

Minutes: City Council Meeting
September 11, 2017
7:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 11, 2017 at 7:00 PM with Mayor Jackie Boyd Weathers presiding.

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

Others present: Jeffrey Traugher, City Attorney; Laura Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer; Terry Frogue, Utility/Streets Superintendent; Derrell Waggoner, Fire Chief; Wilhelm Meyers, Police Captain; Robert Dickerson; and, Donald Settle, Elkton Die Casting Technical and Community Center, Inc.

Mayor Weathers called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Haley gave invocation.

After reviewing the August 14, 2017 council meeting minutes, Mr. Haley motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Gibson and carried unanimously.

Mayor Weathers called for approval of the bills payable and financial reports. After review, Mr. Haley motioned to approve the bills payable and financial reports, seconded by Mr. McReynolds and carried unanimously.

Mayor Weathers called for any public comments.

- Donald Settle requested the city council give his group at least 6 months' notice to vacate the Elkton Die Casting building if the city does not intend to extend the lease past March of next year. He requested a 6 month extension of the lease if the city can't give 6 months' notice. He stated it will take 6 months to move all of the heavy equipment out of the building. He reported the nonprofit group will stay intact but they may operate in another county. Mr. Settle thanked everyone and left the meeting.
- Mr. Robert Dickerson reported that sewer backed up in his house recently and caused about \$500 in damages and repairs. When the North Main Street project replaced the sewer line on his street, the contractor did not connect Mr. Dickerson's house, so his house was still connected to the old line. Mr. Dickerson requested the city pay for his expenses. Terry Frogue will contact the engineer and contractor about this error. Mr. Haley motioned to pay Mr. Dickerson's expenses and the city will pursue the incident with the engineer and contractor. Motion seconded by Mr. Powell and carried unanimously.

Clerk Brock reported the city held a public hearing on Thursday, September 7, 2017 at 5 pm to hear public comments regarding the proposed property tax rate for 2017. No one attended the hearing therefore there were no comments. Clerk Brock read first reading of Ordinance 2017-12, "AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE UPON THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE, PERSONAL PROPERTY, MOTOR VEHICLES AND WATERCRAFT WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY, FOR THE YEAR 2017" sponsored by Powell. Mr. Powell motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Haley and carried unanimously by show of hands.

Mayor Weathers reported a request for a donation to the Todd Central High School Veterans Day event. The city will contribute \$200, the same as last year.

Resolution 2017-05, "RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MAINTAINING THE CURRENT STRUCTURE OF THE COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM WHILE SEPARATING

IT FROM THE KENTUCKY RETIREMENT SYSTEM” was presented to the council. Mr. Laster motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Haley and carried unanimously. Clerk Brock stated that the city council has requested a salary study be performed to compare wages of city employees to employers in the surrounding area. She recommended the city wait until after any decision is made by the state regarding changes to current employee’s retirement plan. If many changes are made, the city being in the retirement system will no longer be a big benefit and she feels some employees may leave. So, this may need to be taken into consideration.

City Attorney Jeff Traughber reported the city needs to update its ordinance regarding elections to clarify the city elections are nonpartisan and do not participate in the primary elections. Clerk Brock reported Mr. Traughber prepared a Summary Ordinance. Mr. Powell motioned to read the summary of Ordinance 2017-13, seconded by Mr. Laster and carried unanimously. Clerk Brock read first reading of Ordinance 2017-13, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 31.20 OF THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY CODE OF ORDINANCES” sponsored by Case. Mr. Powell motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. McReynolds and carried unanimously by show of hands.

Mayor Weathers recommended the reappointment of Jo Glover to a four year term on the Code Enforcement Board. Mr. Case motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Haley and carried unanimously.

Mayor Weathers recommended the reappointment of Stefanie Sharp to a four year term on the Code Enforcement Board. Mr. Laster motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Powell and carried unanimously.

Mayor Weathers recommended the appointment of Marlene Harrell to the Ethics Board. (This will be a two year term expiring January 2018.) Mr. Gibson motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Haley and carried unanimously.

Mayor Weathers reported the city has part of a large tree that was blown down in Glenwood Cemetery after recent storms that needs to be completely taken down and removed. There are also two dead trees that need to be removed. The city will advertise and take bids on their removal. We have the funds in the budget to take care of this project.

Terry Frogue reported that he, Mayor Weathers and Clerk Brock held a conference call with officials at Kentucky Infrastructure Authority regarding the water and sewer loan invitations. Regarding the water project, the project description was going to have to be amended too much and the city would probably no longer qualify for the project after it was amended. Therefore, it was recommended that the city decline this project now, amend the profile and resubmit next year. As for the sewer project, after discussion it was recommended the city accept the invitation and amend the project profile. The current plan would be to accept this loan as a planning and design project and then it can be rolled over into a construction loan once we have plans for construction. The city is currently advertising for Request for Qualification Statements from engineers for this project. GRW Engineering has been helping PADD complete the amended project profile and loan application. Mayor Weathers stated that completing the planning and design phase will give us priority and more points in the selection process next year.

City Attorney Jeff Traughber reported the Planning Commission held a second round of public hearings on September 7, 2017 for properties located on East Main Street to be rezoned from Conservation District to R-2 Medium Density Residential. The Commission adopted the same findings and facts that were approved at the July 25, 2017 hearing and have presented their recommendation to the city council from all hearings, which is to approve rezoning the properties. After discussion, Mr. Laster motioned to accept the Findings of Facts and Recommendation from the Planning Commission from July 25, 2017 and September 7, 2017. Mr. Haley seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

Clerk Brock reported the Planning Commission also held a public hearing to consider amendments to the text of the zoning ordinance. Clerk Brock presented their recommendation to amend section 7.12 and 7.13

to reduce the minimum lot width at the building line for two-family homes to 90 feet. Their recommendation also amends section 10.15 to waive permit and application fees for any addition to a residential property for the purpose of handicap accessibility. After discussion, Mr. Haley motioned to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Gibson and carried unanimously.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Haley called for a report from Police Captain Meyers. Meyers reported new officer Keilo Jefferson is currently in his second week of training at the Police Academy. Captain Meyers also distributed the monthly activity report for the department.

Mayor Weathers reported that the city of Guthrie is borrowing the radar speed trailer for a few weeks. We will trade it back and forth with Guthrie until we no longer need it.

Mr. Laster called for a report from Utility/Street Superintendent Terry Frogue. Frogue reported that someone stole the city's two Exmark mowers, 18' utility trailer, four weed eaters, two leaf blowers and a ladder out of the storage building on South Perry Street. Everyone in the utility and street department claims the building was locked the last time they left the building. The Police Department is investigating the robbery and the loss has been reported to our insurance company. Frogue stated we need to replace the equipment soon to start mowing again. There was discussion about storing this equipment at the sewer plant where it is locked inside a gate. Frogue reported it could be stored in an open bay at the plant, but probably not enough room to store inside. There was discussion about selling the property on South Perry Street to pay for new storage at the sewer plant.

Frogué also reported the water tank on Morningside Drive was inspected and it has small leaks. He received a verbal estimate of about \$2,000 for the repairs. After discussion, Mr. Laster motioned to approve the repairs, seconded by Haley and carried unanimously.

Mr. Powell asked about the sewer line extension discussed for B White Road. Frogue stated the council put money in the budget for the extension, but there was some discussion about how the city can recover these big expenditures without hurting development. Carver will be ready to build new duplexes on B White Road soon. Frogue also stated he would like to continue the sewer line extension just completed at the end of B White Road on the Rose property to continue down the first lot on Beckham Road. There may be a new home built there later this year. Frogue stated the city needs to look at our ordinance regarding sewer extensions.

Mr. Powell also called for a report from Fire Chief Waggoner. Mr. Waggoner reported the advertisement for the purchase of the new fire truck did not appear in the paper as scheduled. Clerk Brock reported an ad was placed in the *Kentucky New Era* in time to accept the bids as expected on September 15th.

Mr. Case questioned the new ordinance regarding elections and the clause where the city has to pay the expense. Traughber stated that the city would have to cover the cost of a special election if not held in conjunction with another election.

Mr. Case reported the scoreboard on the big ball field donated by Knuckles Insurance has been installed at the park. The Elkton Rotary Club has agreed to purchase and install a new scoreboard for one of the small ball fields. Registration for fall sports has ended and there is about 184 children playing soccer and baseball and 100 adults playing softball. Mayor Weathers thanked the council for allowing the youth to use the Die Casting property to play soccer.

Mayor Weathers also reported there will be a community forum on a proposed walking and biking trail along Elk Fork Creek. There is a possibility the city could apply for TAP funding for this project, which is an 80% grant program. Laura stated all the property owners along the creek were notified about the forum.

Mr. Gibson asked for an update on street projects. Frogue reported that Scotty's looked at the guardrail on Elk Fork Road and they believe the guardrail needs to be taken up, the base repaired, and reinstall the rail. Scotty's says they can't just install chip rock around the rail. Frogue stated he thinks we might be able to just install new riprap on the bank and the city can cold patch and compact around the rail. Brock stated this work needs to be completed 18 months from the flood, so the deadline is February 2018. As for Commerce Street intersection, the property owner lost the easement he was supposed to sign so we are still delayed until that is complete.

Mr. McReynolds reported the fence row in the new cemetery completed by Ricchuite Enterprises looks very good. Also, after recent storms there was a lot of debris and limbs on the ground that has also been cleaned up. He also commended Raymond Williams and his crew for getting limbs put out by residents in the city up very quickly.

Laster reported there is tall grass and weeds in the ditch near the car wash on West Main Street. It is right on the main entrance to Elkton and looks bad. Frogue stated this was state right-of-way and they only mow a few times a year.

Mr. McReynolds stated the fence row in Elkton Cemetery bordering the Coursey property needs to be cleared of tall grass and trees. Brock stated she will make a work order for that to be completed.

Brock reported there are plans to hold a special meeting on September 14th to have second readings of ordinances. After discussion, the meeting was moved to Monday, September 18, 2017 at 5 pm.

Mr. Haley motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Powell and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 pm.

Jackie Boyd Weathers, Mayor

Laura M. Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer