

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2016**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 19, 2016 in the Council Chambers of the city building. City Clerk, Melissa Kelly called the roll and the following council members were present: John Muller, Ken Bowman, Jeff Bezold, Roger Peterman and Chuck Thompson. Absent: Lisa Kelly. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Ron Dill, City Clerk Melissa Kelly, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, City Attorney Jann Seidenfaden, Fire Chief Mark Bailey, and Police Chief Mike Daly.

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

Minutes

The minutes from the September 6, 2016 meeting were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve the minutes as written. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Thompson. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Visitors and Communications

Neco Tom a student at Highlands High School addressed council. Highlands would like to do a panel discussion with the council candidates on October 4th. Several council members noted that it is nice to see young people involved in the process.

Reports of Officers

Fire Department Monthly Report: Chief Mark Bailey: Chief Bailey presented his monthly report to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to receive and file the fire department's monthly report. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Thompson. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Police Department Monthly Report: Chief Mike Daly: Chief Daly presented his monthly report to council. Chief Daly mentioned the accident that happened at the top of S. Grand Ave. He has had some discussions with residents on Grand Ave regarding the accident and the P.D. is looking at options to slow traffic. There could also be the possibility of reducing speed limit or reducing the lanes from 4 to 2 lanes. Ron Dill noted that this was investigated around 10 years ago and the resulting decision of council was to not go ahead with reducing the lanes. There was a lot of public opposition to it as well. Joe Schwerling addressed council about this issue. He noted that there could be advantages but it makes it harder to negotiate with only 2 lanes. The curves slow people down and he doesn't see reducing lanes making it any safer. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Thompson to receive and file the police department's monthly report. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr.

Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Thompson. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

City Administrator’s Report: Ron Dill: Ron Dill did not have anything additional to report.

Debbie Buckley Report to Council: Debbie Buckley presented her report to council regarding Renaissance and Economic Development. Mayor Haas thanked Debbie for a wonderful report. The report is attached.

Finance Committee Report on Disbursements: The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 302605 through 302673 for the period of **September 7-19, 2016.** A motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Bowman to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye” – Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Thompson. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Ordinances, Resolutions, and Orders

Ordinance O-10-2016: An ordinance to adopt a text amendment to the city’s Official Zoning Ordinance to include “hotel” as a permitted use under the General Commercial zoning classification was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve ordinance O-10-2016. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye” – Mr. Muller, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Thompson. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Ordinance O-11-2016: An ordinance establishing the 2016 property tax rate was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Muller to approve Ordinance O-11-2016. Mr. Bowman noted that the PVA will reassess the city next year and that we will have a tax increase next year with these new assessments. Mr. Peterman noted that Kentucky law takes into account the increase in property assessments and if there is an increase in assessments for next year that cause revenues to go beyond what the city is approved to receive the rate may go down to ensure that we do not exceed the 4%. If the property values go up by 4% the tax rate would stay the same because the increase in valuation would be 4%. If they don’t go up at all, the rate could go up to generate the 4% revenue. Mr. Bowman indicated that he still feels that city would be fine even without the increase in taxes. Mr. Peterman noted that the property tax enables the city to hire quality employees and provide amenities for the community. Increasing 4% of 1/3 of our revenue is not going to cover inflation, insurance or pension costs. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Muller, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman, and Mr. Thompson. Voting “no”: Mr. Bowman. The motion passed by a 4-1 vote.

With no further action to come before council, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Kelly, City Clerk