

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,  
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 in the Council Chambers of the city building. City Clerk, Melissa Beckett called the roll and the following council members were present: David Cameron, Ken Bowman, Mark Collier, Jeff Bezold, Roger Peterman and Adam Blau. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Ron Dill, City Clerk Melissa Kelly, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, Fire Chief Mark Bailey, Police Chief Casey Kilgore and City Attorney Jann Seidenfaden.

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

**Minutes**

The minutes from the January 2, 2019 meeting were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve the minutes as written. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Visitors and Communications**

Chief Casey Kilgore presented Brandon Laffin with the Life Saving Award for the City of Fort Thomas. Brandon put himself in danger by saving a man’s life on I-471 who was trying to run into traffic. The mayor and council thanked Officer Laffin for his heroic deed.

**Update on General Thomas Statue: Chris Manning and Bob Heil:** Chris Manning presented a power point on the General Thomas statue that will be located in Tower Park. The statue will stand 9 feet tall and sit on a pedestal. There are five possible locations for the statue. Council asked Chris Manning and Bob Heil to give their suggestions to council on their preferred location. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to refer this matter to the Recreation Committee of Council to consider the location of the General Thomas statue. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Tiffany Huber of 26 Hawthorne Ave. addressed council. Mrs. Huber asked for an update regarding enhancements to the website and the city working on being more transparent to residents. Ron Dill noted that the Law, Labor, and License Committee of council have met twice on this matter and city staff are working toward incorporating more information on the website. Mrs. Huber also asked if Highlands would be able to tape the Planning Commission meetings. Mr. Dill noted that they could look into it but it may be an issue trying to find students that are willing to attend more than one meeting.

Tom Morrison of 96 Hawthorne addressed council. Mr. Morrison asked if there could be a summary on the website regarding the committees and boards pertaining to what their duties are and the members names. He also suggested incorporating a calendar of events on the website. Mr. Dill noted that city staff are working towards making improvements to the website.

Bonita Frenzel of 35 Bonnie Lane addressed council. Ms. Frenzel noted that she likes the idea of a community calendar on the website. She questioned the location of the General Thomas statue and if it

goes in front of the Mess Hall where the dedicated bricks would be moved to. She also asked if there would be more opportunities to purchase a banner for a family member.

**Fire Department Monthly Report for December 2018 and January 2019:** Chief Bailey presented his monthly report for December 2018 and January 2019 to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to receive and file the fire department's monthly report. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Police Department Monthly Report for December 2018 and January 2019:** Chief Kilgore presented his monthly report for December 2018 and January 2019 to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Collier to receive and file the police department's monthly report. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **City Administrators Report**

Annual Reports: Annual reports submitted by department heads to council will be presented at the next two council meetings with General Services and Renaissance presenting at the March meeting and Police and Fire presenting in April.

**2018 Annual Reports – Animal Control Activity and Deer Related Accidents:** A report on deer related accidents and animal control activity was presented to council for review. Ron Dill also explained the new program through the animal shelter called the Trap, Neuter, Return program (TNR). This will greatly reduce the number of cat euthanasia at the shelter and help to cut down on unwanted litters and cat nuisances such as spraying and fighting.

**Memorial Parkway Update:** City staff is working with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to alleviate the drainage on the sidewalks running along Memorial Parkway.

**Pedestrian Safety Initiative:** Ron Dill indicated that the city is close to securing the permits for the beacon crosswalk signs to be installed on state routes. Chief Casey Kilgore noted that the next steps for the police are to film an education video regarding how to use these devices for the schools and the public. Chief Kilgore also indicated that the visual speed devices have been well received by the public and there is another device on order.

### **New Business**

**Consideration of the 2019 Street Resurfacing /Capital Program:** The Public Works Committee of Council met with staff on Tuesday, January 22nd to review and consider options for the 2019 Capital Improvement Program. The Committee's recommendation is as follows:

We the undersigned members of the Public Works Committee of Council hereby report that we have met with city staff on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 to review and develop the city's 2019 Capital Improvement Program. While there were many streets considered for improvement, limited available resources restricted the number of streets that could be included in each year's recommended program.

The recommended 2019 street improvement program includes the following streets:

1. Fairview Avenue
2. Grant Street

3. N. Ft Thomas Avenue (Covert Run Pike to Corp. Line)
4. Ohio Avenue
5. Ridgeway Avenue
6. Sherman Avenue
7. Sheridan Avenue
8. Vernon Lane (E/S/W)

The streets in this program would be subject to a special assessment to abutting property owners on a 60%-city, 40%-property owner cost-sharing basis for North Fort Thomas Avenue because it is classified as a arterial street, other streets in the program would be on a 50%-50% cost share basis. Revenue from special assessments to abutting property owners is estimated to generate approximately \$200,704

The Capital Program continues implementation of the City’s adopted sidewalk replacement program with the replacement of deteriorated sidewalks and driveway aprons along portions of the recommended streets and other selected streets within the program at an estimated cost of \$40,590.

The Capital Program also provides funding for the second phase of the *Pedestrian Safety Initiative* that will provide enhanced early warning signage and markings at crosswalks located adjacent to schools located on State Route 1120. This project has an estimated cost of \$30,000.

The Capital Program also includes funding of designed street & parking improvements within Tower Park to fulfill the Master Development Agreement for the Alexander Circle project. The plan includes road widening, intersection redesign, and parking lot improvements. The project will be managed by the city with a significant amount of the work performed by General Services crews. The recommended funding for this project is from a one-time General Fund budget transfer into the Road Aid Fund of \$500,000.

The Capital Program Budget also reserves adequate contingency funds for emergency repairs to other city-owned infrastructure and miscellaneous expenses.

The total estimated cost for the 2019 Capital Improvement Program and related fund activity is \$1,032,000 apportioned as follows:

- Roadway Improvements \$423,000
- Sidewalks/Driveways/curb \$ 40,500
- Pedestrian Safety Initiative \$ 30,000
- Contingency / Miscellaneous \$ 20,000
- Engineering – CT Consultants \$ 20,000
- Alexander Circle/Mess Hall \$500,000

The Public Works Committee of Council recommends that the Board of Council adopt and approve this committee report and direct staff to proceed with additional planning and preparation for the 2019 Capital Improvement Program.

A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Peterman to approve the Public Works Committee report and direct staff to move forward with the 2019 Capital Improvement Program. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Report from the Law, Labor and License Committee of Council:** The Law, Labor and License Committee of council met on January 22 at 4:30 p.m. The Committee’s recommendations to council are as follows:

We the undersigned members of the Law, Labor and License Committee of Council, hereby report that we have met with the city staff to review and discuss the amendments and additions to the “Fort Thomas Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual” (Hereinafter, “Policy”).

City staff provided a well prepared recommendation regarding amendments and additions to the Policy. The recommended amendments are detailed by section and include:

- Eliminated smoking within any city-owned facilities
- Creates provisions for vacation “carry-over” in event of employee “off with injury”
- Added provisions to convert terminal leave into deferred comp. program.

We the undersigned members of the Law, Labor, and License Committee of Council, hereby recommend to the Fort Thomas Board of Council that the above referenced summary amendments to the Policy as previously submitted to members by staff be approved through the adoption of Ordinance.

A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve the report from the Law, Labor and License Committee and proceed with the first reading of the ordinance. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Consideration of the Uniform Residential Landlord Tenant Act:** Judge Cameron Blau was present and explained how the Uniform Residential Landlord Tenant Act (URLTA) is more efficient for landlords and cities. All cities in Campbell County have adopted the URLTA except for Fort Thomas. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bowman to refer this matter to the Law, Labor, and License Committee of Council. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Finance Committee Report of Disbursements:** The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 5030-5250 for the period of **December 28, 2018 – February 8, 2019** was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Collier to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Ordinances, Resolutions, and Orders**

**Ordinance No. O-01-2019:** Ordinance O-01-2019 was presented to council for consideration. This ordinance is for apportioning the assessments for the improvements to David Drive, Pentland Place and Sabre Court for the 2018 Street Improvement Program was presented to council. The summary of the street and actual front foot assessments are noted as follows:

STREET	ACTUAL ASSESSMENT*
David Drive	\$10.07
Pentland Place	\$12.05
Sabre Court	\$11.41

A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve Ordinance O-01-2019. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Ordinance O-02-2019:** An ordinance amending the Personnel and Procedures Manual was presented to council for a first reading. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

**Municipal Order MO-01-2019:** A municipal order re-appointing Mark Leopold as a member of Tree Commission was presented to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Cameron to approve Municipal Order MO-01-2019. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Executive Order EO-01-2019:** An executive order appointing Hilary Blau as a member of the Renaissance Board was presented to council with no action necessary.

**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 the deliberation of the possible future acquisition of real property by a public agency.

A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Blau adjourn into Executive Session.

A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to reconvene to the regular meeting of council.

A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to adjourn the regular meeting of council.

APPROVED:

---

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk