

CITY OF WATTERSON PARK

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

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

April 24, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

Roll Call — Roll was called. Present were Mayor Linda Chesser; Councilmembers Jay Bourke, Becky Ewan, Gina Garrett, and Todd O'Bryan; Treasurer Jean Hall; and Clerk Aggie Keefe. Also present were Attorney Duncan Crosby, Nima Mahmoodi with The Kleingers Group, and Officer Trevor Towe with Kentuckiana Law Enforcement (KLE).

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

Discussion of Bids Received for Planned City Park — After the bid opening on April 17, the Kleingers Group carefully reviewed and compared the six submitted bids. References were called; positive feedback was received for all bidders. Bornstein General Contracting submitted the lowest bid. The Kentucky State Auditor and the Kentucky Attorney General stated that they have no outstanding issues with Bornstein. In addition, Bornstein has an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau. Kleingers Group recommended that we award the bid to Bornstein based on their base price, the alternates, the documentation provided, and their level of experience. Mr. Crosby reminded Council that our contract will have a liquidated damages clause. Mr. Mahmoodi explained that Alternate Bid 2 is for a handicap-accessible ramp; Alternate Bid 1 is for an optional small playground separate from the main playground. We don't have to include these alternates in the contract, but adding them at a later date could be at an increased cost. When we negotiate the contract, we can discuss using a different playground vendor if we so choose, although doing so could affect the final price. Officer Towe recommended that we install video monitoring, which is something we could add at a later date.

Winning Bid for Planned City Park — Mr. Bourke made a motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into negotiations with Bornstein General Contracting for the base bid plus the two alternates; seconded by Mr. O'Bryan. Ms. Garrett asked what to expect moving forward. Mr. Crosby said we must first amend the current fiscal year budget to have an appropriation in place to pay for the contract plus some contingency. Until then, the Mayor cannot execute a contract. Bids are good for 30 days from the date of the bid. Council will be kept informed throughout the process. Nima Mahmoodi said we do not have a start date at this time; May 1, 2027, is the substantial completion date. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Mahmoodi left the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Amending Budget Ordinance — Ms. Garrett gave first reading by title and summary to Ordinance No. 287, Series 2026, amending Ordinance No. 281, Series 2025, relating to the adoption of the annual budget for Fiscal Year July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. This ordinance added a Capital Expenditures line for the development of The Preserve at Watterson Park.

Salaries for Elected Officials — Ms. Garrett gave second reading in full to Ordinance No. 285, Series 2026, increasing the salaries of the Mayor and Council Members beginning January 1, 2027. This ordinance included a section whereby the salaries will be adjusted annually to keep up with inflation. Mr. Bourke 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. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Pay Schedules for Appointed Officials — Ms. Garrett gave second reading by title and summary to Ordinance No. 286, Series 2026, amending Ordinance No. 243, Series 2018, relating to the position classification and pay schedules for City employees and non-elected City officers of the City of Watterson Park. Ms. Garrett made a motion to adopt the ordinance; seconded by Mr. Bourke. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bourke made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. O'Bryan. There being no further discussion, the motion was brought to a roll-call vote. Motion passed by unanimous vote, and meeting adjourned at 7:47 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 transcribed by Aggie Keefe from notes and audio recording.