

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

LEGISLATIVE MEETING

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

June 10, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 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, George Stewart from Louisville Code Enforcement & Mediation, and Sgt. Jeff Christopher.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 13, 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 May in the amount of \$95,406 and expenses in the amount \$42,030, resulting in a net income of \$53,376. She clarified that most of the expense under Public Works was for tree removal. Ms. Ewan asked if we will collect the cost of removing the tree from the homeowner's insurance. It was clarified that whoever owns the property on which the tree falls is responsible for the cost of clean-up. Mrs. Welsh made a motion to approve the report as presented; 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.

OLD BUSINESS

Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 — Mrs. Welsh gave second reading in full to Ordinance No. 276, Series 2024, amending budget Ordinance No. 270, Series 2023, for fiscal year July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to adopt the ordinance; 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.

1391 Gardiner Lane Property — Mayor Chesser reported that Mr. Treitz is working with Yum! regarding parking spaces that can be used to access the property. We should hear more about this next month.

Rental Registry— Mr. Crosby reported that the legal requirements Louisville Metro already has in place apply to Watterson Park, so it may not make sense for us to create additional registry requirements. We should be able to go to Metro's site and find out which rental properties in Watterson Park are registered. Council agreed that we will rely on Louisville Metro's rental registry site to obtain rental information for our City. Mayor Chesser suggested that if we aren't able to access the information we need through Metro, we might have to look at establishing our own registry. We are including an article about rental registry in our summer newsletter to make rental property owners aware of this law.

Code Enforcement — Everyone was provided a copy of the report for May.

- (1) Mr. Stewart reported that he sent two notices to the owners of the Candlewood Suites for the tall grass and weeds and also left a message for the manager; he hasn't heard back from any of them.
- (2) Mayor Chesser reported that JCPS mowed the soccer field at Gardiner Lane and Bishop Lane.
- (3) Mr. Stewart asked about the homeless encampment behind the Speedway. Mayor Chesser reached out to Logan Darby, Area Facilities Manager for 7-Eleven – Speedway, and suggested that he file a trespass waiver for the property. She hopes the encampment will be cleared soon.
- (4) Regarding the two tall tree trunks in a yard on Regina Lane — Louisville Metro said the homeowner doesn't need to remove them.

(5) Mayor Chesser called Metro to find out the status of the house on Milldaun that was damaged during last year's storms. She was told that there are certain criteria that the home owner needs to meet while repairing and cleaning up the property. An inspector is coming to inspect the property in mid June.

(6) Ms. Garrett reported that a neighbor came to her about a letter they received from an anonymous sender regarding the condition of their yard, saying it was from "a group of concerned neighbors." Mayor Chesser said she was notified by a second resident who received the same letter. They were delivered through the U.S. mail, and the return address said "Watterson Park." Ms. Garrett and Mayor Chesser each assured the neighbors that the letter didn't come from our City Council. It was agreed that the best reaction is no reaction. Mr. Crosby said that unless there is the perception that the letters came from the City itself, we should not get involved.

Mr. Stewart left the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Robards Lane — There were no updates.

Stober Road Flooding — There were no updates.

Ethics Board — There were no updates.

Middle Housing — Ms. Ewan attended some meetings regarding Middle Housing. She will continue to monitor it.

Attorney Crosby left the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Sign for 1391 Gardiner Lane & Trespass Waiver — Mayor Chesser reported that we now have the trespass waiver for this property and signs have been installed.

Newburg Road Sidewalk — Mayor Chesser reported that she received a phone call from Steve Kurowsky providing an update on this project. He also e-mailed her the Notice to Proceed. Construction should begin in July. Mrs. Welsh said she noticed a lot of signs and markers at the site.

Watterson Park Trees (Metro) — There was nothing new to report.

Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for June. The 1 a.m. to 4 a.m. spots are still difficult to fill. Sgt. Christopher talked about salvage vehicle lots that are popping up around Louisville Metro.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Reports —

Mr. Fortwengler reported that he inspected the City streets. At Robards Lane by the car dealership, the road is extremely rough. This is the section of Robards that doesn't belong to Watterson Park but that we have been considering taking care of. On the other side at Gardiner Point, the edge of the road is torn up. Produce Road and Champions Trace by the railroad tracks needs some work; Stober Road in the middle of the road by the old KFC offices needs repairs. Mayor Chesser said that she will talk to Mr. Treitz about whether or not we can pave the section of Robards Lane that doesn't belong to Watterson Park.

Mr. O'Bryan reported that there are currently three lights out: one on Gardiner Lane and two on Champions Trace. He has reported them to LG&E, and he will mark them with caution tape. Behind Drexel Metals on Gardiner Lane, a fire hydrant had been replaced a month or so ago. He noticed that water was coming up from the hydrant and throughout the concrete. He was concerned that some of the businesses could flood. He reported it to the Louisville Water Company, and they responded that night.

Mrs. Welsh reported that she hasn't received a response from Mr. Oleker with the Resurrection Lutheran Church after letting him know that July 3 wouldn't work for Watterson Park for the ice cream festival he had proposed.

LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting — Mr. Bourke attended the last meeting. He mentioned to Major Vance that Watterson Park wasn't listed as a neighborhood under their division on their website; Major Vance will add us. They talked about A/C units being stolen from rooftops throughout Louisville Metro. They now have a drone patrolling

the area hoping that it will help. People are stealing dirt bikes that are listed on Facebook Marketplace. They arrange to meet the seller to test drive the bike, then take off on it. Stolen vehicles are up in the Sixth Division. Officer Alexandria Quitter was voted Officer of the Month. Officer Quitter recovered pistols, rifles, and 20,000 rounds of ammo from a storage unit and arrested a suspect within 20 days. Mr. Bourke also reported that National Night Out for the 6th and 7th Divisions will be held on August 6 at Highview Park. Information for this event will be in our summer newsletter and on our website.

Stoll Construction and Paving Quotes — Mayor Chesser received two quotes from Stoll Construction and Paving for repairing areas of pavement near the railroad tracks, Champions Trace, and Stober Road. The first bid in the amount of \$3,350 was to excavate, square up, and surface areas; the second bid in the amount of \$2,150 was for surface patching only. After discussion, Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the \$2,150 bid; 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.

Solicitors — Mayor Chesser received an email from a resident who is concerned about the increase in the number of solicitors. Council agreed that there's nothing we can do about it.

MSD Project on Conaem Drive — Mayor Chesser reported that MSD has determined that a crushed pipe under Conaem Drive is causing the sinkhole. MSD told an affected resident that they might have to dig up his driveway and his garage to make the needed repairs. Mayor Chesser told the resident to keep her posted regarding the progress. She will call MSD and ask them to keep us informed as well.

Tree on Regina Lane — Ms. Ewan asked about the tree at the top of Regina Lane that is blocking oncoming traffic. Mayor Chesser said she contacted County Wide and instructed them to remove it.

KLC Conference — Ms. Ewan mentioned that the KLC Conference is September 24-27. Registration begins in July, so she thought we should make reservations as soon as possible for those who will be attending from Watterson Park. At the present time, Mayor Chesser and Ms. Ewan plan to attend. Mr. Bourke made a motion to approve up to \$1,200 per person to attend the KLC conference; 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.

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 9:07 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.