

# CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

## LEGISLATIVE MEETING

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

November 11, 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 John Treitz, Deputy Sheriff Rob Skaggs, and Brandon Vincent with County Wide Lawn & Landscaping.

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

Mayor Chesser congratulated the members of the Council who were recently re-elected. For those Council members who will not be returning in January, she expressed her appreciation for their leadership and public service.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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Mr. Bourke made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 14, 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 Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, Todd O'Bryan, and Marlene Welsh. Steve Fortwengler abstained. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

### APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

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Mrs. Hall reported revenues for the month of October in the amount of \$355,426 and expenses in the amount \$42,224, resulting in a net income of \$313,202. Attorney Treitz asked if it's unusual to receive as much in municipal insurance tax as we received this month. Mrs. Hall said this is typically the highest month of the year and said we expect to have more coming in. 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. Mrs. Hall informed Council that personal property tax bills originally went out with an incorrect rate of 6.5¢ instead of the 5¢ per \$100 assessed valuation that we voted in. A corrected version was mailed out along with a note explaining the issue. Mrs. Hall received numerous phone calls asking for clarification. Some businesses paid earlier before they received the second bill; others paid both bills. She will need to send out refund checks to anyone who paid the higher rate or duplicated payment. Mr. Treitz said it was the fault of his law firm. Once they were aware of the mistake, they sent out the corrected bills two days after the first ones were mailed.

### OLD BUSINESS

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**1225 Gardiner Lane Development** — Attorney Treitz reported that last Thursday we hired Adam Kirk Engineering to do a traffic impact study at the intersections of Bunton Road at Poplar Level Road and Gardiner Lane at Poplar Level Road. The actual study was done on November 7. Mr. Kirk told Mr. Treitz that it will take him a few days to finish tabulating and analyzing the data so that he can make the report. The cost of this analysis and report is \$5,280. Mr. Treitz will give us copies of the report once he receives it. If we think the new report makes our case, we will present it to the Planning Commission. Mr. Treitz suggested that the engineer can call into our next Council meeting to answer any of our questions. Ms. Ewan made a motion to approve \$5,280 for the traffic impact study; 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.

**Medical Cannabis** — Attorney Treitz brought up for discussion an e-mail Attorney Crosby sent to Mayor Chesser, and which she forwarded to Council members, addressing our concerns about medical cannabis dispensaries in our City. Mr. Treitz pointed out that we are in a district with six or seven other counties, and that only six licenses will be awarded for our district, so they feel it is highly unlikely that Watterson Park will be chosen as one of the sites that might get into Jefferson County. Ms. Ewan said it is a big moneymaker for the State and she thinks they will have more dispensaries in the future. She doesn't see a benefit for Watterson Park to have a dispensary in our City and thinks we should opt out so we don't have to worry about it. She said we can always at any point down the road go back in. Attorney Treitz will bring the necessary documents to opt out to our December meeting so we can vote it up or down.

Attorney Treitz left the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

**Code Enforcement** — Everyone should have received a copy of the Field Report for October. Mayor Chesser is very pleased with the work George Stewart does in our City and with his professionalism when he interacts with our residents. Mrs. Hall asked Mayor Chesser to copy her on any citations issued by Mr. Stewart so she has something to cross-reference when she receives payments.

**Off-Duty Patrol Monthly Shift Postings** — Everyone was provided a copy of the Monthly Shift Postings for November. There are only three openings on the schedule. Mayor Chesser mentioned a shift report she received that included an area that was patrolled that is not within our boundaries; she reported that she brought it to the attention of John Aubrey.

**JCLC Annual Dinner** — Mayor Chesser submitted payment for those who will be attending the JCLC dinner on November 21.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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### **Committee Reports** —

- Mr. O'Bryan reported that he texted Chad Reed about the burned-out lights he had previously reported but that have not yet been replaced. Mr. Reed told him the company with whom they contract is running four to five weeks behind. Mayor Chesser is pleased with the new lights that were installed on Champions Trace.
- Ms. Ewan said Dustin Duncan, Senior Grant Administrator with KIPDA, will attend our meeting in December to talk about grants for a walking path or small park on the 1391 property. He will also update us on possible eligibility for a grant to reimburse us for some of the money we have spent on police patrol.
- Mayor Chesser asked Mr. Fortwengler to check the roadways each month and let us know if any work needs to be done.

### **LMPD Sixth Division Citizens Advisory Board Meeting** —

Mr. Bourke attended the November meeting and reported the following:

- Advisory Board members will participate in the Shop With a Cop program on December 4. Wrapping will take place the morning of December 7 with a pizza party for the kids at noon.
- The next Sixth Division Community Outreach event will take place on November 12 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Kroger on Poplar Level Road. Feel free to join.
- Profits from the coupon books totaled \$1,180.
- The Officer of the Month is Hunter Weaver. He recovered several stolen vehicles and firearms and made several arrests with the assistance of Flock cameras.

**Flock Cameras** — Mayor Chesser reported that Councilman Mulvihill will pay for one Flock camera in Watterson Park. If we want additional cameras, we will have to pay for them. We will discuss this in more detail next month.

### **Miscellaneous Items** —

- **1234 Gardiner Lane Property Parking** — Mayor Chesser reported that the property owners have put up larger address numbers along with solar lights on an existing pole.
- **Newburg Road Sidewalk** — Mayor Chesser is discouraged that grocery carts are being left on the new sidewalk in front of the Springview Apartments. We are currently paying Mr. Vincent to collect carts on main thoroughfares and take them back to the stores. Mayor Chesser will call Metro to see if anything can be done about this new situation. Mayor Chesser is concerned about who will keep the grass mowed and trimmed along the new sidewalk. It might be that we need to add this area to our grass-mowing contract with County Wide.

### **Bids from County Wide Lawn & Landscaping** —

- A bid was submitted for mowing areas outside the fenced-in area at 1391 Gardiner Lane, 16 mows at \$150 per mow; and for mowing the area behind the storage facility on Poplar Level Road, 16 mows at \$100 per mow. The total bid is \$4,000. This work has already been done. Mr. Bourke made a motion to approve the bid; 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. Mayor Chesser reported that a resident made her aware that there is a sinkhole on this property. She will ask the resident to be more specific as to its location.

- A bid was submitted for leaf removal at curbs, drains, and the walking path in the amount of \$2,400. Mayor Chesser asked Mr. Fortwengler to call MSD and report the stopped-up drains at the end of Larkmoor Lane. Ms. Garrett made a motion to approve the bid; 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.
- A bid in the amount of \$27,300 was submitted to build ten gravel parking spaces along with access for the 1391 property, including excavation, dump truck hauling, base layer, top layer, compacting edges, and setting grade. Mr. Fortwengler made a motion to approve the bid; 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.
- The following bids will be paid by May Trucking for damage done by one of their semis at the end of Regina Lane. The first bid is for repairs to the lawn in the amount of \$655; the second is to repair the damaged curb in the amount of \$9,116. Council agreed that we should replace the existing curb with a beveled-edge curb that could better withstand the weight of large trucks. Council discussed the possibility of adding some large boulders to the grassy area to deter large trucks. This will be discussed in more detail at a future meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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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 8:43 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.