

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

LEGISLATIVE MEETING

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

July 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 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 John Treitz; Josie Raymond, who will be representing our district on the Louisville Metro Council beginning in January 2025; and Deputy Sheriff Rob Skaggs.

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

Mayor Chesser welcomed Josie Raymond to our meeting. Mrs. Raymond is a Kentucky state representative who is running unopposed for Louisville Metro Council's District 10 seat in this November's election.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2024, legislative meeting as received; seconded by Mr. Bourke. 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 June in the amount of \$30,965 and expenses in the amount \$38,528, resulting in a deficit of \$7,563. Ms. Ewan made a motion to approve 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 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. Attorney Treitz asked if we are close to recapturing the lost value on any of our prior investments. Mrs. Hall responded that we have had a strong last few months but that we have also recently had some older investments that have gone down in value. Mrs. Hall will get more details for the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1391 Gardiner Lane Property —

- Attorney Treitz has been working with the Attorneys for Yum! to draw up a year-to-year agreement with them that would allow us to utilize some of their parking spots to access our property. We offered to install a walkway to transition from the parking spaces to our property, and we would carry insurance to protect Yum! from any liability. The walkway could be made using dense grade gravel. Attorney Treitz needs to develop the specifications and submit to Yum! for their approval. Mr. Fortwengler suggested that Brandon Vincent with County Wide might be able to construct the path.
- Mayor Chesser mentioned that there is approximately \$15,000 in tree money that District 10 is holding for us that we will probably use for trees on this property.
- Attorney Treitz talked about the environmental condition on the northwest corner of the property resulting from a diesel spill at Ryder many years ago. Prior to purchasing the property, we applied for it to be assessed through Kentucky's Targeted Brownfield Assessment (TBA) Program. Because we received the Brownfield permit, we are not responsible for any environmental condition that may exist. Although our engineers did not conduct soil vapor tests, the environmental company who had been hired by the former prospective buyer last summer did conduct such tests and found the existence of vapor releases. We have soil contamination from run-off and underground water contamination from the migration of some of the diesel spill onto our property. By making the Brownfield application, we have made the Superfund aware of the existence of this problem. At the moment, the site is not on the UST (Underground Storage Tank) radar, but it will be. Mr. Treitz talked with Bill Johnson, the engineer who helped us with the Brownfield application, and with Adam Goebel, chair of his law firm's environmental litigation. They believe that the amount of contamination is so slight that it won't be an issue. We want to get it on the radar, however, because there are certain funds that can be accessed if needed to take care of it. Mr. Treitz, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Goebel will have a conference call with both the chairman of the UST Department in Kentucky and with Cliff Hall, manager of the Superfund branch in Frankfort, to get their input and advice. Mr. Treitz will continue to discuss this in-house and will keep us informed.

Rental Registry— Mayor Chesser told Ms. Raymond that she would like to work with her once Ms. Raymond is sworn in to address the rentals in Watterson Park that are not listed on the Rental Registry.

Stober Road Flooding — Mayor Chesser hasn't received any recent reports of flooding.

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

Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for July. Mayor Chesser mentioned that we provide about 140 hours monthly in off-duty patrol services.

Newburg Road Sidewalk — Mayor Chesser reported that construction has begun on this project.

Watterson Park Trees (Metro) — Mayor Chesser reiterated that District 10 has money set aside for trees to be planted in Watterson Park. We will most likely use those funds to plant trees on the 1391 property.

Robards Lane — There were no updates.

Ethics Board — There were no updates.

NEW BUSINESS

JCLC Meeting — Mayor Chesser and Ms. Ewan attended the JCLC meeting on June 20, where KIPDA representatives Jennifer Wilson (Regional Planner/Public Administration Specialist) and Dustin Duncan (Senior Grant Administrator) discussed City Funding – Grants and Other Opportunities.

- *City Funding – Grants and Other Opportunities:* Ms. Ewan said she talked with Mr. Duncan and asked if there is a grant available to help with construction of a sidewalk on the 1391 property a small park or a walking path on the property we purchased. He encouraged us to apply for one. The eligibility period is January 1 through May 31. KIPDA finds, writes, and submits the grant and does all of the administrative work at no cost. When we are awarded funds, KIPDA gets a percentage of the funds. Ms. Ewan also asked Mr. Duncan about possible grants for police patrol. Mr. Duncan agreed to come to our December meeting to discuss grant possibilities and procedures. Mr. Treitz said that one potential caveat is that we might be required to impose a deed restriction on the property stating that it can never be used for anything other than the original use.
- *Fiber Internet Plan:* Mayor Chesser reported that Aaron Penny, Senior Director of Business Development for Lumos Internet, presented at the meeting. Lumos has partnered with T-Mobile. The Plan is to install fiber internet in underserved communities. Mayor Chesser provided a letter from Louisville Metro Mayor Craig Greenberg explaining this expansion.

Committee Reports —

- Ms. Ewan reported that a resident on Regina said the wrong name was on the address of his newsletter. Mrs. Keefe clarified that we purchase the list from United Direct Solutions and the newsletter is mailed to the names on that list, with a second line "Or Current Resident." Even if the name is incorrect, the newsletter gets to the residence, which is the intent. Mr. Bourke said that he hasn't received any of our newsletters. Mrs. Keefe said we will be purchasing new lists before the next newsletter and she will check on both of these concerns.
- Ms. Ewan asked when Saf-Ti-Co will be installing the No Trespass sign on the walking path. Mayor Chesser and Mr. Bourke stated that it has already been installed.
- Mr. O'Bryan said he had previously reported lights out on Champions Trace, Bantam Court, and Gardiner Lane. He called again on July 3 to report they were still out and was told that they would be taken care of in three business days. Mr. O'Bryan was surprised with how dark it was on Champions Trace close to Bishop Lane. Mayor Chesser suggested that we might want to look at that area to see if more street lights are needed.

LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting — Mayor Chesser attended the most recent meeting of this Board. She reported that Officer Amber Ross is leaving. She also reported that a male in a black Lexus has been exposing himself to women around the Audubon Hospital area. The police have tentatively identified this man and will make an arrest once they have a positive ID. Mayor Chesser reported that Detective Kayla Helm was voted Officer of the Month by the Board. Officer Helm is with the 6th Division Impact Unit. She was responsible for recovering rifles, hand guns with machine gun conversion switches, other switches, \$25,000 in suspected drug money, and drugs. They were glad to get the guns off the street.

Charter Communications Rate Increase — Mayor Chesser supplied copies of a letter from Charter Communications announcing a rate increase that will take effect on or after July 16, 2024.

Speedway Encampment — Mayor Chesser reported that she received an e-mail from Mr. Logan Daily with 7-Eleven letting her know that the homeless encampment should be cleaned up by July 12. They will also install No Trespass signs on the property.

AT&T Aerial Cable — Mayor Chesser reported that AT&T will be installing an aerial cable on Bunton Road.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Bourke. 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 and meeting adjourned at 8:16 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

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