

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,  
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON  
MONDAY, JULY 18, 2016**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 18, 2016 in the Council Chambers of the city building. City Clerk, Melissa Kelly called the roll and the following council members were present: John Muller, Ken Bowman, Jeff Bezold, Roger Peterman and Chuck Thompson. Absent: Lisa Kelly. 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, and Police Chief Mike Daly.

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

**Minutes**

The minutes from the June 20, 2016 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. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Thompson. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Visitors and Communications**

**Parade Winners:** Mayor Eric Haas presented the winners of the Independence Day Parade with their trophies. The winners are as follows:

**Most Original:**

It's Fun to be a Kid on Tower Place  
Campbell County Library  
Chicks and Chucks

**Most Entertaining:**

Shriners  
Highland United Methodist Church Lawn Chair Brigade  
Dance Realm

Congratulations to all of our winners and thanks to all of the participants of the parade. It was a great day!

Mayor Haas called for additional comments from the audience.

Mr. Louis Hlebiczki of 2516 Memorial Parkway addressed council. Mr. Hlebiczki noted that he has not seen any coyotes since the last time he spoke at council and thanked the city for any

measures they may have taken to help this issue. Mr. Hlebiczki then asked if Fort Thomas was considering a needle exchange program. Mr. Muller noted that the program is a county initiative; and would have to be approved by the city in order to proceed with the program in Fort Thomas. Mr. Peterman also noted that since Grant County and Williamstown has approved the program, eleven people have asked to get help.

Mr. Brett Kendon of 2370 N. Ft. Thomas Ave. addressed council regarding establishing designated bike lanes in areas of Fort Thomas. Mr. Kendon is a professor at U.C. and this is a project that he is working on. Mayor Haas indicated that he would love to see this happen. Ron Dill noted that there are a lot of groups out there such as Southbank, Rails to Trails and Cora that are interested in this as well. Mr. Dill will be in contact with Mr. Kendon about this potential project.

Mr. Joe Schwerling of 192 Holiday Lane addressed council. Mr. Schwerling suggested that with the 150 year anniversary of Fort Thomas coming up next year that maybe we could hang banners on the overpass on Highland Avenue letting people know that we are 150 and include information on the festivities. Mayor Hass noted that was a very good idea and said the city would look into it.

### **Reports of Officers**

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

**Police Department Monthly Report: Chief Daly:** Chief Daly presented his report to council. Chief Daly also thanked the amazing Fort Thomas community for all of their support in light of all of the unrest regarding police in the United States right now. Many people have stepped up and brought in candy, cookies, dinner, gift cards, etc. for our department. We are honored to have such wonderful residents here in Fort Thomas. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to receive and file the police department's monthly report. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Thompson. Voting "no": none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**City Administrator's Report: Ron Dill:** Ron Dill reported on the following:

**VA Homes:** Staff has participated in two conference calls with the VA officials within the last month and made considerable progress toward a possible resolution. We are encouraged by their staff's recent due diligence toward exploring options to make the project work. Staff has scheduled a conference around August 1<sup>st</sup> and are hopeful that significant progress can be reported by next month's meeting.

**Pedestrian Safety Initiative:** City staff is working with KDOT officials with submission of information for consideration that would allow placement of fixtures on the portions of state right-of-way identified within the scope of this project. We have expectation that they will be approved. Regardless, the city will proceed with installation at the locations within the city right-of-way.

**Code Enforcement Policy:** Staff has attended update training sessions that highlighted recent legislative changes and provided commentary on code enforcement options afforded to local jurisdictions in Kentucky. Staff will be reporting at the August council meeting regarding these changes and options for consideration.

**2016 Projects:** The 2016 Street Resurfacing Program is on schedule and the Waterworks Road Pier Wall Project is out to bid. Also out to bid is the Sanitation District Vernon Lane Project. The city has applied for a Safe Routes to School grant that we have not heard back on. This would be to install sidewalks on the lower part of N. Ft. Thomas Ave.

### **New Business**

**Consideration of Agreement with Fort Thomas School Board:** The Ft. Thomas Independent School Board (FTISB) has requested that the City consider an agreement that would provide for certain amenities to be constructed/replaced at the Highland Hills Park Ball Field in consideration for an extended lease agreement that would reimburse costs over the term of the lease. This arrangement, amount (\$150,000), and term of lease are the same as the Winkler Field project that was consummated in 2013. The details of the project include replacement of backstop & sideline fencing, reconfiguration of the “home” dugout to include an elevated press box/additional storage, construction of a concession/storage structure, elevated viewing areas, drainage improvements, and pedestrian access enhancements. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Muller to approve the agreement with the Fort Thomas School Board for the upgrade of the Highland Hills Park Ball Field. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Thompson. Voting “no”: None. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**Consideration of Bids for Fencing at Highland Hills Park Ball Field:** The fencing portion of the Highland Hills Park project is the single largest cost item and as such we solicited bids to determine actual costs for preparation of a proposed agreement. Sealed bids were received and opened on July 8, 2016 for this project. Two bids were received from R&M Fence and construction Inc. in the amount of \$101,130.00 and from Mills Fence Co. in the amount of \$54,880.00. City staff and CT Engineers have reviewed the submitted bids and recommended acceptance of the low bid, submitted by Mills Fence Co. totaling \$54,880.00. If Council and the FTISB agree to move forward with the project, it is recommended that this bid be awarded to allow for materials to be ordered and facilitate the anticipated construction schedule. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Thompson to approve the low bid of \$54,880.00 from Mills Fence Company. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr.

Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Thompson. Voting “no”: None. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**Consideration of Banking Services Bids:** Staff has solicited bids for banking services through a specification bid process due for consideration on July 1, 2016. Joe Ewald made personal contact and had discussions with each banking institution with a Ft Thomas address. The only bidder for providing services was 5/3 Bank. John Muller read the Finance Committee Report into the record. It reads as follows:

We the undersigned members of the Finance Committee of Council hereby report that we have met with city administration on July 18, 2016 to review banking service bids received on July 1, 2016. We have the following to report:

The committee reviewed and discussed the results of the RFP submitted to US Bank, 5/3<sup>rd</sup> Bank, Chase Bank and Citizens Bank in June. Of the four, only 5/3<sup>rd</sup> Bank chose to submit a bid. The remaining banks, citing the difficulty of providing collateralized accounts and corporate wishes, declined to submit a proposal. 5/3<sup>rd</sup> Bank’s proposal, however, is a strong one, which includes all of the current services provided by BB&T, plus some additional services not provided by BB&T. The proposed fee structure also compares favorably to BB&T. Most importantly, 5/3<sup>rd</sup> is still a local bank that we feel will give us better customer service than we’ve received since the BB&T acquisition of the Bank of Kentucky.

Taking into consideration the difficulty of the transition from The Bank of Kentucky to BB&T, as well as the City’s previous relationship with 5/3<sup>rd</sup> Bank, it is the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Board of Council accept the proposal for banking services submitted by 5/3<sup>rd</sup> Bank, effective August 1, 2016.

A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee of Council. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Thompson. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**Finance Committee Report on Disbursements:** The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 302240 through 302283 for the period of **June 21 - July 18, 2016.** A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Thompson to concur in the recommendation of the finance committee of council. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye” – Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Thompson. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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

**Municipal Order MO-08-2016:** A municipal order re-appointing Carla Austin to the Board of Adjustment was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Muller to approve municipal order MO-08-2016. Upon call of the roll, the

following members voted “aye”: Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Thompson. Voting “no”: None. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**Executive Order EO-08-2016:** An executive order appointing Douglas DeJaco as Greenspace Laborer II was presented to council with no action necessary.

With no further action to come before council, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

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Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Melissa K. Kelly, City Clerk