

Minutes: City Council Meeting
May 11, 2023
6:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session at Elkton City Hall, 71 Public Square, on Thursday, May 11, 2023, 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: Laura Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer; 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 Laster led the Pledge of Allegiance and Gibson led invocation.

Mayor Green called for review of the minutes of the April 13, 2023 council meeting. There were no changes and Laster motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously.

Clerk Brock presented the new bills paid report that presents every bill paid as a transaction by vendor report since the last regular council meeting.

Mayor Green reported the city contacted all three local banks to get quotes for various terms of certificates of deposits to make sure the city is getting the best rate of return. United Southern Bank offered the best rate for 12-months at 4.99% interest. Mayor Green stated if there were no objections, the city would purchase a 12-month CD at United Southern Bank. There were no objections.

Mayor Green stated a special council meeting will need to be held to present the Budget Proposal for FYE June 30, 2024. After discussion, Orr motioned to have the special meeting on Tuesday, May 31, 2024 at 6 PM at Elkton City Hall, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ORDINANCES

Mayor Green reported that Todd County Fiscal Court passed a resolution approving the city's annexation of 24.855 acres of property on Highway 68, therefore second reading of the annexation ordinance may proceed. McReynolds motioned to read the Summary of Ordinance 2023-04 in lieu of the full ordinance, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously by show of hands. Clerk Brock read second 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." Case motioned to adopt after second reading, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

Orr motioned to read the Summary of Ordinance 2023-05 in lieu of the full ordinance, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously. Clerk Brock read first reading of Summary of Ordinance 2023-05, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 52 OF THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO INCORPORATE A NEW SECTION REGARDING THE INSTALLATION OF LOW-PRESSURE GRINDER PUMPS." Mayor Green reported that the city is working with Tyler Kirkman on his request for sewer service, including a low-pressure grinder pump, at his property on West Main Street adjacent to the current city limits and he has agreed to annexation.

BIDS

Mayor Green reported bids were received for the purchase of a sewer camera system on May 11, 2023: C&S Solutions, \$68,223.00; and, Best Equipment Co., \$109,100.00. The city is getting quotes from local banks to possibly make this purchase on a three year loan. After discussion, Laster motioned to approve the bid of C&S Solutions, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Mayor Green reported receiving a notice from Todd County Fiscal Court that they have begun implementing countywide planning and zoning and have asked if the city is interested in pursuing a joint planning commission. The letter stated the city can withdraw participation in the future. After discussion, Case motioned that the city participate in a joint planning commission, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously.

GRANT AND PROJECT UPDATES

Mayor Green reported Bell Engineering continues to work on the design for the West Main Street Sidewalks and Drainage Improvements TAP project and has met with utility companies regarding the burial of utility lines on West Main Street just off the Square.

Mayor Green reported weather has delayed paving on Goebel Avenue, but is currently scheduled for next week. Also, engineers are working on change order plans to correct some water issues created by the new sidewalks.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mayor Green presented concept plans for façade improvements to City Hall and Police Department created by AW Designs of Elkton. Plans presented also include construction of a new wall in the front reception area of City Hall for safety improvements. After discussion, Mayor Green stated he will proceed with the presented concept and AW Designs will generate 3D drawings with colors and cost estimates.

A draft ordinance, sponsored by McReynolds, was presented to the council and includes an amendment to Chapter 90 regarding Animals Running at Large to include requirements for removing dog excrement from all public property and property of others. Case questioned how the ordinance would be enforced. Traughber stated it would be enforced through Code Enforcement using witness testimony. Case motioned to read Summary of Ordinance 2023-06 in lieu of the full ordinance, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously. Clerk Brock read first reading of Summary of Ordinance 2023-06, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 90 OF THE CITY OF ELKTON CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REQUIRE THE REMOVAL OF DOG EXCREMENT." Case motioned to approve on first reading, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

A draft ordinance amending Chapter 96 of the Code of Ordinance regarding Noise Exemptions and Special Variances was presented to the council. The amendment includes allowing construction operations to include Saturday and extending the ending time for construction from 6 pm to 9 pm Monday through Saturday. Case stated construction should be allowed every day. After discussion and polling the council, it was the consensus to allow construction every day from 6 am until 9 pm. Traughber will draft a new ordinance for the next meeting.

Mayor Green reported draft ordinances for livestock and bidding procedures will be presented at a future meeting.

Clerk Brock updated the council on renovation work on the Historic 1835 Courthouse that has been facilitated through Historic Todd County, Inc., which she serves on the Board. The Board requested funding from Todd County Fiscal Court to help repair and paint all exterior windows and construction and painting of all new doors that will be ADA complaint. Fiscal Court will be contributing \$25,000 this year and \$25,000 has been requested for next fiscal year to pay for the project totaling about \$67,000. Historic Todd County, Inc. is contributing

about \$17,000 from their fundraising efforts.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Case asked about the process for joint city-county planning. Traugher stated the county will contract with a company to complete a comprehensive plan and then a new joint city-county planning commission will be appointed to complete the comprehensive plan process.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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

Police Chief Toombs reported the department had 727 calls for service last month, including 37 alcohol related calls. Chief Toombs reported one bid was received for the sell of the 2014 Dodge Charger from the Todd County Detention Center for \$4,035. After discussion, Case motioned to accept the bid from the Detention Center, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green reported he received a letter from the Fire Department requesting approval for the department to start responding to “46 response” calls, which are “accidents with injuries” in case of fire. According to the department, there were 25 total “46 response” incidents in the county and 5 “46 response” calls in the city over the last 16 months. Fire Chief Waggoner stated he did not approve the letter from the department, and he did not feel the department needed to respond to every call. No action was taken.

Mayor Green presented a proposal from Precision Concrete Cutting, who inspected 2.8 miles of sidewalks in the city and found 141 hazards, with 81 repairable. Their proposal gives two options: grind down all hazards ¼” to 2” at a cost of \$8,015.00 or grind down all hazards ½” to 2” at a cost of \$5,031.25. Mayor Green stated Kentucky League of Cities suggests repairing all hazards ¼” to 2” and if we wait and do the work after July 1st, we can put the project in next year’s budget and we may be able to apply for a KLC Safety Grant to pay for some of the cost. Laster motioned to approve the work to grind down ¼” to 2” hazards in next year’s budget, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green reported on behalf of public works that they are continuing to work on water leaks to keep water loss down. The department has been notified that it will be 4-6 weeks before construction of the new garage building can get started. Plans are being completed for utilities for the new Crouch Farm Subdivision and the newly annexed area owned by the Industrial Foundation property on West Main Street. Painting and repairing the Morningside Drive water tank should be completed in one or two weeks.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Green distributed a report from the Todd County Extension Office. Their new office location on Pond River Road will be open to the public soon.

Mayor Green informed the council the city received an invoice from Mediacom for about \$30,000 for damage the city caused when the city backhoe tore down a Mediacom line and a utility pole. However, Mayor Green stated the city disputes the claim because the line was lower than required and the city has a recording from a Mediacom employee stating this line was not owned by Mediacom.

The Annual PADD Dinner Meeting will be held June 12th. Mayor stated if any council members would like for the city to RSVP for them to let us know.

Logan Todd Regional Water Commission will celebrate their 20th anniversary on Tuesday, May 23rd at 11:30 am and all council members are invited to attend. Governor Andy Beshear will be attending.

The Todd County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Job Fair on Thursday, June 8th from 5 pm to 7:30 pm at Todd Central High School. The city is one of the sponsors of the event.

The State Highway Department is currently working on plans for the new turn lane at the Middle School. They estimate plans should be completed and ready to bid by spring of 2024 with construction in the summer.

Mayor Green met with high school students that might be interested in starting a student city council group. This group may work on potential projects in the city.

CITY COUNCIL CONCERNS

Powell asked if Kentucky Lumber is allowed to burn wood piles on their property. Mayor stated they could but should report controlled burns to county dispatch service.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mayor Green reviewed dates of upcoming events and stated Elkton Bike Night will be sponsored by the city every second Thursday of the month from May through September. On these nights, the Welcome Center will be open and there will be music playing.

Laster motioned to adjourn, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Arthur Green, Mayor

Laura M. Brock, City Clerk/Treasurer