign the deed. Motion seconded by Powell and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green recommended the remainder of the Mallory property the city owns totaling about 3.28 acres be

declared surplus property and offered for sale by sealed bids with potential restrictions in the bid specifications for specific types of developments the city would like to see on the property. Mayor stated there has been interest by a local developer in purchasing the property. After much discussion, it was the general consensus the bid specifications should state that any and all bids can be rejected, that some sort of draft development plan and zoning change proposal, if applicable, should be presented with the bid, and to request any other meaningful information from the potential purchaser, and that all details submitted with the bid would be required to be included in any land sale contract. Laster motioned to declare the 3.28 acre property surplus and offer the property for sale by sealed bid, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously. After discussion, Gibson then motioned to authorize Attorney Jeffrey Traughber to prepare bid specifications for the sale of the property guided by the discussion, seconded by McReynolds, and carried unanimously. Traughber stated he would probably set the deadline for bids to be submitted by February 9th in order to be discussed at the February 10th city council meeting.

GENERAL REPORTS

Clerk Brock reported the City Beautification Committee decided to postpone Yard of the Month awards during the winter. However, in January the committee will recognize Richard Taylor at 602 W Shelby Avenue for his amazing Christmas light display every year. The Committee will be looking at planting new trees in the planters around the Square this spring. Also, the committee would like to purchase new spring banners. They are also planning a scavenger/Easter egg hunt in conjunction with the Police Department this year.

Mayor Green stated he would like the council to consider projects extending sewer outside the city limits. Green stated the city has discussed running sewer lines to North Todd School in the past but has been requiring annexation in the city. Mayor stated there may be infrastructure funds available in the near future to extend sewer service to needed areas including outside the city limits.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mayor Green updated the council on zoning and code enforcement issues. Traughber will be proceeding with foreclosure of the Alder property on North Main Street. The city has received a request for a zoning change on West Main Street and is working on scheduling the public hearing. The city has also received a permit for a new sign to be installed on the old Sav-a-lot building. Elkton and Trenton partnered together to hold Planning and Zoning training on January 8th at City Hall.

Police Chief Robert Toombs reported 511 calls for service last month with 8 alcohol related incidents.

Fire Chief Derrell Waggoner reported the new generator has still not been installed yet at the fire department. Waggoner reported longtime volunteer fireman Pete Steger recently passed away and his family has requested to purchase his fire coat. Waggoner reported the coat can only stay in service for 6 more months before it will no longer be able to be used due to safety regulations. After discussion, Gibson motioned to declare the coat surplus and donate the coat to the family, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously. Mayor Green stated he is working with the PADD Office to begin working on a CDBG grant again for the fire department building and citizen surveys will need to be completed.

Public Works Director Chris Orr reported the annual water system flush was completed in December. Phase II of the Sewer Improvements Project is about 50% complete with many delays due to weather, hitting rock and COVID sickness. Phase III of the project at the sewer plant should begin construction in February. The department has several in house tasks they have to complete at the sewer plant before construction on Phase III can begin. The department has three employees set to test for water and sewer license certifications in February. Mayor Green commended Orr on his work with so much going on in the department.

Mayor Green reported that after studying past discussions and agreements with the Todd County Water District, the city will be able to serve water to the new subdivision off Davis Mill Road. It was previously thought the city could only provide sewer.

CITY COUNCIL CONCERNS

McReynolds stated he has several wish list items for the new year, including painting and refreshing the crosswalks and parking spaces on the Square and more aggressive mosquito control in the city. Mayor Green stated the state intends to do some paving on the Square this year and crosswalks should be repainted. McReynolds also requested that one city council member serve on the committee to prepare the budget. Mayor Green stated he presents his budget proposal to the council and then the council members can all make changes and proposals for the final budget that is passed. McReynolds also requested that one council member be involved in interviewing and hiring city employees. Traugher stated that the mayor is the executive authority of the city with hiring authority. McReynolds stated these are some of his concerns he wanted to bring to the council

Case stated he was glad the city would be able to serve water to the new subdivision and reported it seems the new recycling program is going well with good participation.

Laster thanked the utility department crew for the great job they did on leaf pick up in the city.

Powell reiterated the thanks to the utility department and stated he gets compliments on all city employees and thanked them for their hard work.

Gibson requested the ditches on Murrey Court be cleaned out this spring. Gibson also asked details on golf cart permits and Clerk Brock stated the permits are good for one calendar year and must be renewed and inspected each year.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Green reported the permit for work on the city lake dam has been extended.

The city will have a new state senator, Mike Wilson from Bowling Green, if proposed redistricting maps are approved.

Mayor reminded everyone that as of the end of January, the local Circuit Court Clerk's Office will no longer be renewing driver's licenses. Licenses can be renewed at a regional office or online.

The Goebel Avenue TAP grant project is still in the design process.

Mayor Green reported he has been in discussions with a company that purchases water tank antenna lease agreements and is interested in purchasing the city's agreement for the Garth Lane water tank.

Mayor Green reported Novelis in Guthrie has announced an expansion project that will create about 140 new jobs.

Case motioned to adjourn, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.

Arthur Green, Mayor

Laura M. Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer