

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2017**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 2017 in the Council Chambers of the city building. City Clerk, Melissa Kelly called the roll and the following council members were present: David Cameron, Ken Bowman, Lisa Kelly, Jeff Bezold, and John Slawter. Absent: Roger Peterman. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Ron Dill, City Clerk Melissa Kelly, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, City Attorney Jann Seidenfaden, Fire Chief Mark Bailey, and Police Chief Mike Daly.

Mayor Eric Haas led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Minutes

The minutes from the December 19, 2016 meeting were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Slawter and seconded by Mr. Bowman to approve the minutes as written. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Oath of Office: Mayor Haas presided over the swearing-in ceremony of the 2017-2018 Council. The members present collectively read the oath of office aloud for the record.

Reports of Officers

City Administrator’s Report: Ron Dill:

Annual Audit: The City’s auditor is currently performing the annual audit of the city’s finances for the 15/16 fiscal year. It is anticipated that the finance committee will meet to review the audit in late February or early March. Council will then consider the audit at the March council meeting.

2017 Street Resurfacing Program: Staff is currently preparing a report for the Public Works Committee of Council regarding the 2017 street resurfacing program. CT Consultants and city staff have driven every street in the city and has updated the “street rating index” that serves as an important planning tool for developing the program each year. The city engineer will then prepare an opinion of probable cost for each street. The Municipal Road Aid Budget is then reviewed, including anticipated revenues and residual funds from previous years, to determine the scope of the program. It is anticipated that the committee will meet with staff over the next few weeks to formulate a recommendation to the Board of Council.

Employee Union Contract Negotiations: All three of the city’s union contracts expire on June 30, 2017. Staff will be meeting with representatives from each of the three unions over the next six months with a goal of completing the process by the end of June. Staff will be meeting with

the Finance Committee of Council to establish recommended parameters regarding pay increases. Typically the duration of the contracts is either two or three years.

VA Homes Update: The next conference call with the VA and developer to work toward a closing date will be on January 11, 2017. The city is continuing to work with the developer on a regular basis.

Waste Collection Contract: The city's waste collection contract expires this year. The contract will be put out to bid in June.

New Business

Consideration of Interlocal Agreement Regarding Animal Control Services: The city has participated in the Northern Kentucky Animal Control Board, consisting of multiple Campbell County jurisdictions, through a long-standing interlocal agreement. This agreement has been renewed several times; however, it has since lapsed. The member jurisdictions, through their representation on this board, have worked closely with the county administrators to update costs/fees, policies, procedures and to coordinate with the operations of the Campbell Co. Animal Shelter. The interlocal agreement has been approved by the Kentucky Department of Local Governments and requires the authorization for the Mayor to enter into the agreement. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to authorize the mayor to enter into an agreement with the NKY Animal Control Board. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Slawter. Voting "no": none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Presentations

Sesquicentennial Update: Debbie Buckley and Committees: Debbie Buckley addressed council regarding the 150 year anniversary of Fort Thomas and the activities that are planned. She introduced her committee. Each committee member's report is as follows:

Bob Heil: Mr. Heil is on the committee for the General Thomas statue that will be located in the Midway. This will be a 2 ½ year project and the city and committee are working on raising the funds to pay for it. The designer, Matt Langford has done a 12" mock statue that will be sold as a limited edition for \$10,000 to interested parties.

Mark Collier: Mr. Collier is on the marketing committee that will help tell the story of Fort Thomas. We will have a book to advertise the event and solicit sponsors. Also, the committee will have sandwich boards throughout the city with the events and the bands that are participating. Kathy Sonnett has designed the new banners for the event that will go up on February 27th. The committee will be selling these banners to residents and families to raise money for the event. Once they are taken down, they will be given to the purchasers. We will also be hanging a banner on the bridge on Highland Ave. that overlooks I4-71.

Derek Durbin: Mr. Durbin is working on raising funds for the Charters of Freedom Monument. The site that the committee is considering is the grassy area that overlooks the amphitheater in Tower Park. This will be a great addition to the park and a great tool for the schools to educate students on the U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights and Declaration of Independence in a park setting.

Colonel De Stewart: Farm to Fort dinner: Colonel De will be preparing the 5 course dinner that will take place on July 2nd to kick off the week of festivities. The Children's Choir will sing that is being put together by Mary Skaggs, and the Dulcimers will play throughout the dinner. There will be 300 tickets sold for this event. The dinner will be seasonal with local selections used as much as possible. The art contest exhibit that will be put together by Nancy Schneider will be displayed in the Mess Hall.

Linda Slone: Linda is working with the events committee as well as putting together the car show on July 8th that will take place in Tower Park from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. There are many events that are planned throughout the week of July 2-8th and the group is still looking for volunteers.

Chuck Keller: Mr. Keller is working on a timeline for Fort Thomas' historic businesses/homes. The students have been developing sections of the 150 year history. The finished product will be displayed in the Mess Hall. Mr. Keller is working on a self-guided tour of highlights around town. His committee is looking at creating a smartphone application (via virtual reality) that would reveal history about a particular stop using I-beacons (a low Bluetooth frequency device).

Visioning Process Update: Human Nature Consultants: Chris Manning and Joey Hood presented the findings from the visioning sessions that took place over the past couple of months. They covered the process recently completed and provided the compilation of ideas and concepts that resulted from those sessions. It was indicated that there were multiple overarching themes that were obvious throughout the process and these themes should provide the basis for continuing the visioning process. Discussion continued on the details of the information being presented and possible "next-steps" for the visioning process. A printed copy of the report was shared with each council member and submitted in digital form to the city clerk.

Ordinances, Resolutions, and Orders

Ordinance O-13-2016: An amendment to the Fort Thomas Police Department's policy and procedure manual regarding sexual assault investigations was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to approve Ordinance O-13-2016. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Slawter. Voting "no": none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Executive Session: Staff is requesting council to enter into executive session for the following purpose:

- 1) In accordance with KRS section 61.810 (b)- for deliberation of the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency.

A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to adjourn in to executive session.

A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Slawter to reconvene the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract of sale in the amount of \$126,850 for the property located at 17 Montvale Ct. Upon

call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Kelly, City Clerk