

**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,  
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 21, 2020. 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: City Administrative Officer Ron Dill, City Clerk Melissa Beckett, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, Fire Chief Mark Bailey, Police Chief Casey Kilgore and City Attorney Jann Seidenfaden.

**Minutes**

The minutes from the September 8, 2020 meeting were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman to approve the minutes with the amendment regarding his concern about Trick or Treat, it was seconded by Mr. Collier. 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**

Kate Kruse of 66 Lockwood addressed council regarding the pickleball courts in Tower Park. Pickleball is becoming more popular and several residents have been asking for more tennis courts to be striped and possibly an additional court in another park.

Barry Anderson from Rosemont Avenue addressed council. Mr. Anderson was at a meeting last year and wanted to note again that pickleball is an important part of the community.

Crystal McQueen of 18 Glenway Ave. addressed council. Mrs. McQueen indicated that the residents on Glenway are concerned about speeding on their street. There are thirty one children and they feel that 25 mph is too high for that street. Ron Dill noted that the city is looking at the speed limits on side streets at this time and will be meeting in committee in the next few weeks regarding this issue.

Joe Schwerling noted that according to Tank, they plan to remove the bus service in the winter. He suggested that they keep the 16 bus and keep the loop around Grand and Highland Avenue and it would still be able to serve the majority of Fort Thomas.

**Proclamation for Extra Mile Day:** Mayor Haas read a proclamation for “Extra Mile Day”.

***PROCLAMATION***

*WHEREAS, Fort Thomas, Kentucky, is a community which acknowledges that a special vibrancy exists within the entire community when its individual citizens collectively “go the extra mile” in personal effort, volunteerism, and service; and*

*WHEREAS, Fort Thomas, Kentucky, is a community which encourages its citizens to maximize their personal contribution to the community by giving of themselves wholeheartedly and with total effort, commitment, and conviction to their individual ambitions, family, friends, and community; and*

*WHEREAS, Fort Thomas, Kentucky, is a community which chooses to shine a light on and celebrate individuals and organizations within its community who “go the extra mile” in order to make a difference and lift up fellow members of their community; and*

*WHEREAS, Fort Thomas, Kentucky, acknowledges the mission of Extra Mile America to create 500 Extra Mile cities in America and is proud to support “Extra Mile Day” on November 1, 2020.*

*NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor of the City of Fort Thomas, Kentucky, hereby proclaim November 1, 2020, to be Extra Mile Day.*

### ***“Extra Mile Day”***

*I urge each individual in the community to take time on this day to not only “go the extra mile” in his or her own life, but to also acknowledge all those who are inspirational in their efforts and commitment to make their organizations, families, community, country, or world a better place.*

*Given under my hand on this, the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty.*

#### **Reports of Officers**

**Fire Department Monthly Report, Chief Mark Bailey:** Chief Bailey presented his report for August to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Bowman to receive and file the monthly report for the Fire Department. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Peterman, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Fire Department Demonstration:** Fire Department personnel were in attendance to demonstrate the new Lucas Chest Compression device that provides for hands off delivery of compressions, thus freeing personnel to perform other measures for the patient (i.e. dispensing of medicines ventilation, etc). This device was recently purchased as part of the CARES funding reimbursement received from the Dept. of Local Governments.

**Police Department Monthly Report, Chief Casey Kilgore:** Chief Kilgore presented his report for August to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Bowman to receive and file the monthly report for the Police Department. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Peterman, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

## **City Administrators Report:**

**Chesapeake Avenue Recommendations:** Ron received an email from CT Consultants regarding the grant application and options to help alleviate the speeding on Chesapeake. He will discuss with Frank Twehues in the near future.

**Lower Rossford Avenue:** There is a bridge structure at the end of Rossford that recently the city found out that belongs to us. We took it over in the 1960's. There is significant damage and the city will get this evaluated and make repairs soon.

**Tower Park Ballfield:** General Services crews have completed the underground drainage systems within the field and storm drains outside the field. Team All Sports is scheduled to begin the infield grading/field preparation beginning week of 9/21. Mills Fencing will follow with fence installation in early October.

**Tower Park Shelter 3:** This project is coming along and the city crews are doing work on the lighting and sidewalks. The city is in hopes that this project will be done sometime in the Fall.

**Halloween:** As discussed at the last meeting staff has been collaborating with neighboring communities and with the NKY Health Department to consider this topic. It appears the consensus is that it could be conducted safely with additional protocols put into practice. The NKYHD is working on guidelines and messaging for cities to duplicate and circulate to residents on "best practices". It is recommended that this event be set for Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup> between 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

Staff is also working on potential modifications of city events (Pumpkin Walk) that could be conducted safely. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve trick or treat for October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6-8 p.m. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Peterman and Mr. Blau. Mr. Bowman abstained from the vote.

Mr. Collier asked where the city was with communication solutions. Ron Dill noted that everything is recorded and posted on the city's YouTube Channel and we are still working in that direction. Mr. Collier indicated that a Mevo camera would be a good investment to record our meetings. Mayor Haas is concerned about the sound so that the live feed is louder.

Mr. Cameron asked about the purchase of the Chevy Tahoe and the Dodge Durango. Chargers are no longer available to the police departments. The city had an opportunity to purchase these two vehicles because they were in stock, these are the two options aside from the Ford Explorer, which was more expensive. Mr. Cameron also asked for an update on the AirB&B. Ron noted that Debbie Buckley has worked on a draft ordinance and this topic will be presented to the Planning Commission at a later date.

## **New Business**

**Consideration of bids for sidewalk replacement on Burney Lane:** Sealed bids for sidewalk replacement were opened on Friday September 18, 2020 at 10:00 am. The city received one (1) bid for the project from TMS Construction for \$109,240.50. Upon review of bid and value engineering performed by our city engineer, the project removed the driveway apron replacement and curb repair to be deferred until the street is resurfaced. Adjusted bid work would total \$81,918.00 TMS Construction has performed sidewalk work in the city on multiple occasions, most recently on Vernon Lane last year.

Staff recommends acceptance of the adjusted bid amount for the project at **\$81,918.00**. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Blau to approve the bid from TMS Construction in the amount of \$81,918.00. 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.

**Consideration of City Building Renovation Project:** The committee of the whole will review details in committee before our regular council meeting. Based upon this review, staff will be requesting authorization to proceed with completion of construction drawings, bid documents and financing for initiating this project. If approved, a first reading of ordinance has been included on our agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Bowman to approve the renovation of the city building. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Blau. Recused: Mr. Peterman due to the fact that the KLC is a client of his legal firm. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

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

**Ordinance No. O-12-2020:** A second reading of an Ordinance establishing the city’s intent to proceed with the 2020 Street Resurfacing Program was presented to council. The contents of the Ordinance comply with the recommendations from the Public Works Committee and City Engineer. The streets in this program are Beechwood Avenue, Crowell Avenue, Greenwood Avenue, Holly Lane, Mayfield Avenue, Military Parkway, and Robson Avenue. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Bowman to approve Ordinance O-12-2020. 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.

**Ordinance No. O-13-2020:** A second reading of an Ordinance establishing the property tax rate for the 2020 tax collection was presented to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Bowman to approve Ordinance O-13-2020. 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.

**Ordinance No. O-14-2020:** A first reading of an Ordinance to initiate the process of bond issuance documents through the Kentucky League of cities to finance the City Building Renovation project was presented to council for a first reading. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

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

APPROVED:

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Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk