

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,  
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON  
MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2019**

**FY 19/20 Budget Public Hearing:** Mayor Haas called the 6:45 p.m. Public Hearing on the city's 2019/2020 FY budget to order.

Mayor Haas read the budget message into the record and called for questions or comments from the public. With no comments received from the public the hearing was closed at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 3, 2019 in the Council Chambers of the city building. City Clerk, Melissa Beckett called the roll and the following council members were present: David Cameron, Ken Bowman, Mark Collier, Jeff Bezold, Roger Peterman and Adam Blau. Staff members in attendance included: Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, City Clerk Melissa Beckett, Fire Chief Mark Bailey, Police Chief Casey Kilgore and City Attorney Jann Seidenfaden. Absent: City Administrator Ron Dill.

Mayor Eric Haas lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**Minutes**

The minutes from the May 20, 2019 meeting were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Collier to approve the minutes as written. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Visitors and Communications**

**Proclamations:** Two proclamations were read by Mayor Haas, they are as follows:

**Blue Marble Day:**

**Whereas,** we are gathered today to recognize Blue Marble Books as an outstanding local business throughout the past 40 years; and

**Whereas,** Blue Marble Books was started by Tina Moore and was run by her for 25 years as a 100% woman-owned and minority-owned store for 25 years; and

**Whereas,** Blue Marble Books fostered the development of countless families of readers and brought visitors from around the world to visit the Great Green Room, modeled after the room in the classic children's book "Good Night Moon" by Margaret Wise Brown; and

**Whereas,** Blue Marble Books brought many authors and illustrators to area schools and libraries and donated books to many fundraising events in the area; and

**Whereas,** Blue Marble Books developed and supported the Kentucky Bluegrass Book Awards program; and

**Whereas,** Blue Marble Books helped develop and has supported the annual Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana (OKI) Children's Literature Conference; and

**Whereas**, Blue Marble Books helped organize the Fort Thomas Business Association and brought Where's Waldo, a shop local initiative, to Fort Thomas, and

**Whereas**, Blue Marble Books brought national and international recognition to Fort Thomas as founding member of the Association of Booksellers for Children.

Now therefore, I, Eric Haas, Mayor of the City of Fort Thomas, KY, do hereby proclaim June 8, 2019 as:

***BLUE MARBLE BOOKS DAY***

in Fort Thomas, KY, and I urge all residents to join in the celebration of Blue Marble Books 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In witness thereof, I have hereby set my hand on this, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Nineteen.

**National Gun Violence Awareness Day:**

This proclamation declares the first Friday of June, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Fort Thomas, Kentucky, to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence.

**WHEREAS**, every day, 96 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are nearly 13,000 gun homicides every year; and

**WHEREAS**, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their citizens safe; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in an inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later, should have be now celebrating her 21st birthday; and

**WHEREAS**, to help honor Hadiya – and the 96 Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day – a national coalition of organizations has designated first Friday of June, National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

**WHEREAS**, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

**WHEREAS**, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on the first Friday of June, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

**WHEREAS**, by wearing orange on the first Friday of June Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

**WHEREAS**, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Mayor Eric Haas of the city of Fort Thomas, Kentucky declares the first Friday of June, to be **National Gun Violence Awareness Day**. I encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

Crimson MacDonald was present and thanked council for adopting the proclamation and a picture was taken with the group.

Tiffany Huber of 26 Hawthorne was present to discuss the issue of transparency with the city. She asked what the top five priorities of the city were. She feels that the residents communications are not being heard, listened to or incorporated. Joe Ewald noted that the city has been working hard on keeping the website updated and everything has been posted far in advance of the meetings. Mayor Haas also noted that all discussions between committees and council are posted on an agenda and put on the website. Discussion ensued between council members explaining the process regarding public meetings and committee meetings. Mr. Bezold indicated that during the budget process it was determined that the city will hire a person to focus strictly on the visioning plan. The mayor noted that the website has all of the information and the city is working diligently to get the information out to every resident, but the residents must also be diligent as well to find the information on the website. Mr. Peterman asked Mrs. Huber to write something up on what she wants as it pertains to transparency and give the city council some ideas and turn into the City Administrator.

Bonita Frentzel of 35 Bonnie Lane indicated that she was unaware that she would be able to attend committee meetings and maybe the city should put that information on the website. Mayor Haas noted that the only time the public is not allowed in a meeting is when they go into executive session. Joe Ewald told Bonita that if she ever has a question to call the city and ask. She said she did see improvement on the website.

Mr. Bowman asked if it would be possible to light the tower up in orange in honor of National Gun Violence Awareness Day. Ron Dill indicated that he would ask our Property Maintenance Director.

## **City Administrators Report**

### **New Business**

**Consideration of Street Reconstruction Bids -2019 Capital Program:** The City opened public bids for the 2019 Capital Street/Sidewalk Program on Tuesday, May 21st. This project includes the resurfacing of Grant Street, Fairview Place, Ohio Ave, Ridgeway Ave, Sheridan Ave, Sherman Ave, and Vernon Lanes (East, West, South).

There were three (3) bidders for the street resurfacing project with base bids ranging from Reigler Blacktop \$283,765.50 (lowest) to Eaton Asphalt at \$357,948.80. The engineer's estimate provided by CT Consultants was listed at \$290,290.00.

There were also three (3) alternate bids for work related to the Tower Park parking areas around the Mess Hall; specifically installing the asphalt base for the new parking areas adjacent to the ball field and resurfacing the parking area at Pearson Street. The engineer's estimate for the alternate bids was listed at \$65,850.00 and again Reigler Blacktop was the low bidder at \$65,137.50.

Staff recommends acceptance of the low base bid from Reigler Blacktop in the amount of \$283,765.50 and the alternate bids totaling \$65,137.50. Total project bid amount \$348,902.50.

A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bowman to approve the bid from Reigler Blacktop in the amount of \$283,765.50 and the alternate bids totaling \$65,137.50 with a project total of \$348,902.50. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Blau. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

### **Ordinances, Resolutions, and Orders**

**Ordinance O-06-2019:** First Reading of an Ordinance amending the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual to incorporate provisions of the recently enacted Kentucky Pregnant Workers Act. This ordinance will be laid over for consideration at the next regular meeting of council.

**Ordinance O-07-2019:** First Reading of an Ordinance amending the 2018-2019 fiscal year budget. The Finance Committee of Council has reviewed the proposed amendments in detail and recommends approval. The budget amendments are primarily housekeeping in nature and are itemized in the ordinance. This ordinance will be laid over for consideration at the next regular meeting of council.

**Ordinance O-08-2019:** First Reading of an Ordinance adopting the 2019-2020 fiscal year budget. The Finance Committee of Council has met to review details with staff and recommends approval. Please refer to their written recommendation. Also enclosed is a copy of the budget worksheets which provide comparison of the proposed budget to the current and the previous budgets.

**Ordinance O-09-2019:** First Reading of an Ordinance establishing compensation of the employees for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year. This represents the terms of the respective labor union agreements and a 2% adjustment to the administrative staff.

**Ordinance O-10-2019:** First Reading of an Ordinance amending the Personnel and Pay Classification Ordinance

**Ordinance O-11-2019:** First Reading of an Ordinance Repealing the Police Department Policies and Procedures Manual.

**Ordinance O-12-2019:** First Reading of an Ordinance Adopting the updated Police Department Policies and Procedures Manual

With no further business to come before council, a motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Blau to adjourn.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk