

LUDLOW COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

June 13, 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 Clerk Laurie Sparks, Police Chief Scott Smith, Fire Chief Mike Steward, Public Works Director Shane Hamant

Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Mr. Ziegler, to approve the minutes from the council meetings on May 9, 2024, and June 6, 2024. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Department

Chief Steward advised that fire hydrant testing will begin in July. The Fire Department is still recruiting members.

Public Works

Mr. Hamant met with skater Evan Walker who suggested ideas for building ramps for beginning skaters at Ludlow Park. Discussion on the installation of electric on the scoreboard at Hollingsworth, in the concession area, and on the trail in Ludlow Park that can be used for food trucks, festivals, and future events. New carpet was installed in the hallway in the administrative office. Discussion on painting yellow curbs in restricted parking areas beginning in the west end and working east.

Code Enforcement

Mr. West's report was included in the packet.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wright advised that the ad for the City Administrator position is on the Northern Kentucky Area Development District (NKADD)'s website and all applications will be sent to them. There will be several phases of interviews with the first and/or second round with the department heads who will narrow the selection down to three applicants who will be interviewed by Council. Mayor Wright met with representatives from Fischer Homes and received some good and bad feedback. Mayor Wright advised that he would request that Greg Fischer or a representative attend a July meeting. Mayor Wright thanked the City employees who helped set up the meeting room for the Mayors Meeting on Saturday.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance—The Finance Committee met on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, to review the April statements and review budget items.

Parks and Recreation—There were 60-75 kids who attended Hot Dogs in the Park on June 7, 2024. Mr. Ziegler thanked the Fire Department, Public Works, and all the volunteers who helped. The

next Hot Dogs in the Park will be on Friday, June 21st from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and there will be a kid's story time presented by the Kenton County Public Library. Ms. Davenport advised that she contacted Tom France about the gaming license for the festival.

Public Works/Code Enforcement – Ms. Terry Navarre advised that the Committee met with Mr. West who discussed a new process he is using for grass cutting notifications, including a non-fee citation. Mr. West is working on a new notification process for delinquent rental properties. Ms. Frank advised that the Committee met with Mr. Hamant and inquired about installing a sunshade over the swings at Ludlow Park, but it will not work. There was also discussion about the playground equipment at Caple Park. Ms. Frank advised that the part-time seasonal public works employee is doing a great job and would like to see the position become full-time. Discussion on setting aside \$10,000.00 per year to save up for a new truck and equipment for Public Works.

City Update/Police Report

Chief Smith advised that there was a correction to the proposed budget, so it will be necessary to have another first reading of the ordinance. The Fireworks Festival is on June 29th. Chief Smith advised that he and Mr. Hamant met with the engineer to review the area behind the football stadium where the riverwalk will be installed. Discussion on the status of an internship at the city.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Jason Gott, 139 Highway Avenue, discussed the issue of water getting into his basement from underneath the floor. Mr. Gott advised that Jerron Fischer visited his home to look into the water issue he has been experiencing since the construction on Cityview Station began; however, he has not received a follow up response. Discussion on possible solutions to prevent water from coming into the basement. Mayor Wright advised that he would contact Fischer Homes and talk to Planning and Development Services of Kenton County (PDS) about what could be done legally to hold Fischer responsible. Ms. Miller advised that she met with Jerron Fischer eight weeks ago and still has not received an update.

Peter Bishop, 329 Skyview Court, discussed the issue with dust coming off the development that prevents nearby residents from eating outside or sitting outside. Mr. Hamant and Chief Smith have contacted Fischer Homes regarding the need for a water truck on the site. Discussion on the approved work hours for the development.

John Hall, 31 Kenner Street, gave kudos to Chief Smith for what he has done to turn the city around. Mr. Hall inquired whether the community would have any input on the selection for city administrator. Mayor Wright advised that he would be happy to take community input at Coffee with the Mayor next month. Discussion on the location of the new portion of the trail behind the stadium. Discussion on the issue of people letting off fireworks in the city, especially late at night.

Greg Reeves, C.P. Reeves Market, 109 Helen Street, requested an additional temporary 30-minute parking sign during business hours only in front of the store. Mr. Reeves advised that during their busy season, if there is a ballgame, it is difficult for customers to park. Chief Smith advised that the City has received several complaints about congestion on Helen Street with people loading and unloading that could create a dangerous situation. Mr. Reeves discussed the history

of Reeves Market and advised that PDS recognizes the business as a non-conforming use. The business is only open seven months a year. Mayor Wright advised that he would have an ordinance creating a 30-minute parking space drawn up for council to vote on at next month's meeting.

Chad Finni, 517 Linden Street, inquired whether there is something the City could do from a code enforcement standpoint to fine the developers for violations. Following discussion, Chief Smith advised that some of the issues are out of the City's hands and must be handled by PDS.

Samantha Goldschmidt, 34 Euclid Street, inquired whether the City could issue citations for residential violations. Chief Smith advised that if there is a building and zoning issue, it is usually handled by PDS. Mr. West works with PDS to report violations that he finds.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance 2024-3

Mayor Wright completed the second reading of Ordinance 2024-3 *An Ordinance Amending the Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 Through June 30, 2024 for the City of Ludlow Calling for Revenue of ~~\$4,987,545.00~~ \$4,860,392.00 and Expenditures of ~~\$3,849,990.00~~ \$4,051,327.00. Motion by Mr. Chapman, second by Ms. Frank, to approve Ordinance 2024-3. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.*

First Reading of Ordinance 2024-4

Mayor Wright announced that there will be a special meeting in lieu of the caucus on June 27, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. for a second reading of the ordinance. Mayor Wright advised that Ms. Davenport had a lot of questions about the budget and requested the finance committee meet with her to review them. Mayor Wright completed the first reading of Ordinance 2024-4 *An Ordinance Setting the Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 Through June 30, 2025 for the City of Ludlow Calling for Revenue of \$4,849,000.00 and Expenditures of \$4,421,440.00.* Mr. Chapman advised that six years ago, the City was not in great shape and had to take out a TAN (Tax Anticipation Note) loan as high as \$300,000.00. The budget for 2024-2025 finally pays off the \$75,000.00 balance of the TAN.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-6

Mayor Wright read Resolution 2024-6 *A Resolution Adopting the Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Ludlow, Kentucky, and the City of Bromley, Kentucky, Relating to Fire Protection, Advanced Life Support, and Basic Life Support Services.* Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Ms. Davenport, to pass Resolution 2024-6. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Terry Navarre advised that the Walk 'n Talk 'n Trash on July 10, 2024, will be combined with LiveWell and meet at the Ludlow Community Center. Ms. Terry Navarre thanked the police and fire departments for assisting with a recent incident at her mother's home. Ms. Frank thanked everyone who participated in the recent Walk 'n Talk 'n Trash event. Mr. Ziegler thanked the fire department and public works for their help with Hot Dogs in the Park. Mr. Chapman advised that the Fireworks Festival is on June 29, 2024.

Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Ms. Ziegler, to enter into executive session at 7:19 p.m. pursuant to KRS 61.810(c) Discussions of proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the public agency.

.....

Motion by Mr. Chapman, second by Ms. Terry Navarre to adjourn the meeting. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: _____
Chris Wright, Mayor