

# CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

## LEGISLATIVE MEETING

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

January 13, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Roll Call** — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilmembers Jackie Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan; Treasurer Jean Hall; and Clerk Aggie Keefe. Also present were Attorney Duncan Crosby, Deputy Sheriff Rob Skaggs, and Brian Cobb with Cobb & Associates.

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

### NEW BUSINESS

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**Audit Report** — Brian Cobb from Cobb & Associates presented the City of Watterson Park Audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. Everyone was given a draft copy of the full audit report. Mr. Cobb went over the report, focusing on the salient portions. Cobb & Associates issued a clean opinion, noting that the financial statements present fairly the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the city. The Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control stated that they did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that they consider to be material weaknesses. Mr. Cobb welcomed any questions or comments. He thanked Mrs. Hall for working with him on the report and acknowledged the transparency of our website, where many documents he needed were readily available. Council will review the report and be ready to discuss it at the February meeting. Mr. Cobb left the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 9, 2024, legislative meeting as received; seconded by Mr. O'Bryan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan; abstaining were Jackie Bourke and Shelia Bumphus. There were no nays. Motion carried with a vote of 4-0.

### APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

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Mrs. Hall reported revenues for the month of December 2024 in the amount of \$54,035 and expenditures in the amount \$49,632, resulting in a net income of \$4,403. She clarified that \$5,280 of the amount under Legal & Professional was engineering for the traffic study on the 1225 Gardiner Lane development project. She also said that the \$6,304 under Property Tax Expense was for our new property; next year we will be exempt, so this is the only time we will have to pay this expense. She clarified that the amount under Advertising was for REACH Alert. Ms. Ewan made a motion to accept the report as presented; seconded by Ms. Garrett. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jackie Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

### OLD BUSINESS

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**1225 Gardiner Lane Development** — Mr. Crosby reported that today RaceTrac filed five new documents that were available on publicly accessible files. He downloaded the files but hasn't had a chance to look at all of them in-depth. As part of their revised site plan, one of the documents showed that they changed the location of the tanks and clearly shows trucks coming in off Bunton Road. Ms. Ewan made a motion to go into executive session to discuss possible litigation regarding the proposed RaceTrac development; seconded by Mr. Fortwengler. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jackie Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0, and Council went into executive session at 7:33 p.m. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to come out of executive session; seconded by Ms. Ewan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jackie Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0, and Council came out of executive session at 8:08 p.m. No final action was taken during executive session.

Mr. O'Bryan asked if it's possible to impose a diesel tax in our city. Mr. Crosby will check into it. Council discussed possible damage to Bunton Road caused by the increase in semi traffic. Perhaps a diesel tax would help cover potential damages to the road. Mrs. Bourke expressed concern about the noise and fumes from diesel trucks at the RaceTrac, especially from those waiting in line to access the station. Mr. Crosby said we have a pretty solid nuisance ordinance. We can modify it if we feel the need, but it has to be generally applicable across our city.

**Medical Cannabis** — Ms. Ewan gave second reading in full to Ordinance No. 280, Series 2025, prohibiting cannabis business operations in the City of Watterson Park; seconded by Mr. O'Bryan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jackie Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Crosby left the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

**Code Enforcement** — Everyone was given a copy of the Field Report for December. Mayor Chesser mentioned that the new owner of the home on Newburg Road that recently sold is cleaning up the property. He told Mayor Chesser that he plans to use the home as a rental.

**Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings** — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for January. There are quite a few unfilled shifts. Deputy Skaggs said that three additional slots were filled since this form was printed. Council agreed that Mayor Chesser should contact John Aubrey at KLE to move some early afternoon shifts to later hours.

**Flock Cameras** — Mayor Chesser sent an e-mail to Jennifer Corum, Geoff Wohl, and Katie Ward notifying them of our decision to install the Flock Camera at the intersection of Gardiner Lane and Robards Lane. Although Ms. Corum suggested three alternate locations for the camera, Council decided to use the location that we had already approved. Mayor Chesser will notify Ms. Corum of Council's final decision.

**Regina Lane Curb and Lawn Repair** — Mayor Chesser reported that this project hasn't moved forward because of the recent inclement weather.

**Republic Services/Driveway at 4322 Milldaun Road** — Because Republic Services uses the driveway at the end of Milldaun Road to turn their trucks around, we might need to install an apron on the driveway to accommodate the weight of the trucks and to prevent damage. Mayor Chesser will consult with Mr. Treitz on how to proceed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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**4317 E. Indian Trail Rezoning** — Mayor Chesser reported that this property is asking to be rezoned so that they can use it to park semis. She will attend the zoning hearing on January 15.

### **Committee Reports** —

- Mr. O'Bryan said he will report an acorn light out on Gardiner Lane. He also mentioned that the lights on Bantam Court have not yet been repaired.
- Mr. Fortwengler said that because of the snow and ice, he wasn't able to assess the condition of city roads. Mayor Chesser asked Mr. Fortwengler to report to Metro the pothole on Produce Road by Fed Ex.

**LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting** — Mayor Chesser reported that Jay Bourke agreed to continue to represent Watterson Park at these meetings when he is available. Mayor Chesser asked if anyone on the Council would be interested in attending these meetings on our behalf.

**1391 Gardiner Lane Property** — Mr. O'Bryan distributed copies of an aerial view of the 1391 Gardiner Lane property that he printed out from LOGIC, an online geographic information system for the Louisville Metro area. Mayor Chesser distributed copies of the plan for the New Walnut Street Park that Louisville Metro is developing on 5.74 acres. She thought we could look at some of the amenities this new park will contain to get some ideas for the development of our new property. Mayor Chesser would like to form a committee comprised of Council members and residents to work on this project.

**Committees** — We have openings on several of our committees, so Mayor Chesser asked everyone to look over the list that is on our website and decide on which ones they would like to participate. We will discuss this at the February meeting.

**Charter Rate Increase** — Mayor Chesser reported that she received notice that Charter will again be increasing rates.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. O'Bryan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Voting yea were Jackie Bourke, Shelia Bumphus, Becky Ewan, Steve Fortwengler, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan. There were no nays or abstentions. Motion carried with a vote of 6-0 and meeting adjourned at 9:04 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 \_\_\_\_\_.

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Linda Chesser, Mayor

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Aggie Keefe, Clerk

Minutes taken and transcribed by Aggie Keefe from notes and audio recording.