

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2015**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2015 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, Lisa Kelly, Jeff Bezold and Roger Peterman. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Ron Dill, City Clerk Melissa Kelly, Finance Director Joe Ewald, Fire Chief Mark Bailey, Police Chief Mike Daly, and City Attorney Jann Seidenfaden.

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

Minutes

The minutes from the November 16, 2015 meeting were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to approve the minutes as written. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Peterman. Mr. Bezold abstained from voting due to not being at the last meeting. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Visitors and Communications

A letter dated 12/1/2015 concerning Adam Meier’s resignation from council was read into the record.

Reports of Officers

Fire Department Monthly Report: Chief Mark Bailey: Chief Bailey presented the monthly report to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Muller to receive and file the Fire Department’s monthly report. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Peterman. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Police Department Monthly Report: Chief Mike Daly: Chief Daly presented the monthly report to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to receive and file the monthly report from the Police Department. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold and Mr. Peterman. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

City Administrator’s Report: Ron Dill: Ron Dill reported on the following:

V.A. Homes Update: Staff has met with the developer and environmental consultants to draft a plan for addressing the asbestos and lead paint remediation. This plan will be coupled with an escrow agreement that would provide necessary funds for required remediation prior to transfer of the property. The remediation plan, escrow agreement and revised Memorandum of Agreement

will be forwarded to the VA for their review and consideration before the close of the calendar year. We have an on-going discussion with local representation and the central office personnel of the VA located in Washington and remain confident that they are all interested in pursuing alternatives to allow this project to move forward.

Annual Holiday Walk: The Holiday Walk/Christmas tree lighting held on Sunday, December 5th was a huge success. The extraordinary weather and large turnout allowed our businesses and community to showcase our many assets and feedback was all positive. Special recognition should go to the Donnelly family from W. Villa Place for their tree donation and to the many individuals in the community or on staff for their work and dedication that made the event successful.

Capital Improvement Program: Staff is preparing final costs from the 2015 Street Resurfacing program and preparing apportionment ordinance for consideration at the January council meeting. We have had initial meeting with the City Engineer to formulate data for consideration by the Public Works Committee of Council. The meeting for development of the 2016 program will be scheduled with this committee to take place in late January.

Water District Tower: Demolition will begin on the water tower behind the city building in February.

New Business

Vacant Council Position: A list of potential candidates to fill the vacated seat of Adam Meier was provided to council for their review. This item will be discussed in Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

Consideration of Employee Health Insurance Plan: Council was provided with information regarding the proposed employee health insurance plan. Staff and the employee insurance committee worked hard to reach a proposal that includes an approximate 12.5% increase to premiums, a 30% employee coinsurance, and a change in carrier to manage overall costs. Ken Bowman asked if the city would consider using Fort Thomas based insurance brokers in the future. Ron Dill responded saying that the city has a long standing relationship with Crawford Insurance. Their representatives specifically, Carolyn Dean, have a good working knowledge of all of our employees personal matters and insurance concerns. A decision to consider a new broker could cause resistance with the employee groups. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bowman to approve the proposed health insurance plan. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold and Mr. Peterman. Voting "no": none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Consideration of City Engineer Professional Service Fees: CT Consultants has submitted a proposed fee structure for the 2016 calendar year. This contract continues year to year with annual rates being subject to consideration. Although the classifications of their personnel have changed, the proposed hourly fee schedule remains the same as the 2015 rates. Staff is satisfied with the level of service and the arrangement of Frank Twehues as our principal contact with CT Consultants. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Muller to approve the proposed fee structure for CT Engineers for 2016. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Peterman. Voting "no": none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Old Business

Targeted Tax Incentives: Staff has reviewed the action items from the last Law, Labor, License Committee meeting. Additionally, staff has made contact with legal counsel for the Fort Thomas Independent School District and confirmed that they are not permitted to participate in a tax deferment program established under the KRS statute. Discussion ensued with council and it was decided to add this item to the visioning process for future consideration.

Finance Committee Report on Disbursements: The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 301180 through 301336 for the period of **November 17 – December 21, 2015.** A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold 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, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Peterman. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bowman to enter into executive session to discuss the vacant council seat.

A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to enter back into open session.

A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to appoint Charles Thompson to fill the vacant seat of council previously held by Adam Meier. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Peterman. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

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

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Kelly, City Clerk