

Minutes: City Council Meeting
June 9, 2022
6:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session at Elkton City Hall, 71 Public Square, on Thursday, June 9, 2022, at 6:00 PM with Mayor Arthur Green presiding.

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

Others present: Laura Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer; Robert Toombs, Chief of Police; Police Officer Jakop Smith; Chris Orr, Public Works Director; Derrell Waggoner Fire Chief; Daniel Smith, Assistant Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director; John Walton, President, Todd County Industrial Foundation; and guests.

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

Mayor Green called for review of the minutes of the May 12, 2022, regular meeting. McReynolds motioned to approve the minutes as presented, second by Orr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green called for review of the minutes of the May 31, 2022, special council meeting. Laster motioned to approve the minutes of the special meeting as presented, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green called for discussion of the bills payable and financial reports. Clerk Brock reported the city received a "Notice to Beneficiary" informing the city that Sarah Markham left a portion of her estate to "her beloved hometown of Elkton, Kentucky" that is to be placed in a "Markham Community Trust" managed by Trustee Elkton Bank and Trust Company. Brock reported there are guidelines to how the city can spend the money, but more details will be reported later once they become available. Case motioned to approve the bills payable and financial reports, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vicki Boyd was present to request the city look into applying for a Community Development Block Grant for housing. Mayor Green and Boyd explained that Boyd was interested when the city applied several years ago, however the city was not awarded the grant because the required minimum number of houses participating in the project was not met. Mayor Green stated if the council was interested in proceeding the city can publish a public notice to see if there is any interest in a project. McReynolds motioned to proceed with a CDBG housing project, seconded by Case, and carried unanimously.

Bob Donoho stated he lives on Beckham Road and complained one of his neighbors built a concrete structure five inches from the street and he believes this is a safety hazard. Mayor Green stated the city is aware of the issue and is going through the process to notify the resident.

Sue Gill Long stated she recently received an email public notice stating her property is being demolished. Mayor Green explained the public notice was required by FEMA in the next step of the process of the mitigation grant project the city applied for back in 2016 that included purchasing and demolishing the property she owns on East Main Street. Mrs. Long stated she was told she could back out at any time and Mayor Green assured her she can still back out if she does not want to participate. After discussion, Mrs. Long stated she needs more information before deciding.

ORDINANCES

Clerk Brock read first reading of Ordinance 2022-08, "AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023." Mayor Green called for any questions or adjustments to the

budget. Case questioned the need for \$7,000 on a new city website. Clerk Brock stated if the funds were included in the budget, she would still bring specific proposals to the council and the need could be discussed at that time. There was also discussion about City Hall renovations and questions about the work being done on the front of the building. Mayor Green stated no plans have been made, however there has been discussion about making changes inside City Hall for safety reasons and the vinyl siding was removed from the facade of the building after storm damage and to see what is under the vinyl. More specific plans for renovations inside City Hall and renovations to the façade will be made in the future. There were no adjustments requested.

Clerk Brock read first reading of Ordinance 2022-09, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022.” Clerk Brock presented a FY2022 Budget Amendment Ordinance Summary report highlighting the changes in the budget.

MUNICIPAL ORDERS

Municipal Order 2022-03, “MUNICIPAL ORDER APPOINTING CAROLYN WELLS TO THE REVOLVING FUND BOARD” was presented to the council. Case motioned to adopt Municipal Order 2022-03, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

Municipal Order 2022-04, “MUNICIPAL ORDER APPOINTING NICHOLAS HARRIS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION” was presented to the council. Laster motioned to adopt Municipal Order 2022-03, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

ACTION ITEMS

Mayor Green requested a special city council meeting be held on June 17, 2022 at 9:00 am and all agreed.

Clerk Brock presented a review of insurance renewal proposals from Kentucky League of Cities for property and liability and KEMI on worker’s compensation, all of which are through local agent Knuckles Insurance. Brock reported slight increases in property and liability premiums mostly due to increased property valuations and the addition of two new vehicles to the city’s fleet. Property and liability insurance premiums for next year total \$73,799.77. Worker’s compensation premiums decreased due to better ratings and fewer claims, however once premiums are adjusted for cost of living salary increases the premium will increase. McReynolds motioned to renew the policies as presented, seconded by Orr. Voting in favor of the motion were McReynolds, Orr, Laster, Powell and Gibson. None voting opposed. And Case abstained. Motion carried.

GRANT UPDATES

Mayor Green stated the FEMA Mitigation grant was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Mayor Green announced the city received a Crumb Rubber Waste Tire Grant for removing crumb rubber mulch and installing poured in place rubber safety surface on three small playground areas in the park. The project must be completed by December 2022.

Mayor Green reported the Goebel Avenue Sidewalk and Bicycle Lane Project is awaiting approval from the state to bid the project.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Clerk Brock reported she would like the city council to consider prorating utility bills and explained the process where utility customers that use less than the minimum gallons of usage in a month could be billed on a prorated basis based on the number of days of service. Currently, customers are sent a bill for the minimum bill if they use under 2,000 gallons regardless of the number of days of service in the month. It was the consensus that the city needs to prorate utility bills and an ordinance will be presented at the next meeting.

Mayor Green welcomed John Walton, President, Todd County Industrial Foundation. Mr. Walton reported the

Industrial Foundation has purchased the Robertson property just east of Elkton and presented a Preliminary Project Budget for extension of water, sewer, and natural gas to the property. Walton stated the city should consider running the utilities to the property and stated grant funds may be available to help pay the cost. Amy Frogue, PEADD, can assist the city with writing the grant for this project. After discussion, Case motioned to make application to Economic Development to extend water, sewer and gas to the Robertson property, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY REPORT

While the attorney was not present, Clerk Brock stated she wanted to report that Jeff Traughber submitted a payment to the city for collection of two years of delinquent property taxes from Todd County Funeral Home. Also, all delinquent property taxes on Riverbend Subdivision have been paid.

Mayor Green reported that an agreement on the Alder property on North Main Street was not reached and therefore Traughber has proceeded with foreclosure and requested the property be sold.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Chief Toombs reported 556 calls for service last month with 10 alcohol related incidents. Toombs recognized Police Officer Jakop Smith and presented him with an award and announced Smith has been promoted to Police Captain. Toombs stated Smith is a tremendous asset to the department and everyone thanked Captain Smith for his service.

Fire Chief Waggoner reported he received two quotes for an addition to the Fire Department, one totaling \$145,175 and the other totaling \$266,169. Smith reported an order for turnout gear has been placed to spend the remaining year's allotment of state fire aid funds.

Mayor Green passed out a report of activity from Planning and Zoning.

Public Works Director Chris Orr reported the annual CCR/Water Quality Report will be mailed out with utility bills this month. Orr reported the amount of purchased water went up this month, so crews are out looking for water leaks. Phase II of the Sewer Improvements Project is mostly complete with only punch list items remaining. Phase III of the project is moving forward but is being held up by waiting on parts certified as Made in America. Orr reported Chase Wells, high school co-op student, has graduated from high school and will be working temporarily as fulltime until he leaves for college in August.

CITY COUNCIL CONCERNS

There was nothing reported. Mayor Green reported council member Gibson was taken to the emergency room this morning due to illness and asked everyone to remember him in their thoughts and prayers.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Laster motioned to go into closed session under KRS 61.810(1)(g) for discussion concerning the siting, retention, expansion, or upgrading of a business, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously. Doors were closed to the public with only the Mayor, council, and clerk remaining in the meeting. Case motioned to return from closed session, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously. There was no action taken as a result of closed session.

Mayor Green reported he will be out of town during the regularly scheduled July meeting. After discussion, it was decided to hold the regular meeting as scheduled with council member Case presiding.

Orr motioned to adjourn, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously and meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Arthur Green, Mayor

Laura M. Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer