

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,  
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON  
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 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 February 21, 2017 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, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Visitors and Communications**

Mr. Robert Yoder, Renaissance Manager of Dayton and Southbank Partners grant writer addressed council. Mr. Yoder is proposing applying for a Recreational Trails grant to establish a walking/biking trail on Route 8. This piece of property is an underutilized piece of property located in Fort Thomas going toward Dayton, KY. This grant is an 80/20% match. The trail would cost approximately \$62,000 with \$50,000 coming from the grant and \$12,000 in work by city crews. Mr. Cameron asked about reoccurring costs to the city. Mr. Yoder indicated that there would be reoccurring cost associated with this trail being clean up, etc. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to approve a resolution allowing the mayor to enter into a contract to apply for the 2017 Recreational Trail Grant. Upon call of the roll, the following voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Slawter. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade from Woodfill School attended the council meeting to present the City with a \$500 donation toward the General George Thomas Statue. This money was earned through their Kentucky Wax Museum Project. The students dressed in their costumes and we welcomed General George Thomas, Johnny Depp, Chris Collinsworth, and Senator Wil Schroeder to name a few. The city appreciates this donation from our school kids. Thank you Woodfill!

**General Services Annual Report: Kevin Barbian:** Kevin Barbian, Director of General Services presented his annual report to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to receive and file the annual report for the General Services Department. 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.

Mayor Eric Haas read a proclamation for Building Safety Month and declared the month of May, 2017 as Building Safety Month in the City of Fort Thomas.

### **Reports of Officers**

**Fire Department Monthly Reports for February: Chief Mark Bailey:** Chief Mark Bailey presented his reports for February to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly 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, Ms. Kelly Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Police Department Monthly Reports for February: Chief Mike Daly:** Chief Mike Daly presented his reports for February 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, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Slawter. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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

**Crosswalk Safety Initiative:** Staff met with representatives from the KY Department of Transportation including Chief District Engineer Bob Yeager and representatives from the KDOT offices in Frankfort. As previously indicated, the “beacon/flashing” type device is not approved by KDOT for installation on state routes. Staff did discuss the installation the city made on Highland Ave. and provided photos and details of this location including the educational effort made by the city regarding its purpose and use. They indicated that although they were not prepared to authorize installations yet, they were considering the request and would be monitoring our existing location. Additionally, the city will be providing them with input from residents, school officials and city personnel/police regarding its effectiveness. Mr. Dill was encouraged by their response and believes that the city should proceed with pricing/budgeting and prioritizing potential locations in the city. We agreed to meet in a couple of months to share findings and discuss locations for potential installations on state routes. Mr. Bowman noted that this project should be prioritized in a budget process. He indicated that the city could use their crossing guards to use these devices to educate kids about the dangers of crossing the street.

**2015-2016 Annual Audit:** Jim Sparrow, with Rankin, Rankin & Company, attended the Finance Committee meeting on Thursday March 16 to present the annual audit. He highlighted

the details of the report that states the city is financially healthy. The committee noted the findings and voted to accept the report.

**Union Contract Negotiations:** The 2017 contract negotiations with the city's unions are beginning soon and the city is in hopes of a smooth process to establish new contracts.

### **New Business**

**Recreational Trail Program –Grant Application:** Bob Yoder, representing Southbank Partners was in attendance to provide details of the grant application that Southbank is drafting on behalf of the city for a proposed trail on property owned by the city adjacent to Route 8. The trail would be a section of the Riverfront Commons trail network proposed from Ludlow through Ft Thomas. This application is being submitted under the Recreational Trails Program of which one component requires a public meeting and commitment from the city for a one-third match. The project budget is approximately \$65,000. As indicated, this is an opportunity to complete a portion of the regional Riverfront Commons connection that has previously been supported by the city. Staff recommends approval of the resolution of support.

**Consideration of Agreement with Sanitation District No 1:** This agreement represents another opportunity to partner with SD1 under their 50/50 cost-share program to address a maintenance issue within Fort Thomas. The location is at the terminus of Elsmar Ave. The project includes the replacement of existing catch basins and outfall storm sewer lines by SD1. Upon completion of their portion of the project, the city will install two additional catch basins and connecting pipe to the existing system. This will address storm water issues that have caused erosion adjacent to this street pavement. The total cost for the additional catch basin portion of the project is estimated at \$19,000 with the city's cost share not to exceed \$9,500. This project is essential for removing the erosion condition that could compromise the integrity of the street. Requested action is for the mayor to be authorized to sign the agreement, staff recommends approval.

**Finance Committee Report on Disbursements:** The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 1651-1781 for the period of **February 22 – March 20, 2017.** A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. 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.

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

**Ordinance O-01-2017:** An ordinance apportioning the assessments for the 2016 Street Resurfacing Program was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve Ordinance O-01-2017. 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