

Minutes: City Council Meeting
February 13th, 2025
6:00 PM

The Elkton City Council met in regular session at Elkton City Hall, 71 Public Square, on Thursday, February 13th, 2025, at 6:00 PM with Mayor Arthur Green presiding.

City Council members present: Emily Carroll; John Mullins; Frank McReynolds; George Orr; Danny Laster and David Powell.

Others present Robert Toombs, Chief of Police; Justin Griffin, Planning & Zoning Officer; Captain Jakob Smith, Todd Mansfield, Wendy & Luke Griffin.

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

Mayor Green called for review of the minutes of the January 9th, 2025, council meeting. There were no changes and McReynolds motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green presented the financial reports and called for any questions and there were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments were made.

ACTION ITEMS

Mayor Green presented Resolution 2025-01 “A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF ELKTON, KENTUCKY, OPPOSING ANY BILLS BROUGHT FORTH DURING THE 2025 KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION BY ANY MEMBER OF THE KENTUCKY LEGISLATURE, IN FULL OR IN PART, THAT PROVIDES FOR THE MANDATED CENTRALIZED COLLECTION OF LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL FEES/TAXES BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY OR OTHER THIRD PARTIES”. Powell motioned to approve Resolution 2025-01, seconded by Mullins, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Green presented a Resolution from FEMA that gives City Clerk, Kayce Bright, and Mayor Green to sign on behalf of the City of Elkton. The City has been approved to receive a reimbursement of \$50,726.01 from FEMA for the storm that occurred on May 26th, 2024. Orr motioned to approve this Resolution, seconded by Mullins, carried unanimously.

ELKTON-TODD COUNTY PARK & SOCCER FIELD UPDATE

Todd County Judge Executive, Todd Mansfield, informed the council that the County received the Land and Water Conservation 50/50 Grant in the amount of \$250,000 in April of 2021. However, they were unable to start on the complex until the spring of 2024. The deadline to complete the project is September 30th, 2025. As of now, the site work has been completed. This includes three fields, parking, and underground lines for utilities. Of the three fields, two were designed to host middle school and high school games but can also be split to have U9 and U12 games. The remaining field is designated for U6 play only. While the fields may require reseeding, gameplay could still start this spring.

The remaining items still need to be completed, in order:

1. Add fencing between KY Lumber and the complex.
2. Replace the fence between the golf course and the complex.
3. Lighting on the field nearest the golf course.
4. Construction of a building to house restrooms and concessions.

Other items that are needed:

1. IMI Property to be used for storage and maintenance area.
2. New mower designated for the soccer complex.
3. Lights for the remaining fields.
4. Pavement for the parking areas.
5. Resurface Industrial Drive #1
6. Flagpole at the Entrance.
7. Replace remaining fence.

Mansfield asked the City of Elkton to consider renaming Industrial Drive #1, the street providing access to the complex, to "Soccer Way".

Mayor Green requested council approval to rename Industrial Drive #1 to Soccer Way. Orr made a motion to approve the process of renaming the street, seconded by Laster, and carried unanimously.

MELVIN STINKSON LAKE DAM UPDATE

Mayor Green reminded the council that last year the city received a notice of violation from the Division of Water about the dam. In response, the city hired GRW to engineer and conduct the required study to address aspects of the violation. On May 30th, 2024, GRW submitted a technical memorandum detailing the completed engineering work. On May 31st, 2024, the city participated in a conference call to discuss an Agreed Order. On August 27th, 2024, the city responded to the Division of Water regarding additional questions. On January 17th, 2025, the city received a Final Determination Notice stating that the dam remains classified as a high-risk dam. On January 23rd, 2025, Mayor Green received another Notice of Violation requiring the city to complete an Agreed Order.

Mayor Green informed the council that he had spoke with GRW and the City Attorney regarding the Division of Water's requirements. The City Attorney noted that the notice states an Agreed Order must be completed; however, the city does not agree with the Divion of Water's request. If an agreement is not reached the matter will proceed to the next level, and a hearing will be conducted.

Mayor Green sent a letter to the Division of Water requesting copies of the engineering studies that their engineer has completed. If they do not complete the request, the mayor will then send a notice to the Division of Enforcement stating that the city will not have a hearing until they hear back from the Division of Water.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF

Mayor Green informed the council that he signed an executive order appointing Justin Griffin as Assistant Fire Chief. He acknowledged Justin's dedication to the fire department and his contributions to supporting Fire Chief JT Calvery's accomplishments.

ASCENDANT ENERGY CONTRACT UPDATE

Mayor Green provided an updated on the Ascendant Energy contract. He is scheduled to meet with Ascendant next week to initiate construction and establish project timelines. To fund this project, the city previously passed an ordinance for bonding through KLC. The bonding process is currently underway, and funds are expected to be received by mid-March.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No report.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mayor Green reported that the Public Works department has been putting together an aerator that was received through grant funding. They have also been working on water leak repairs and filling pot holes.

Mayor Green reported that the GFL contract can be extended for one more year. Currently, the city pays GFL \$10.99 per service, while customers are charged \$11.25 per can. An estimated 4.5% increase is expected for the upcoming year. He asked the council to consider whether to bid out the contract or extend the current agreement with GFL for another year.

Mayor Green also announced that this year we will be bidding out the cemetery contract. All bids are to be submitted by March 7th at 3PM.

Mayor Green reported that the fire department has received 44 air packs and 60 personal face masks from another city. A grant has been submitted to purchase additional air packs, and if the grant is awarded, the donated air packs will be passed on to another city in need.

Councilman Orr informed the council that Fire Chief JT requested approval to purchase a truck for the department to be used as a first responder vehicle. Mayor Green added that he had spoke with Chief JT and suggested that one of the older vehicles from Public Works or the Police Department could be repurposed for this need.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Justin Griffin reported that eight building permits were submitted in January. He also informed the council that the Planning Commission is discussing the possibility of raising the application fees for building permits. He also informed the council that six courtesy letters, two letters of violation, and a citation has been sent out in January.

Police Chief Toombs reported a total of 540 calls for service in January, with 27 being alcohol related. Officer Josh Corn has announced that he will be leaving the Police Department in March. At this time there are no prospects for his replacement. On January 21st, the Police Department had a safety and liability inspection. They received a score of 88.19 which gives a 12% discount on insurance.

Mayor Green informed the council that the Safety Committee met for their quarterly meeting that involves all of the city departments. One of the city's part time employees was involved in a vehicle accident on February 10th. It was no fault of the employee, and no one was injured in the accident. Stop signs will be put in place near the old courthouse to help reduce further incidents.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Green provided an update on the Housing Grant, noting that all required paperwork has been completed and submitted.

He also updated the council on the Urban Forestry Grant, stating that all necessary documents have been submitted, with three years allotted to complete the project.

Additionally, the city received notification of approval for \$236,000, which will be used to complete the replacement of lights on Field 1, install new backstops on all fields, and fund the construction of pickleball courts.

CITY COUNCIL CONCERNS

McReynolds asked the City Clerk for an update on property tax collections. Bright informed him that she will provide an update for him at the next council meeting.

Carroll informed the council that she attended the KLC Officials Conference and encouraged them to explore the KLC online training resources. She also announced that House Bill 119 had passed, allowing cities to establish an incentive program for city employees who complete 15 hours of training.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dates to remember were reported as Monday, February 17th- City Hall will be closed in observance of Presidents Day; 4th Saturday of every month April-October 2025- Cruise Ins on the Square; Saturday, May 31st- Bike Night; Saturday, August 2nd- Summer Send Off; Saturday, September 27th- Harvest Fest; Saturday, November 29th- Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony; Saturday, December 13th- Christmas Parade.

There was no further discussion, therefore Laster motioned to adjourn, seconded by Orr, and carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Arthur Green, Mayor

Kayce L. Bright, City Clerk/Treasurer