

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Jefferson County Farm Bureau | 4200 Gardiner View Avenue | Louisville, Kentucky 40213

August 12, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilmembers Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh; Treasurer Jean Hall; and Clerk Aggie Keefe. Also present were Attorney Duncan Crosby and Deputy Sheriff Rob Skaggs.

Pledge of Allegiance — All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

For the July 8, 2024, minutes, Ms. Ewan said on page 2 under JCLC Meeting, City Funding, instead of "to help with construction of a sidewalk on the 1391 property" it should say "to help with a small park or a walking path on the property we purchased." Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Hall reported revenues for the month of July in the amount of \$113,053 and expenses in the amount \$49,310, resulting in a net income of \$63,743. She clarified that under Expenses, Public Works, \$3,750 was for tree removal and \$3,880 was for work on the new property. Ms. Ewan made a motion to approve the report as presented; seconded by Mrs. Welsh. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Mrs. Hall mentioned that Attorney Treitz had asked at our July meeting about the current situation on some of our investments whose market value was lower than our cost. She clarified that we currently have a market value at the end of July of \$6,205,000 with a cost of \$6,371,000, so we have a loss of \$166,000. If we hold those investments to maturity, we will not realize the loss.

NEW BUSINESS

Audit Engagement Letter — Mrs. Hall reported that she, Mayor Chesser, and Attorney Treitz have been working with Brian Cobb on the annual audit. John Treitz has approved the engagement letter, and she and Mayor Chesser need to sign it. The Council needs to approve the \$8,400 expenditure, which is the same cost as the prior year. Mr. Bourke made a motion to approve \$8,400 for the audit; seconded by Ms. Ewan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

House Bill 413 — Mrs. Hall reported that we have submitted the necessary information and it has been accepted, so we shouldn't have any delays in receiving these payments.

Mrs. Hall left the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

1391 Gardiner Lane Property —

- Mr. Crosby reported for Mr. Treitz that he (Mr. Treitz) received a draft of a lease for some parking on the Yum! parking lot, but parking was restricted to after business hours and required significantly more insurance coverage than we currently maintain. Mr. Treitz spoke with Lauren Madden, the Yum! representative, explaining that we were hopeful that we would have some access during normal business hours as well and that the required insurance coverage was more than we maintain. Ms. Madden informed Mr. Treitz that she will speak with her property managers and insurance division to see what can be done.

- Mr. Crosby reported for Mr. Treitz that with respect to the Ryder environmental issue, Mr. Treitz had a video conference with Bill Johnston (environmental engineer), Jill Stolz (head of Kentucky UST Branch), Cliff Hall (Kentucky Superfund Branch), and Adam Goebel (head of the SKO Environmental Group). The results of this meeting and follow-ups concluded that the Ryder site migration of contamination from the petroleum spill no longer exceeds the screening levels of the UST Branch. The screening table used by the Superfund Branch for tap water showed that the level just barely exceeds those tables, meaning the Superfund could come back in to remediate further. If that happens, the City's only obligation would be to give the Superfund access to pursue remediation at its own expense. The net result was that neither the UST Branch nor the Kentucky Superfund Branch is currently going to take any further action toward remediation of the property and will not hold us responsible for any clean-up.

Stober Road Flooding — Both Mayor Chesser and Ms. Garrett checked on the property at 3103 Stober Road during the recent storms. The water was up to the street. Mayor Chesser contacted Mr. Diemer to see if they had any flooding issues but she hasn't heard back from him.

MSD Project on Conaem Drive — Mayor Chesser reported that the sinkhole on Conaem Drive has not been remediated and the metal plate is still covering the road. Joe Exely told Mayor Chesser that he's putting the project out for bid.

Excessive Weeds Behind Vineyard Drive — Ms. Garrett reported that a neighbor asked if the City can clear the property behind Vineyard Drive, as it is severely overgrown. Mayor Chesser said that County Wide has cut it at least once this season. She added that the area they can mow is limited, as they need to avoid the ditch due to potential erosion. She will address the issue with Brandon Vincent.

Overgrowth on Larkmoor Lane — Mr. Fortwengler asked if we can get County Wide to take care of the overgrown bushes and tall grass on the City property at the end of Larkmoor Lane. Mayor Chesser will ask Mr. Vincent to clean it up.

Fallen Tree Branches on Larkmoor Lane — Mr. Fortwengler reported that the residence at 1701 Larkmoor Lane has a lot of branches from a fallen tree in the front yard. Mayor Chesser will report this to George Stewart for inspection.

Code Enforcement — Everyone was provided a copy of the report for July. There was nothing unusual to report.

Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for August. Mayor Chesser mentioned that she has asked some of the patrolling officers to provide more details in their reports. Deputy Skaggs reported that street racing hasn't happened in our area since around Derby of 2023.

Newburg Road Sidewalk — Mr. Fortwengler reported that they are now pouring concrete for this project. Mrs. Welsh asked if the sidewalk will be built across Bellarmine's property. Mayor Chesser clarified that since Bellarmine isn't currently doing any renovations on their property, the sidewalk will be built across it.

City Funding – Grants & Other Opportunities — Dustin Duncan will be invited to the December meeting to talk about grants.

Watterson Park Trees (Metro) — There were no updates.

Robards Lane — There were no updates.

Ethics Board — There were no updates.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Reports —

Mr. O'Bryan reported that he and Mayor Chesser met with Chad Reed with LG&E about installing lights on Champions Trace Lane between the railroad and Bantam Court. Mr. Reed submitted a quote for six lights and five utility poles at a rate of \$131.04 monthly. There is no charge for installation. Deputy Skaggs said from a safety standpoint, this is a very dark corridor that really needs lighting.

Mr. O'Bryan also asked Mr. Reed about the lights on Bantam Court that he has been trying for several months to get fixed. Mr. Reed put in a new report for Mr. O'Bryan, and all but one light have since been fixed. Mr. O'Bryan will follow up with Mr. Reed.

Mr. O'Bryan will send a text to Mr. Reed regarding the non-working light at Newburg Road and Gardiner Lane and will report back to Mayor Chesser.

Mayor Chesser will ask Cathy Cash with LG&E if she can provide us a map with all of our lights and poles marked.

Mr. Bourke made a motion to approve the contract with LG&E for six Cobra LED lights and five utility poles on Champions Trace Lane at a monthly rate of \$131.04; seconded by Mr. Fortwengler. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Underground utilities will need to be marked prior to the installation of the new poles. Mayor Chesser will sign the contract and email it to Mr. Reed with a copy to Mr. O'Bryan.

LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting — Mayor Chesser wasn't able to attend the most recent meeting, so she called LMPD Advisory Board President Amy Rodgers to find out what was discussed. Amy said Major Vance reported that overall crime numbers are trending downward. The officer of the month for July was Officer Dan Marsden. Officer Marsden is the new District Resource Officer replacing Amber Ross, who recently resigned from LMPD. The Sixth Division is selling cash saver books and proceeds will go toward fundraising expenses.

Speedway Encampment — Mayor Chesser reported that this encampment was cleaned up.

Good Citizen Award — Mayor Chesser expressed concern that she and members of the Council are prohibited from nominating anyone for this award. Both Mayor Chesser and Ms. Garrett mentioned neighbors who they felt deserve recognition. Mr. Crosby clarified that it's an ethical issue because we give a monetary reward. He said if we don't offer a monetary reward and give only recognition and/or a certificate, Council members and the Mayor can participate in the nomination process.

Tree at 1400 Block of Gardiner Lane — Mayor Chesser reported that a tree fell at this location during a recent storm. Since it was one of our trees, she hired Brandon Vincent to remove it. He will remove the stump at a later date.

TARC 2025: Moving Forward Together — Mayor Chesser was contacted by Shawn Reilly with TARC regarding this new program. He asked if our City would be willing to have a TARC team member present to us at one of our meetings to talk about transportation priorities and what's important in the TARC network. We have so few TARC stops in our City that Mayor Chesser wasn't sure this would be beneficial to us. Ms. Garrett suggested that some of our residents might have a need for this service, adding that perhaps we could schedule a presentation and include the details in an upcoming newsletter. Mayor Chesser will contact Mr. Reilly to get more information.

New Neighbor — Mr. Fortwengler made everyone aware that there are new neighbors at 1710 Larkmoor Lane. He gave Mayor Chesser the name and phone number of the property owner. Mayor Chesser will take care of ordering a welcome basket for them.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Bourke. There was no further discussion. The motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0 and meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

All those persons noted as being present at the beginning of this meeting, unless otherwise indicated, remained throughout.

Approved at the meeting of the City Council held on _____.

Linda Chesser, Mayor

Aggie Keefe, Clerk