

Minutes: City Council Meeting
September 12, 2024
6:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session at Elkton City Hall, 71 Public Square, on Thursday, September 12th, 2024, at 6:00 PM with Mayor Arthur Green presiding.

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

Others present: Kayce Bright, City Clerk/Treasurer; Robert Toombs, Chief of Police; Chris Orr, Public Works Director; Jeff Traughber, attorney; Amy Chester, WEKT Radio; Justin Griffin, Planning & Zoning Officer; & Dylan Eddleman.

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

Mayor Green called to order the public hearing for the proposed 2024 ad valorem tax rates. Mayor Green called for comments and there were none. Mayor Green declared the public hearing closed at 6:03 PM.

Mayor Green called for review of the minutes of the August 13th, 2024, special council meeting. There were no changes and Laster motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green presented the financial reports and called for any questions and there were none. Orr motioned to approve the financial reports as presented, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Green made a public comment regarding a Facebook post made about the election signs that have been put up by the council members running for election. He stated that the post was incorrect, and it did not apply to the City of Elkton. The city's ordinance states not to exceed 60 days from its erection. After the 60 days has expire, the city may remove the sign after a 14 day grace period.

No other comments were made.

ACTION ITEMS

Mayor Green presented a lease from Verizon Wireless proposing to add extra antennas to our tower. The extra antennas would be an additional \$150 per month. The change would be an additional \$1800 per year. Orr motioned to approve the lease on the condition that the cities maintenance contract company reviews the lease and ensures the antennas would be okay, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green presented a GRW Engineer Contract. GRW has previously and continues to do preliminary work on the line from North Todd. The contract has not been signed. Mayor Green asked for approval form the council for the contract. Orr motioned to approve the contract, seconded by McReynolds, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green presented a proposed Residential Incentive Agreement with Crouch Farm Estates. Upon Developer providing to the City verification of expenses incurred in the form of invoices, cancelled checks, contracts, the deed to the road, etc., the City shall reimburse Developer for the costs of installation of the water and sewer infrastructure for the development in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.00. Laster motioned to approve the Residential Incentive Agreement, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green presented Resolution 2024-06 authorizing Resolution of the City of Elkton for filing of a Funding Application and Appointing the Mayor and Successors-in-Title as Official Project Representative of a Kentucky Water and Wastewater Assistance for Troubled or Economically Restrained Systems (KY WWATERS) Program Project. Mayor Green stated that in order for the city to apply for additional monies, the application had to be submitted by September 1st, 2024 and a resolution was required. The city signed and submitted a resolution based on the condition that the city council would need to approve. Orr motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green reported a special meeting needs to be called for a second reading of the tax rate ordinance. The council agreed to meet on Monday, September 16th, 2024, at 8:00 AM. Orr motioned to approve the special meeting, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

ORDINANCES

Powell motioned to read Summary of Ordinance 2024-10, "AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE A 8.7 ACRE TRACT LOCATED NORTH OF U.S. HIGHWAY 68/80" in lieu of the full ordinance, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously. Clerk Bright read second reading of Summary of Ordinance 2024-10. McReynolds motioned to adopt Ordinance 2024-10 after second reading, seconded by Gibson, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

Mayor Green presented the 2024 Property Tax rate calculations before asking clerk to read Ordinance 2024-11. The 4% rate, which allows a 4% increase in revenue, is \$0.241 per \$100 of assessment would generate \$236,843. The corresponding personal property tax rate would be \$0.0968 per \$100 of assessment, which is also a decrease over last year.

Clerk Bright read the first reading of Ordinance 2024-11, “AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE UPON THE ASSESSED VALUTAION OF REAL ESTATE, PERSONAL PROPERTY, MOTOR VEHICLES AND WATERCRAFT WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY, FOR THE YEAR 2024”.

Laster motioned to read Summary of Ordinance 2024-12, “AN ORDINANCE CLOSING A 0.0574 ACRE SECTION OF UNIMPROVED ALLEY WEST OF PERRY STREET” in lieu of the full ordinance, seconded by Powell, and carried unanimously. Clerk Bright read first reading of Summary of Ordinance 2024-12.

MUNICIPAL ORDERS

Municipal Order 2024-08, “MUNICIPAL ORDER RE-APPOINTING TAMMY SHARP TO THE ELKTON CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD” was presented. Orr motioned to adopt Municipal Order 2024-08, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously by show of hands.

URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY ASSISTANCE GRANT

Mayor Green reported a grant of \$42,201.00 that was awarded from the Kentucky Division of Forestry. These funds deals with public lands which will include any public lands within the city such as schools, cemetery, park & courthouse. The funds will be used to plant and replace trees. The city will be updating the ordinance that identifies trees within the city.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney, Jeff Traughber, reported progress on the joint City and County Planning Commission. He stated that a quorum can not be established until Elkton and Trenton appoints an official. Powell motioned to approve Justin Griffin as the official for the City of Elkton, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mayor Green reported the fire department has ordered some new radios and turnout gear. Fire runs have been high this past month.

Police Chief Toombs reported that there had been 562 calls for service with 28 being alcohol related. Laster reported complaints of street parking on Streets Avenue. Toombs stated that this is not illegal.

Planning and Zoning administrator, Justin Griffin, reported that 16 courtesy letters and 4 violation letters had been mailed out. A total of 5 building permits had been completed in the past month.

Public Works Director, Chris Orr, reported public works continues to work on the lead and copper surveys that must be completed by October 16th, 2024. A hydro excavator has been rented for use the week of September 16th-September 20th, 2024. Maintenance staff have also been assisting with painting and putting furniture together in City Hall. Several water leaks have been addressed in the Laster Trailer Park. An inquiry for sewer service for a new restaurant on East Main has been made.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Green reported the city had applied for an energy grant but was denied. Mayor requested to have a regular meeting with Ascendant Facility Partners to talk through the original plan to see if the council would like to proceed with plans.

Mayor Green reported that the city had filed a response to the Division of Enforcement Branch on August 27th for the two questions they had previously asked. The Division of Enforcement Branch has 60 days to review this response. The City should have a response in October to whether the city met the requirements that were set to have the dam classified not as a hazard dam.

Mayor Green asked the council if they wanted to postpone the October city council meeting until October 17th. Powell motioned to postpone the meeting, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

CITY COUNCIL CONCERNS

McReynolds asked if the city had made any progress on the crosswalks on the square. Mayor Green stated that the state gave us some proposals, but the city would need to apply for TAP grants to proceed with these

Laster suggested that the city place “Children at Play” signs in Fawn Acres. Mayor Green stated that the owner of the property would have to approve the sign due to the road belonging to the builders.

Gibson stated that he had been in contact with the owner of Billy Goat Hill, Melissa Weathers, regarding septic tank costs for the new restaurant. Chris Orr stated that the city could run lines to the new restaurant, at the cost of Billy Goat Hill, if they would consent to annex the new property.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dates to remember were reported as Hometown Harvest Dinner on Saturday, September 14th and HarvestFest on Saturday, September 28th, Leaf Pick Up will begin on October 22nd through December 4th, Trick or Treating will be Thursday, October 31st from 5:30PM-7:30PM, Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, November 30th, and the Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 14th.

There was no further discussion, therefore Orr motioned to adjourn, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 6:57PM.

Arthur Green, Mayor

Kayce L. Bright, City Clerk/Treasurer