

Minutes: City Council Meeting  
April 13, 2023  
6:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session at Elkton City Hall, 71 Public Square, on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 6:00 PM with Mayor Arthur Green presiding.

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

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

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

Mayor Green called for review of the minutes of the March 9, 2023 council meeting. There were no changes and McReynolds motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green called for discussion of the bills payable and financial reports. Brock reported the city received a thank you card from the family of former city council member Jimmy Scott for the flower arrangement sent for his funeral service a few weeks ago. Laster motioned to approve the bills payable and financial reports, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green stated preparations are beginning for the FYE June 30, 2024 budget and asked the council and department heads to discuss with him any concerns they have for next year's budget.

Mayor Green reported one immediate concern is the hourly wage of the deputy clerks. Adjustments have been made in the past for utility workers, supervisors, and police department, however he feels an immediate adjustment of \$1.50 per hour is needed for the two deputy clerks. He stated this adjustment is probably already in the current budget, but he wanted to get city council approval. Gibson motioned to approve an immediate raise of \$1.50 per hour for the two deputy clerks, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously. Mayor Green stated that more adjustments will be needed in the next budget.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Mayor Green reported the Planning Commission held a public hearing and is recommending to the city council the annexation of approximately 24.855 acres of land owned by the Todd County Industrial Foundation on West Main Street and that the area be zoned I-2 General Industry upon its annexation. Mayor Green also updated the council on the new annexation requirements passed recently by the state legislature that requires cities to notify county government of any annexations. If the county approves the annexation, the city can proceed with second reading of an annexation ordinance. Otherwise, the city must wait 45 days to hold second reading of the annexation ordinance and, after second reading, if the county disapproves of the annexation, they must challenge the annexation in court. Mayor Green and Traughber expect more changes to the annexation laws in the future. After discussion, Laster motioned to approve the recommendation of the Planning Commission, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously.

#### ORDINANCES

Powell motioned to read the Summary of Ordinance 2023-04 in lieu of the full ordinance, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously by show of hands. Clerk Brock read first reading of Summary of Ordinance 2023-04,

“AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING TO THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY A 24.855 ACRE TRACT LYING ADJACENT TO THE PRESENT CITY BOUNDARIES ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF U.S. HIGHWAY 68.”

McReynolds motioned to read the Summary of Ordinance 2023-03 in lieu of the full ordinance, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously by show of hands. Clerk Brock read second reading of Summary Ordinance 2023-03, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 31 (CITY OFFICIALS) OF THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY CODE OF ORDINANCES.” Powell motioned to adopt Ordinance 2023-03 after second reading, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

## BIDS

Mayor Green reported bids were received on March 20, 2023 for Tree and Stump Removal Services in the city cemeteries with the following bids received: Skipworth Tree Service, \$26,000.00 and Boley Landscaping, \$49,000.00. After discussion, McReynolds motioned to approve the bid from Skipworth Tree Service, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green reported bids were received April 13, 2023 for three separate bid items for the construction of a garage/storage building on the sewer plant property. Bid Item 1-Building Materials: Golden Rule Lumber & Hardware, \$39,717.39. Bid Item 2-Construction Labor: Walnut Lane Construction, LLC, \$27,500.00. Bid Item 3-Concrete and Labor: Elite Concrete, \$24,000.00. Mayor reported the total of the three bids is \$91,217.39, or a savings of about \$55,000.00 from the entire project bid that was reported at last month’s meeting. After discussion, Gibson motioned to approve the bid of Golden Rule Lumber & Hardware for building materials, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously. Laster motioned to approve the bid of Walnut Lane Construction, LLC for construction labor, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously. McReynolds motioned to approve the bid of Elite Concrete for concrete and labor, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

## GRANT AND PROJECT UPDATES

Mayor Green reported the proposal for design engineering from Bell Engineering for the West Main Street Sidewalks and Drainage Improvements TAP project has been approved by the state and needs approval from the city council. Mayor Green stated the proposed fee is within the estimated budget for the project. Laster motioned to approve the agreement with Bell Engineering for design engineering services, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green reported the contractor should begin work on the Goebel Avenue Sidewalks project in the next few weeks and this project should be completed by the end of May.

Mayor Green stated the city’s CDBG housing grant application is in the hands of the PADD office at this time. PADD will need to contact each applicant regarding their ability to provide any needed funds over the maximum grant allowance of \$100,000.00 per applicant before the city can submit the application.

Mayor Green reported the KPDI grant project the city applied for to move electric lines and extend water, sewer, and gas services to the Robertson property owned by the Todd County Industrial Foundation has been awarded. However, after discussions with the state, county government will need to be officially awarded the funding as grantee and the Todd County Industrial Foundation will be the beneficiary performing the work.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mayor Green reported there has not been any additional work on proposed renovations to the City Hall façade.

Mayor Green informed the council the county will begin discussing land use planning in the county. Judge Executive Todd Mansfield met with the three city mayors to discuss the possibility of joint city-county planning, and all were in favor of moving forward with the process. Mayor Green stated if county land use and planning

discussions proceed, then the city may not need to have a new comprehensive plan completed, so the proposal the council approved for PADD to complete an update of the comprehensive plan for the city is on hold. With joint planning, the county and each city would be able to have their own land use regulations, but there would only be one planning board for the county and cities. Traughber stated the first step in county land use planning, if fiscal court approves, would be for the county to officially notify and “interrogate” each city to get official approval each city would like to proceed. Therefore, Mayor Green stated if fiscal court agrees to proceed, the council will need to officially approve moving forward.

Mayor Green distributed copies of several city ordinances that he feels need to be reviewed, including sections on livestock, noise, and bidding. Mayor Green stated these ordinances have not been reviewed in a while and may not need changing, but he requested the council read the sections for future discussion.

Mayor Green also presented an item for a new chapter regarding grinder pumps on low pressure sewer lines. The city does not currently have any regulations on low pressure sewer main lines. Also, the council will need to determine if the city will still require anyone connecting to the sewer system to annex into the city limits. Low pressure sewer lines are much less expensive than gravity flow sewer lines and therefore could be extended farther out from the city. So, there may need to be some guidelines on how far out the city would annex. Traughber suggested requiring everyone to sign a consent to annex if they connect to the sewer system so they could at least be annexed in the future. Mayor Green reported a property under construction just west of town has inquired about city sewer and the best option would be to run a low-pressure line. This property is already contiguous to the city limits and could be annexed. It was the consensus to go ahead and quote the property owner the cost for a low pressure sewer line with the assumption the property would need to be annexed. Mayor Green stated a draft ordinance regarding low pressure sewer lines and grinder pumps will be presented at the next meeting.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mayor Green distributed a Planning and Code Enforcement activity report prepared by Megan Willenborg, Zoning Administrator/Citation Officer.

Fire Chief Waggoner reported the department has been working on pre-planning requirements before meeting with ISO in the future. ISO is scheduled to complete an inspection of the department soon.

Police Chief Toombs reported the department had 756 calls for service last month, including 35 alcohol related calls. Chief Toombs is accepting sealed bids from other law enforcement agencies until April 14<sup>th</sup> on the 2014 Dodge Charger that did not sell on Govdeals.com auction.

Public Works Director Chris Orr reported water loss is down to about 10% after repairing four small leaks. Work on areas that are sinking on Goebel Avenue have been filled in and covered so the contractor for the sidewalk and paving project can get started soon to complete that project. Spring cleanup starts Monday.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Green reported he is working on a Delta Regional Authority grant project to construct the new connector road from South Main Street to Allensville Street in conjunction with the new Crouch Farms Subdivision off South Main Street.

Mayor Green stated there are several job fairs in surrounding counties and that he will be working with the Chamber of Commerce to have a job fair in Elkton.

Precision Concrete will be inspecting 2.8 miles of sidewalks in the city and will then give the Mayor proposals to make repairs.

Mayor Green reported the state has passed new legislation that may require the city to have an emergency

response plan for city lake dam since it has a designation as a high hazard dam.

#### CITY COUNCIL CONCERNS

McReynolds reported several areas in town with complaints of dogs running loose, including Goebel Avenue, S Streets Avenue, East Jefferson Street, South Main Street, and more. Mayor Green stated County Attorney Jeff Traugher has been working on the dog related issue on Goebel Avenue.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

Mayor Green presented a list of city sponsored events in the near future, including Cruise In on the Square starting April 22<sup>nd</sup> and a spring concert on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Clerk Brock reported there will be a Car and Truck Show during the Cruise In on June 24<sup>th</sup> sponsored by “That Guy Who Fixes Stuff.”

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

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Arthur Green, Mayor

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Laura M. Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer