

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,  
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON  
MONDAY, JULY 19, 2021**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 19, 2021. Melissa Beckett, City Clerk, called the roll and the following council members were present: Ben Pendery, Ken Bowman, Jeff Bezold, Adam Blau and Connie Grubbs. Absent: Lisa Kelly. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Ron Dill, City Clerk Melissa Beckett, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, Fire Chief Chris Amon, Police Chief Casey Kilgore and City Attorney Tim Schneider.

**Minutes**

The minutes from the June 21, 2021 meeting were presented to council for consideration. Mr. Bowman noted a small correction under Visitors and Communications, to change splash pad to skate park. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Grubbs to approve the minutes with amendments. Mayor Haas called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**Visitors and Communications**

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

Best Representing the Theme: 1st place is Veterinary Medical Center of Fort Thomas; 2nd place is Bella Dance.

Most Entertaining: 1st place is Commonwealth Artists Summer Theater; 2nd place is 202nd Army Band.

Most Original: 1st place is CR Carving; 2nd place is Saint Elizabeth Health Care Fort Thomas.

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Mayor Haas introduced Justin Otto, the new economic and community development director for Campbell County.

Mayor Haas recognized the city's new Economic Development Director and Events Coordinator, Chanda Calentine. Chanda's order will be read later in the meeting.

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Terri Hyde of 42 Washington Avenue addressed council with ongoing concerns regarding 38 Washington Avenue. Ms. Hyde indicated that over the years there have been multiple complaints and letters regarding problems with the rental home. Neighbors are asking for council's guidance. There have been threats, chronic issues with behaviors, home maintenance, and overall environment. Mayor Haas thanked Ms. Hyde for the updates on the property. The city does have a nuisance ordinance but he is hoping that we can come up with a resolution. Ron Dill reviewed items in the zoning ordinance that will address some of the issues. Chief Kilgore indicated that the police department would like to have a point of contact that would make it

easier for them. Mr. Bezold noted that residents need to be the eyes and ears and relay the criminal activity to the police department on a regular basis, the trash and grass issues would be addressed through code enforcement. Sam Shelton has letters that have been sent to the property and he noted that the property owner indicated to him that she will be moving into the property and said she will be making some improvements to the property. Discussion continued regarding the process of how violations are handled. Ken Bowman asked if Law, Labor and License should review the ordinance to see if we can give it more “teeth”. Ron Dill reviewed some

Katie Beck of 264 Sergeant Avenue addressed council. Ms. Beck questioned the city’s approach at receiving comments regarding upcoming concept plans for a splash park and a skate park. She indicated that post it notes on the concept boards and snapping a photo of traffic issues seems unprofessional. She also asked if environmental studies have been done and if the city is looking at other locations. Mayor Haas noted that this is a concept plan, the plan is in the very early stages and has not been discussed in detail.

Shelley Hope of 240 Sergeant Avenue addressed council. She stated that she had heard that the proposed projects are a “done deal” on Facebook. She also asked how the city has received data on this proposed project. Mr. Bezold noted that there has been a lot of interest and comments from residents that would like to have a skate park. He also reiterated again that this is only a concept plan and nothing has been set in stone. It is an option, and as of right now it is all concept. Adam Blau noted that he has received positive feedback as well, but it may or may not work. Mr. Blau suggested to keep checking the website for updates and next steps.

### **Reports of Officers**

**Fire Department Monthly Report, Chief Chris Amon:** Chief Amon presented his report for June to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Penderly to receive and file the monthly report for the Fire Department. Mayor Haas called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**Police Department Monthly Report, Chief Casey Kilgore:** Chief Kilgore presented the police monthly report for June to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Blau to receive and file the monthly report for the Police Department. Mayor Haas called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

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

**2020 Street Program:** Reigler Blacktop Company initiated milling this week with paving expected to be completed next week. Streets in the program include Military Parkway, Robson Avenue, Beechwood Avenue, Crowell Avenue, Greenwood Avenue, Holly Lane, Mayfield Avenue (including Highland Park) and N. Fort Thomas Avenue (Covert Run to Corp.line).

**N. Fort Thomas Ave. & Burney Lane Sidewalk Projects:** Both of these projects were recently completed by TMS Construction. N Ft Thomas Ave was new sidewalk installation performed under a grant award. Burney Lane was completed with defective sidewalk blocks replaced under our annual sidewalk replacement program.

**City Building Update:** The footings for the addition are completed and the elevator shaft masonry is being erected. The planting walls in the front yard are complete and ready for brick finish. Outside stairs will be poured next. Color selections for exterior have been authorized. Interior work includes the installation of ductwork, electric, sprinkler piping throughout the building. Ceiling grid is installed in Fire Department 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Office partition framing on first & second floors is approximately 75% completed.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade/ Independence Day Celebration:** Events for the day went well with the race & parade in the morning. The bands were great and the city hosted a large crowd in Tower Park. The fireworks were launched in three parks with technical difficulties experienced at Tower Park cutting that display short. We will evaluate that offering moving into next year.

**Tower Park Playground Equipment:** City crews have prepared the area for shelter #3 and will begin the concrete work at the ballfield beginning next week to prepare for playground equipment installation. Midstates Recreation is expecting delivery in early August with installation in mid-August.

**Community Plan Implementation:** The projects/concepts for proposed skate/bike park in Tower Park and the splash park in Highland Park has been posted in booths at recent events (Farmer's Market, Summer Concerts, 4<sup>th</sup> at Fort, etc) to solicit input/feedback from residents. We will be posting the boards on the city website and continuing to display/receive input at events through August. A Recreation Committee meeting will be scheduled for early September to make final recommendations.

The Kentucky Symphony Orchestra will perform on August 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Amphitheater.

**Finance Committee Report of Disbursements:** The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 9496-9656 for the period of **June 19 – July 16, 2021** was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Pendery to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

### **Ordinances and Orders**

**Ordinance O-11-2021:** An ordinance amending the waste fees for the City of Fort Thomas was presented to council for a first reading. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

**Ordinance O-12-2021:** An ordinance adopting the flood damage prevention standards, was presented to council for an emergency first and second reading. This reading was necessary to ensure that it was passed by the deadline of August 10, 2021. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Blau to approve ordinance O-12-2021. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau and Ms. Grubbs. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**Executive Order EO-03-2021:** An executive order appointing Chanda Calentine as the Renaissance Manager/Economic Development Director was presented to council with no action necessary.

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

APPROVED:

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Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk