

LUDLOW COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

December 12, 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, David Ziegler, Samantha Frank, and Julie Terry Navarre. Lori Davenport was absent.

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

Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Ms. Frank, to approve the minutes from the council meeting on November 14, 2024. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Department

Chief Steward discussed his monthly report, including the internship program.

Public Works

Mr. Hamant advised that the Public Works part-time position is open with the resignation of Zack Marcum. The City received a \$3,000 matching grant through Kentucky League of Cities for sidewalk repairs. Precision Concrete will begin to repair sidewalks on Elm Street from the west end to the Underpass. The City did not receive the Kentucky Fried Wishes grant. Mr. Hamant thanked Mike Dunaway and Zach Lemker for getting the downtown and Ludlow Plaza decorated for the holidays. Mr. Hamant thanked the Police and Fire Departments for staying in contact with him during snow events.

Code Enforcement

Mr. West discussed the five business license types that could be issued for medical cannabis and the zones where the businesses could locate within the city.

Police Department

Chief Beck discussed his monthly report. Chief Beck advised that there is a vacancy for a sergeant's post, and they will be testing for that position soon.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wright thanked everyone involved with Light Up Ludlow & Bromley and the Christmas Parade.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – The Finance Committee did not meet. The bills in November were paid and the information can be viewed on the City's website under Open Financials.

Parks and Recreation – Mr. Ziegler thanked Lori Davenport for serving on the committee with him and wished her the best.

Public Works/Code Enforcement – The Committee did not meet with Public Works. The Committee met with Mr. West and discussed the medical cannabis issue and discussed making an inventory of sidewalks in the city. Ms. Terry Navarre thanked Ms. Frank for serving with her on the Committee.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Smith has been meeting with business owners over the past few weeks and is working to give the business district a “wow” factor. Discussion on the corridor assessment that was completed by Retail Strategies, who were hired by Southbank Partners. The plan outlines suggestions for improvements over the next two to three years. Discussion on the status of the next phase of Riverfront Commons, which will hopefully break ground in the next few months. Discussion on a recent meeting with OneNKY, who would like to develop bike trails that will likely tie into Riverfront Commons. Discussion on the need to bring big businesses to town to increase the tax base. Mr. Chapman advised that he would like to have a digital signboard for the City. Mr. Smith advised that he is working with a company to create a QR code for the City that all the businesses can use by putting it on their menus and in their windows.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance 2024-8

Mr. McMurtry completed the second reading of Ordinance 2024-8 *An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky, Amending Section 70.01, Article X, and Article XI of the City’s Zoning Ordinances Regarding Permitted Locations for Medical Cannabis Dispensaries, Cultivation, Processing, Producing, and Safety Compliance Facilities.* **Motion by Mr. Chapman, second by Mr. Ziegler, to adopt Ordinance 2024-8. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-14

Mr. McMurtry read Resolution 2024-14 *A Resolution Reappointing Members to Serve on Various Boards in the City of Ludlow, Kentucky.* **Motion by Ms. Frank, second by Ms. Terry Navarre, to approve Resolution 2024-14. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: four ayes, one abstention from Ms. Miller.**

Resolution 2024-15

Mr. McMurtry read Resolution 2024-15 *A Resolution Appointing a Representative and an Alternate Representative to the Planning and Development Services Council for the Year 2025.* Mayor Wright will serve as the representative and Mr. Chapman will serve as the alternate. **Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Mr. Ziegler, to approve Resolution 2024-15. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

Resolution 2024-16

Mr. McMurtry read Resolution 2024-16 *A Resolution of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky, Declaring Property as Surplus [Bobcat Skid Steer] and Authorizing the Sale or Disposition of Such Surplus Property.* **Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Ms. Frank, to approve Resolution 2024-16. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

Mayor Wright gave a heartfelt thank you to Ms. Frank and Ms. Davenport for their service and expressed his admiration for those willing to serve the community.

Oath of Office

Mayor Wright administered the Oath of Office of City Council to the newly elected councilmembers Steve Chapman, Paula Graszus, Abigail Miller, Julie Terry Navarre, Sarah Thompson, and David Ziegler.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Frank thanked everyone who worked with her during her time on council. Mr. Ziegler thanked Ms. Frank and Ms. Davenport and stated that he is looking forward to working the Ms. Thompson and Ms. Graszus on council. Mr. Chapman also thanked everyone and is looking forward to working with the new councilmembers.

Motion by Ms. Frank, second by Mr. Ziegler, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: _____
Chris Wright, Mayor