

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,  
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21, 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, Jeff Bezold, Roger Peterman and John Slawter. Absent: Lisa Kelly. 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 January 2, 2017 meeting were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Slawter to approve the minutes as written. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Visitors and Communications**

**Badge Pinning for Officer Wayne Duple:** Chief Mike Daly presented Wayne Duple with his badge and welcomed him to the Fort Thomas Police Department. Officer Duple introduced his family to the Mayor and council.

Steve Pendery, Campbell County Judge Executive addressed council. Mr. Pendery was in attendance to update council on the heroin issue facing Campbell County. The jail expansion is now complete which will bring the capacity up to approximately 700 beds for detoxification of inmates with heroin related crimes. The new treatment program will focus on women and eventually incorporate men into the program.

Matt Elberfeld, Campbell County Administrator addressed council on the new public radio system that will span across Campbell, Kenton and Boone Counties. The upgraded system will allow multiple users at the same time and will eventually be looking at adding the schools, utilities, and public works departments. The county is looking into grants for the new radios but each police and fire department will be responsible for purchasing the new radios. The projected completion date for this project is late 2018.

Seth Cutter, Economic Development Officer for Campbell County addressed council. Mr. Cutter updated council on unemployment, road projects and tax moratorium programs. He also updated council on upcoming events in the county.

**Chuck Keller: Tour Buddy Presentation:** Mr. Keller addressed council regarding the Tour Buddy App that they are looking at for the city's sesquicentennial celebration. Tour Buddy is an app builder that will allow the city to enter information in "real time" for users and accesses a GPS that will allow a tour map of the city to be created. There is also an option to list all businesses in the city. The app would be available on Apple and android devices. The startup fee is \$2,500 with a 1 year maintenance fee of \$1,000. If the city wants to upgrade the app and add "push" notifications, it would be another \$500 set up fee and \$1,000 addition to the yearly maintenance. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve Mr. Keller's committee to purchase the Tour Buddy app and spend up to \$5,000 in total. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Jeff Janosick addressed council on behalf of the Fort Thomas Business Association. The FTBA is kicking off "Small Business Saturdays" and are working on creating a shop local movement. On Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> if you visit the Blue Marble and the Midway Café, 10 percent of the sale at both locations will go toward Woodfill's Big Top Festival.

**Fort Thomas Reads Day:** Mayor Haas read the following proclamation for "Fort Thomas Reads Day" and presented it to Jason Gay, Highlands High School's Library Media Specialist.

### **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Fort Thomas, Kentucky stand firmly committed to promoting reading as the catalyst for our citizens' personal pursuits, intellectual growth, their preparation for America's jobs of the future, and their ability to compete in a global economy; and

**WHEREAS**, Jason Gay has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education of our youth, grounded in the principle that educational investment is key to the community's well-being and long-term quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, "**Read Across America**," a national celebration of Dr. Seuss's 113th birthday on March 2nd annually promotes reading and adult involvement in the education and personal pursuits of knowledge of our community's students;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ERIC HAAS, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FORT THOMAS, CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY**, do hereby proclaim that March 2<sup>nd</sup> of each year, be declared as:

#### **"FORT THOMAS READS DAY"**

within the city of Fort Thomas and hereby ask that local citizens to promote participation on this day.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this body enthusiastically endorses "**Fort Thomas Reads Day**" and recommits our community to engage in programs and activities to celebrate the culture of lifelong learning and literacy through active reading.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 21<sup>ST</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen.

Susan Twehues of 128 S. Grand Avenue was present. Mrs. Twehues noted that in light of the recent accidents on Grand Avenue, she would like the city to look into options to make Grand Avenue safer, whether that be reducing the lanes on Grand or reducing the speed limit. Ron Dill indicated that it will be an item of discussion but ultimately is the decision of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet since Grand Avenue is a state highway. Mr. Dill noted that he will be meeting with representatives from the transportation cabinet next week and will mention this in the meeting. This issue will be a public process and the public is encouraged to participate as the city works through the “visioning process”.

Joe Schwerling of Holiday Lane indicated that he is doubtful that a reduction in the lanes on Grand would help if the driver was impaired. He noted that protective posts might help in the curves or a speed limit reduction.

### **Reports of Officers**

**Fire Department Monthly Reports for December and January: Chief Mark Bailey:** Chief Mark Bailey presented his reports for December and January to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to receive and file the monthly reports for the Fire Department. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Police Department Monthly Reports for December and January: Chief Mike Daly:** Chief Mike Daly presented his reports for December and January to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to receive and file the monthly reports for the Police Department. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **City Administrator’s Report: Ron Dill:**

**Grant Street Storm Sewer:** This week, city crews completed the installation of the additional inlets and storm sewer pipe on Grant Street. This project was approved by council at the November 21, 2016 meeting as a 50/50 cost share project with Sanitation District No. 1. The original cost estimates were \$33,780 with a maximum city participation of \$16,890. The final cost of the project came in under the original estimate at \$28,380.

**VA Homes:** Progress has continued on all fronts regarding this project. Mayor Haas and staff have had a number of productive meetings with the VA officials, the developer and utility company representatives. We are encouraged that the VA officials still seem to be tracking toward a closing date. We have engaged in the initial process of drafting a development agreement with Bloomfield/Schon and we have been in negotiation with utility providers on

necessary infrastructure improvements and costs. The city is working towards a closing date in the next couple of months; this will be the next major milestone in the project.

**2016 Animal Control Activity Report and 2016 Deer Related Accidents Report:** Terri Baker, Animal Control Officer forwarded her annual report to Ron Dill for council's review. Also included in the packet was a report on deer related accidents. Mr. Peterman noted that the deer related accidents are increasing and would like to see the bow and arrow discharge ordinance reviewed again. Mr. Peterman made a motion to refer this matter to the Public Safety Committee of Council. It was seconded by Mr. Slawter. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting "no": Mr. Bowman. The motion passed with a vote of 4-1.

**Sidewalk Beacons:** Mr. Dill will be meeting with representatives from the State Highway Department regarding the crosswalk beacons that the city would like to install near the schools. There is currently one on Highland Avenue by Moyer School and is working well. The city is in hopes to be approved to install around the other schools in the near future.

### **New Business**

**2017 Street Improvement Program Recommendation: Public Works Committee:** The Public Works Committee of Council met with staff on Wednesday, May 1 to review and consider options for the 2017 street resurfacing/capital improvement program. Their recommendation reads as follows:

We the undersigned members of the Public Works Committee of Council hereby report that we have met with city staff on Wednesday, February 1, 2017 to review and develop the city's 2017 Capital Improvement Program. While there were many streets considered for improvement, limited available resources restricted the number of streets that could be included in this year's recommended program.

The recommended 2017 street improvement program includes the following streets:

Custis Avenue  
Washington Avenue  
Lafayette Avenue  
Lilac Lane  
Highview Drive  
Diana Court

The streets in this program would be subject to a special assessment to abutting property owners on a 50%-city, 50%-property owner cost-sharing basis. Revenue from special assessments to abutting property owners is estimated to generate \$130,000.

The Capital Program will also include geotechnical engineering, design and construction of a road stabilization project for a section of Burnet Ridge. The engineering and construction of this work is estimated at \$116,000.

The Capital Program continues implementation of the City’s adopted sidewalk replacement program with the replacement of deteriorated sidewalks, curbs and driveway aprons along portions of the recommended streets and other selected streets with in the program at an estimated cost of \$66,000.

The Capital Program also provides \$50,000 reserve funding for the future reconstruction of Pentland Place.

Lastly, 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 2017 Capital Improvement Program and related fund activity is \$532,000 apportioned as follows:

- Roadway Improvements \$260,000
- Burnet Ridge-Road Stabilization \$116,000
- Sidewalks \$ 66,000
- Contingency / Miscellaneous \$ 25,000
- Engineering – CT Consultants \$ 15,000
- Pentland Place Reserve \$ 50,000

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 2017 Capital Improvement Program.

**Public Utilities and Buildings: 17 Montvale Court:** The Public Utilities and Buildings Committee met prior to council to discuss the Fire Department bathroom remodel bids and the city-owned property located at 17 Montvale Court. The recommendation of the committee regarding 17 Montvale is to continue to lease the property until April 1<sup>st</sup> and at that time, renegotiate terms until a development plan is in place and to authorize staff to proceed with these options. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to accept the recommendation from the Public Utilities and Buildings Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Consideration of Bids for Fire Department Remodel** The Fire Department remodel project received two bids for the committee’s review. It was the recommendation of the committee to accept the lowest bid from Leo J. Brielmeier Company in the amount of \$50,000. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve the bid from Leo J. Brielmeier for the fire department bathroom remodel in the amount of \$50,000. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Finance Committee Report on Disbursements:** The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 1375-1650 for the period of **December 20, 2016 – February 21, 2017.** A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and

seconded by Mr. Slawter to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Ordinances, Resolutions, and Orders**

**Ordinance O-01-2017:** An ordinance apportioning the assessments for the 2016 Street Resurfacing Program was presented to council for a first reading. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

**Resolution R-01-2017:** A resolution allowing the mayor to approve a grant application for the Fire Department. This grant application is to the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security for a Turnout Gear Dryer. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Peterman to approve Resolution R-01-2017. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Municipal Order MO-01-2017:** A municipal order re-appointing Carol Dixon to the Board of Adjustment was presented to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Slawter to approve municipal order MO-01-2017. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Municipal Order MO-02-2017:** A municipal order re-appointing Terry Webster to the Board of Ethics was presented to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Slawter to approve municipal order MO-02-2017. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Municipal Order MO-03-2017:** A municipal order appointing Mary Brown as a member of the Board of Ethics was presented to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Slawter to approve municipal order MO-03-2017. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Executive Order EO-01-2017:** An executive order re-appointing Chris Manning as a member of the Design Review Board was presented to council with no action necessary.

**Executive Order EO-02-2017:** An executive order re-appointing Pat Hagerty as a member of the Design Review Board was presented to council with no action necessary.

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

APPROVED:

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Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Melissa K. Kelly, City Clerk