

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

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 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, Roger Peterman and Adam Blau. Absent: Jeff Bezold. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrator Ron Dill, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, City Clerk Melissa Beckett, Fire Lieutenant Chris Amon, 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 July 15, 2019 meeting were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Blau to approve the minutes as written. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Visitors and Communications

Badge Pinning: Chief Casey Kilgore introduced William Hunt and congratulated him for his promotion to Lieutenant. Chief Kilgore presented him with his new badge. Lt. Hunt thanked the Mayor and Council for giving him this opportunity. Chief Kilgore then introduced Derek Faught and congratulated him on his promotion to Sergeant. Chief Kilgore presented him with his new badge and Sgt. Faught thanked the Mayor and Council.

4th of July Parade Winners: Mayor Haas presented the 4th of July parade winners with their trophies. The winners are as follows:

Best Represents the Theme – (1st Place) Ft. Thomas Forest Conservancy
(2nd Place) Veterinary Medical Center of Ft. Thomas
(3rd Place) Chicks & Chucks, Inc

Most Original – (1st Place) Tom Rehtin Heating & Air
(2nd Place) United States Submarine Veterans
(3rd Place) Campbell County Land Search & Rescue

Most Entertaining – (1st Place) Highland United Methodist Church
(2nd Place) Dance Realm
(3rd Place) Highland High School Marching Band

Linda Slone and Jim Trauth addressed council. They thanked everyone for their hard work with the parade and wanted to recognize the honorees. The theme was the “Art of Kindness” and Chuck Keller was a huge part of this theme. The honorees were: Grand Marshal, Sarah Hamel, Bert and Dee Bethiany, Dan and Flo Grey, Rita Walters, Betsey Evens and Lee Cordray.

Terry Webster from 14 Earnscliff Court addressed council. Mr. Webster was in attendance to ask council to consider adopting a fairness ordinance that would provide protection to the citizens and visitors of the city who identify with the LGBTQ community. The Commonwealth of Kentucky has an anti discrimination law but it does not cover the LGBTQ community. Mr. Webster does not view this as political; this would give the LGBTQ community the same legal protection as other residents.

Chris Hartman addressed council. Mr. Hartman is the executive director of the Fairness Campaign in Kentucky for the LGBTQ community. He worked recently with the City of Dayton to pass the ordinance and works closely with the NKY Fairness Organization. Mr. Hartman is hoping that the city will consider adopting a fairness ordinance because KY is one of the 28 states across the nation that currently does not have civil rights laws. This ordinance would cover discrimination against employment, housing, and public accommodations. The fairness ordinances are simple and often the city establishes a human rights commission or it is the city administrator that would take complaints and mediate the situations. Mr. Hartman would love for Fort Thomas to be city number 13 that adopts the ordinance.

David Roth of 106 Robson Ave addressed council. Mr. Roth supports the fairness ordinance and it means a lot to him personally. He moved away from Fort Thomas for a while and came back because he missed the city. He noted that this is not just a political question, but a moral question. He was discriminated against when he was younger because he was gay and it does affect people at a deep level. He urged the city to consider this ordinance and said that Fort Thomas is a great place to live regardless of your background.

Rick Wegert of 67 Hollywoods Drive addressed council. The residents on Hollywoods Drive are still having a lot of issues with parking. There has been a semi truck (just the rig) parked on the street recently. Mayor Haas asked Chief Kilgore what the situation was and Chief Kilgore noted that if there is an illegally parked vehicle that residents should call dispatch and report them. Mr. Wegert noted that the people parked on the street do not even live there and cars are getting hit on a regular basis. Mayor Haas said that he is very sorry for the situation and to make sure to call when he sees something so there is a record on file.

Adam Forbes of 127 Floral Court addressed council. Mr. Ford is a pastor in Camp Springs and wanted to voice his support of the fairness ordinance.

Proclamation for the American Payroll Association:

Whereas, the American Payroll Association and its more than 20,000 members have launched a nationwide public awareness campaign that pays tribute to the nearly 150 million people who work in the United States and the payroll professionals who support the American system by paying wages, reporting worker earnings and withholding federal employment taxes; and

Whereas, payroll professionals in the City of Fort Thomas play a key role in maintaining the economic health of the City of Fort Thomas, carrying out such diverse tasks as paying into the unemployment insurance system, providing information for child support enforcement, and carrying out tax withholding, reporting and depositing; and

Whereas, payroll departments collectively spend more than \$2.4 trillion annually complying with myriad federal and state wage and tax laws; and

Whereas, payroll professionals play an increasingly important role ensuring the economic security of

American families by helping to identify noncustodial parents and making sure they comply with their child support mandates; and

Whereas, payroll professionals have become increasingly proactive in educating both the business community and the public at large about the payroll tax withholding systems; and

Whereas, payroll professionals meet regularly with federal and state tax officials to discuss both improving compliance with government procedures and how compliance can be achieved at less cost to both government and businesses; and

Whereas, the week in which Labor Day falls has been proclaimed National Payroll Week, I hereby give additional support to the efforts of the people who work in the City of Fort Thomas and of the payroll profession by proclaiming the first full week of September Payroll Week for the City of Fort Thomas.

Given under my hand on this, the 19th day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Nineteen.

A letter from Bill and Kathy Tipton dated August 6, 2019 was included in the record. It reads as follows:

Dear Mayor and Council,

We are writing with a concern we have regarding a traffic situation and asking for a resolution.

It has become increasingly a concern for us regarding crossing over N. Fort Thomas Avenue either coming up West Southgate Avenue or coming out of our street on East Southgate to cross over West Southgate. Even if we check both directions several times before crossing, there are times when a car or cars are coming around the bend in North Fort Thomas Avenue near Belleaire Place and Holly Lane very quickly and not necessarily slowing down once they continue going south on N. Fort Thomas. Of course, we are talking about driving, but there is a crosswalk also at the N. Ft. Thomas and E/W Southgate Avenues; where I have been out walking and crossing in the crosswalk when a car comes around the bend very fast and I needed to scamper across the street. Children or any person walking slowly, using this crosswalk, are at a great risk. This is another reason to have the cars at a slower speed at that point.

We have been residents on East Southgate for almost thirty years and have been concerned about this traffic pattern for sometime. We are asking that a study be conducted to see if there is a possibility of either a STOP sign at the curve (Holly Lane) heading south or making N. Fort Thomas Avenue and East and West Southgate Avenues, a 4-way stop. Also we believe this may help with traffic speed during the Johnson Elementary construction and once the school is built for students' safety.

Thanking you in advance for addressing this concern and finding a way to resolve this problem.

Sincerely,

Bill and Kathy Tipton

48 E. Southgate Avenue

Mr. Bowman made a motion to refer the idea of the fairness ordinance to the Law, Labor and License Committee for consideration. It was seconded by Mr. Peterman. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Fire Department Monthly Report for July 2019: Chief Bailey presented his monthly report for July to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Peterman 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. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Police Department Monthly Report for July 2019: Chief Kilgore presented his monthly report for July 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. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

City Administrators Report

Shelter 3 Project in Tower Park Update: Staff has developed the design and bid specifications for the actual shelter in this project and have it out for bid. The bid opening was pushed back to allow for design modifications and is now scheduled for Wednesday August 28th with recommendation to Council for bid award at your September 3rd council meeting. The construction timeframe will remain for completion by March 1, 2020. The city will be performing other aspects of that project simultaneously and will be prepared for surfacing of parking lot & basketball courts in spring 2020.

Tennis Courts Upgrade: The crack seal/surfacing of the tennis courts is currently out for bid with a bid opening on September 12th. Bid results and award will be presented for consideration of Council at your September 16th meeting. This project is slated for completion by mid November.

Pedestrian Safety initiative: We are very happy to report that all four of the approved locations have been equipped with the RFB signalization in advance of the start of school. Additionally, the city placed a surface coating over the section of street fronting Ruth Moyer to eliminate the “competing” pavement markings and to allow new pavement markings. Thermoplastic crosswalk pavement markings are scheduled to be added at the Moyer and St. Thomas locations.

N. Fort Thomas Ave Sidewalk Project: Grant funds have been released to move forward with easement acquisition for this project. This process will likely take place over the next three months. Engineered design drawings will be developed with an anticipated construction in spring 2020. The City of Dayton received funds to connect the sidewalk with Fort Thomas to Dayton.

RFQ for City Building Upgrades: The process has started for the Request for Qualifications for upgrades to the city building. These will be reviewed by staff and council will be updated.

Alexander Circle Homes Updates: The developer is looking at the end of September before one of the homes would be occupied. They will likely be scheduling an open house for the public. The utility work with Duke still needs to be completed and there is still a good amount of road work to be done.

2019 Street Resurfacing: TMS was awarded the Vernon Lane portion of the project and will start next week. This work will take approximately one to two weeks. City crews are finishing up on Ohio and Ridgeway.

Report from Law, Labor, and License Committee: David Cameron reported that the Law, Labor, and License Committee met prior to council regarding allowing golf carts on city streets. Under Kentucky Revised Statute, provisions are provided that would allow the city to approve golf carts on the city streets. There was more discussion on safety and speed limits. The committee talked about this potentially slowing traffic down by allowing golf carts on city streets. There are more questions on safety so there

will be further discussion and the committee is hoping to have a first draft of the ordinance at the next council meeting.

New Business:

None.

Finance Committee Report of Disbursements: The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 6037-6220 for the period of **July 11 to August 15, 2019** was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Cameron 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. Peterman, and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Ordinances, Resolutions, and Orders

Ordinance O-13-2019: An ordinance adjusting the cost of waste fees for Rumpke was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Peterman to approve ordinance O-13-2019. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Resolution R-02-2019: A resolution adopting the Campbell County Emergency Operations Plan was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Peterman to approve resolution R-02-2019. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Resolution R-03-2019: A resolution allowing the Mayor to submit an application to the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security for a grant for police body armor was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Cameron to approve resolution R-03-2019. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Executive Order EO-06-2019: An executive order appointing William Martin as a police recruit was presented to council with no action necessary.

Executive Order EO-07-2019: An executive order appointing Carl Harris as a police officer was presented to council with no action necessary.

Executive Order EO-08-2019: An executive order appointing Brandon Vance as a police officer was presented to council with no action necessary.

Executive Order EO-09-2019: An executive order appointing William Hunt to police lieutenant was presented to council with no action necessary.

Executive Order EO-10-2019: An executive order appointing Derek Faught to police sergeant was presented to council with no action necessary.

Executive Order EO-11-2019: An executive order appointing Andrew Roetting to greenspace laborer II was presented to council with no action necessary.

With no further business to come before council, a motion was made by Mr. Collier and seconded by Mr. Bowman to adjourn.

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk