

LUDLOW COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

October 10, 2024

Mayor Chris Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Laurie Sparks called the roll, which showed the following council members present: Steve Chapman, Lori Davenport, David Ziegler, Samantha Frank, Julie Terry Navarre, and Abigail Miller.

ALSO ATTENDING: City Attorney Todd McMurtry, City Clerk Laurie Sparks, Police Chief Bart Beck, Fire Chief Mike Steward, Public Works Director Shane Hamant, Code Enforcement Officer Jamie West

Motion by Mr. Ziegler, second by Ms. Davenport, to approve the minutes from the council meeting on September 12, 2024. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Department

Chief Steward discussed recent emergency calls. Ms. Terry Navarre thanked the Fire Department for participating in the recent Walk and Roll to School event.

Public Works

Mr. Hamant advised that the City recently applied for a \$10,000.00 grant through the Kentucky Fried Wishes organization that could be used toward making Jackson Park a sensory park. Mr. Hamant also discussed the possibility of installing eight parking spaces at the end of Montclair Avenue at Jackson Park. Mr. Hamant thanked everyone involved in getting a new skid steer for Public Works. Discussion on the improvements at the skatepark to make it better for younger, inexperienced skaters. Cedar Alley was recently paved, and Laurel Street will be paved by the end of the month. Mr. Hamant thanked the Fire Department for helping clean up debris in the city from a recent storm.

Code Enforcement

Mr. West advised that the City's Fall Clean Up will be on Saturday, October 12, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the lot at Ash and Traverse Streets. Any hazardous materials can be dropped off at the Northern Kentucky Household Hazardous Clean Up on November 2, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Florence Y'all's Stadium. Mr. West reminded everyone that the first full week of each month is trash amnesty week; residents can place up to three large items out on their scheduled trash collection day. Mr. West and Ms. Terry Navarre led a tour around the city for eight representatives from the Cincinnati Chamber, followed by lunch at The Lagoon Saloon. Mayor Wright advised that he was contacted by Ryan Salzman of Bellevue to see if Ludlow would participate in the Chamber's tour of the river cities. Mayor Wright was not available the day of the tour and asked Mr. West to participate on his behalf.

Police Department

Chief Beck discussed the monthly call report and advised that the police received a grant for the purchase of five new vests. Discussion on the status of activity with patrol officers, school

resource officer, and detective. Ms. Terry Navarre thanked Chief Beck for escorting a group of kids during the recent Walk and Roll Event to the school.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wright and Mr. Chapman attended an event earlier in the day for Riverfront Commons, in which a new website and branding for the project was revealed. Mayor Wright reminded everyone about the City Clean Up Day on Saturday, October 12, 2024. Mayor Wright advised that the first round of interviews for the city administrative officer position will be conducted by the department heads on Friday. They will interview four applicants and select three to present to council to review. In lieu of a caucus meeting on October 24, 2024, council will meet and enter into executive session where they will conduct interviews of the three applicants.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – The Finance Committee did not meet due to the audit being conducted this week, but they plan to meet next week.

Parks and Recreation – The Committee advised that they would like to help the Fire Department with their event on Halloween. Ms. Davenport inquired whether the Fire Department has received any donations of candy, water, hot chocolate, and pans for the hot dogs. Chief Steward advised that they had not received any donated items, only items that they had ordered.

Public Works/Code Enforcement – The Committee met with Mr. West to discuss the status of code enforcement cases and rental licenses. Discussion on the possibility of creating an inventory of sidewalks in the city. The Committee met with Mr. Hamant and discussed the need for a new dump truck soon, the possibility of creating a parking area at Jackson Park, and repairs needed to the downspouts of the concession stand building at Ludlow Memorial Park. Mr. Ziegler advised that he knows someone that might be able to help with the replacement of the downspouts.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on Ordinance 2024-8

Mayor Wright asked if anyone on council had any discussions with the residents who would be affected by making Montrose Street a one-way. Ms. Terry Navarre stated that she believes a conversation has to happen with the residents because a direction change will affect their daily commute. Discussion about residents still being able to access Highway Avenue from two other streets. Ms. Davenport inquired whether an engineer has looked at the safety of the traffic on the street. Mr. Hamant advised that he objects to making the street one-way because it would make it difficult to keep up with the plowing during snow events. Ms. Miller advised that she is requesting that the traffic on Montrose Street be changed to one-way down from Highway Avenue to prevent accidents and make it easier for her to get out of her driveway since a new street to the development will be added. Ms. Terry Navarre advised that she believes it is important to engage with the residents affected by the street change and suggested sending a letter inviting them to attend a meeting where they will have an opportunity to voice their

opinion. Mr. Hamant recommended that the City complete a traffic study to see if it would actually be safer to change it to a one-way. Following discussion, Mayor Wright tabled the first reading of Ordinance 2024-8 *An Ordinance Designating a Portion of Montrose Street as a One-Way Street*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Terry Navarre thanked everyone with the City who helped with the rail event and thanked everyone who attended. The last Cars & Coffee of the season will be on October 13, 2024, at Ludlow Plaza from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and will feature a trunk-or-treat. LiveWell Ludlow will meet on Monday, October 14, 2024, at the Ludlow Community Center at 6:45 p.m. Ms. Frank advised that Walk 'n Talk 'n Trash has been moved to October 15, 2024, and will meet at Ludlow Coffee at 6:00 p.m. with a party afterward. Mr. Ziegler advised that the railyard event was great. Ms. Davenport encouraged residents to support the Ludlow Fire Department Halloween event. Mr. Chapman encouraged everyone who visits Ludlow Memorial Park to pick up their trash and put it in a trash can; it will save Public Works employees a lot of time. Discussion on the possibility of charging a deposit for people who reserve the picnic shelters at the park.

Motion by Ms. Davenport, second by Mr. Ziegler, to enter into executive session at 7:41 p.m. pursuant to KRS 61.810 (c) discussions of proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the public agency. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

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Upon coming out of executive session, motion by Mr. Ziegler, second by Ms. Davenport to adjourn the meeting. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: _____
Chris Wright, Mayor