

Minutes: City Council Meeting  
April 14, 2022  
6:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session at Elkton City Hall, 71 Public Square, on Thursday, April 14, 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: Jeff Traughber, Attorney; Laura Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer; Robert Toombs, Chief of Police; Derrell Waggoner Fire Chief; Chris Orr, Public Works Director; and, James Snardon.

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

Mayor Green called for review of the minutes of the March 10, 2022 regular meeting. Case motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green called for discussion of the bills payable and financial reports. Clerk Brock reported the city received \$822.64 in additional American Recovery Plan Act funding and stated the city is required to file quarterly financial reports starting at the end of April. There were no further questions and McReynolds motioned to approve the bills payable and financial reports, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Green welcomed James Snardon, who requested to be on the agenda to discuss the park. Mr. Snardon reported the gazebos in the park need repairs to the roof and also requested the city consider installing a batting cage. Mr. Snardon explained they have one in a park in Russellville that has posts and nets and could be completed for about \$3-4,000. Mayor Green reported he met with Judge Mansfield today and they are working on quotes to repair the gazebo and possibly install metal roofs. Mayor stated the city and county would look into a batting cage.

Regarding the park, the Mayor announced the city was awarded a Land and Water Conservation Grant to install new lighting on one small baseball field and new playground equipment in the park. The total project will cost about \$246,000 with \$123,000 in grant funds and the remaining 50% in local match. After discussion, Case motioned to accept the grant contingent upon the county contributing half the match, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green also reminded the council the Elkton Rotary Club received a grant and installed a new bench and a dog waste station in the park.

#### ORDINANCES

Case motioned to read the Summary of Ordinance 2022-01 in lieu of the full Ordinance, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously. Clerk Brock read second reading of Ordinance 2022-01, "AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE 308 W. MAIN STREET." Orr motioned to adopt Ordinance 2022-01 after second reading, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

McReynolds motioned to read the Summary of Ordinance 2022-02 in lieu of the full Ordinance, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously. Clerk Brock read second reading of Ordinance 2022-02, "AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE PARCEL ID NUMBER E-02-01-31." Orr motioned to adopt Ordinance 2022-02 after second reading, seconded by Case, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

Case motioned to read the Summary of Ordinance 2022-03 in lieu of the full Ordinance, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously. Clerk Brock read second reading of Ordinance 2022-03, "AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE PARCEL ID NUMBER E-01-08-29B." Powell motioned to adopt Ordinance 2022-03 after second reading, seconded by McReynolds, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

## GENERAL REPORTS

Mayor Green reminded the council the city received about \$146,000 in ARPA funding through the county and Kentucky Infrastructure Authority and originally designated the funds for repairs and painting the water tank on Garth Lane. Mayor Green requested the council appropriate those funds to the current sewer project instead and use reserve funds in the water department for Garth Lane water tank. Mayor Green stated this would free up ARPA funds to be used elsewhere. There were no objections.

Mayor Green is still working with the Borders family regarding their offer to transfer ownership of their property adjacent to Elkton and Glenwood Cemetery to the city in exchange for 16 cemetery lots and headstone permits. Someone else has shown interest in the property.

Mayor Green reported one of the property owners adjacent to the alley the City Beautification Committee proposed to be closed at the last meeting has requested the alley not be closed. So, this project is on hold.

Clerk Brock reported that after a few years of experience with the new city ABC ordinance several people, including her, have voiced concern regarding the city license fee associated with a "special temporary alcohol auction license." Brock explained that the license can only be obtained for a non-profit or charity event and the fee is \$200 per event. After discussion, Case motioned to create an ordinance to amend the cost of a special temporary alcohol auction license to \$0.00, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green reported John Walton, President, Todd County Industrial Foundation will attend the meeting next month.

## ATTORNEY REPORT

Traughber reported tax foreclosure proceedings on 205 College Street has been filed and he will be seeking a judgement soon. The property at 310 North Main Street, which has gone through foreclosure procedures, has been transferred into the daughter's name. Traughber proposed entering into an agreement with the daughter to pay \$2,300 in code enforcement and legal fee costs to the city and the property must be brought into compliance with all city ordinances within 60 days. The city will also file a \$25,000 lien on the property, which shall become due if any code enforcement final orders are issued on the property within five years. Traughber asked if there were any objections to these terms and there were none. Traughber also reported he filed action on Todd County Funeral Home on West Main Street and is awaiting the property owner to file answers. Traughber stated he will file for judgment in 10-20 days.

Mayor Green reported he gave Traughber a sample ordinance from Harding County, which allows the city to place an administrative hold on any property that has any delinquent tax or fee owed to the city. There were no objections to the city having such an ordinance and Traughber will prepare a draft ordinance for a future meeting.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Fire Chief Waggoner and Mayor Green discussed the Mayor will attend the next fire department meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup> to begin discussion on if the city needs to expand the existing fire hall or build a new building. Mayor stated with all the projected growth in the city there needs to be a plan developed for the future. Case stated he would like to volunteer to serve on a committee to help develop the plan. Mayor Green stated there have been discussions about potentially meeting with county officials and other fire departments as well.

Police Chief Toombs reported 479 calls for service last month with 6 alcohol related incidents. Toombs also

reported that new Police Officer Recruit Stayce Player started work today and is scheduled to attend the Academy on May 8, 2022. Toombs stated when he was hired as Police Chief he requested the position of Police Captain be removed and he would like that position reinstated at this time. There was no opposition and an ordinance establishing the position and pay grade will be presented at the next meeting. Toombs confirmed this would include a pay increase for any current officer promoted to the position. Toombs also reported one of the police cruisers was damaged in an accident this week while assisting the county in a pursuit that ended near Public Square.

Mayor Green reported the council had discussed installing cameras on the Square and had sought local funding for the project. Since this funding has not been approved, the city will apply for a Kentucky Homeland Security Grant to install cameras.

Public Works Director Chris Orr reported Phase II of the sewer project should be complete in 4-5 weeks. Phase III of the project is just getting started and already has been delayed due to ongoing supply chain issues. The developers of Fawn Acres Subdivision and Riverbend Subdivision have begun installing sewer lines and will then work on water lines. Orr reported the department is installing several water meter vaults around the city and has purchased an ultrasonic meter to move around in these vaults to assist with finding water loss in the city. Orr reported cost of supplies in the utility and street department have increased by about 60% in the last several months. Mayor Green reported the current city ordinance states the city will install one road tile for new construction in the city and would like to discuss if this policy should be changed. Orr stated he believes the county policy is that the customer purchases the tile and rock and the county installs the tile. Orr stated the average cost to the city for a new tile and rock is about \$1,000 and does not include city labor and equipment costs. After some discussion, it was the consensus to present an ordinance amendment with a policy the customer pays the cost of supplies, and the city will install the tile. Finally, Orr reported the city currently charges \$750 for installation of a new 5/8" water meter tap. Orr recently calculated the current cost of all supplies for a 5/8" water tap at \$861. Therefore, the city is losing \$111 on each new residential meter tap. After discussion, Case suggested the ordinance be amended to state all water meter taps will be charged at cost. A draft ordinance will be presented at a future meeting.

Waggoner stated the garage doors at the fire hall will need to be painted soon. Mayor Green stated this can be discussed in the planning process.

#### CITY COUNCIL CONCERNS

Gibson reported a local church will be moving out of town and discussed supplying sewer service to their new location. Mayor Green reported the city needs to study extending sewer outside the city and review other city ordinances.

Case stated he would like to go into closed session to discuss future acquisition or sale of real property at the end of the meeting.

McReynolds reported he is getting good feedback about the repairs being made to sidewalks and drainage on East Main Street. Mayor Green stated this work was done in preparation of paving that should start next week and is being completed by the state.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Green reported receiving a proposal from a company to purchase the city's cell tower lease for the Garth Lane water tank. Their proposal was to purchase the lease for 99 years and the Mayor stated he is not interested in pursuing under those terms.

Mayor Green stated he will start preparation of the budget for next fiscal year and if the council has any proposals or requests to please let him know.

Mayor Green reported the city has been discussing an agreement with Pennyrile Electric to install and electrify

new Christmas décor.

The city will be accepting bids for paving several city streets using discretionary road funds received through state transportation.

Mayor Green reported vacancies on several city committees including the planning commission, code enforcement board, and revolving fund board and called for any suggestions to fill those vacancies.

The Board of Education is continuing to study partnering with the city to install a new sewer line to North Todd Elementary School.

Mayor Green met with Bill Coursey to discuss flooding issues on Pond River Road and the need for an easement on his property to improve drainage. Mr. Coursey was agreeable to working with the city.

Job Fest will be held April 28<sup>th</sup> in Hopkinsville and will be geared toward graduating high school seniors in Todd, Christian and Trigg counties. So far, Todd County has the most number of seniors participating in the event.

Mayor Green and Clerk Brock distributed a list of city event dates to remember for Elkton Bike Night, Cruise In on Public Square, and Summer Concerts. Also, a spring parade was scheduled for Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> after the Christmas Parade was cancelled, however as of right now there is low participation and may need to be cancelled.

Mayor Green updated the council on several local industries that are expanding, and many are hiring. Multi-Color Corporation is moving from the FlexCon property to a new bigger location in Elkton so that FlexCon can expand. Both companies are looking for 10-20 new employees. DDS Cisaplast is looking to expand their location in Elkton. Haustile, which is located in the DDS Cisaplast building is looking for additional space in Elkton so that DDS can expand.

Clerk Brock reported that the city has coordinated painting two pickleball courts on the tennis court at the City-County Park. Mayor Green stated there have been several requests for the pickleball courts.

Gibson motioned to go into closed session under KRS 61.810(1)(b) for deliberations on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency and under KRS 61.810(1)(g) for discussion concerning the siting, retention, expansion, or upgrading of a business. Motion seconded by Powell and carried unanimously.

Orr motioned to go out of closed session, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously. There was no action taken because of closed session.

Laster motioned to adjourn, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously and meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm.

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Arthur Green, Mayor

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Laura M. Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer