

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020**

The Public Hearing for the proposed 2020 Tax Rate was called to order by Mayor Eric Haas at 6:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the City Building. Present for the hearing were, David Cameron, Ken Bowman, Mark Collier, and Roger Peterman. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Ron Dill, City Clerk Melissa Beckett, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, and City Attorney Jann Seidenfaden.

The proof of publication was read by Mayor Haas and stated that the legal notice was published in the Campbell County Recorder on Thursday, August 20th and Thursday, August 27, 2020. The notice is required under KRS 132.027, as passed by the Kentucky General Assembly.

Mayor Haas read the tax rate information for the record. The proposed tax rate for 2020 is \$.397 per \$100. General areas of allocation are personnel, utilities, and supplies.

Mayor Haas called for comments from the audience and received none.

With no comments from the audience, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 8, 2020. City Clerk, Melissa Beckett called the roll and the following council members were present: David Cameron, Ken Bowman, Mark Collier, and Roger Peterman. Absent: Jeff Bezold and Adam Blau. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Ron Dill, City Clerk Melissa Beckett, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, and City Attorney Jann Seidenfaden.

Minutes

The minutes from the August 17, 2020 meeting were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bowman to approve the minutes as written. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, and Mr. Peterman. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Visitors and Communications

Abby Kessinger from 147 Chesapeake Avenue addressed council. Mrs. Kessinger presented a power point presentation to the Mayor and council addressing the speeding issue on Chesapeake. She had several suggestions to help slow drivers down. Jody Robinson also addressed council regarding the Vision Zero grant process. Staff will follow up with Mrs. Kessinger regarding the Vision Zero grant submission and the next steps in the process.

Lisa Adams from 5 Woodland Place addressed council. Ms. Adams runs an Airbnb out of her home and would like to see Fort Thomas adopt a policy that allows people to rent out their homes and identify rules and regulations as a part of this policy. It was the consensus of council to refer this matter to the Planning Commission for review.

Reports of Officers

City Administrators Report:

Halloween: There has been some discussion regarding the events surrounding Halloween and conducting traditional Halloween. 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”. Further, it appears that Saturday, October 31st in a time period between 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. is being standardized and less than a two hour event is being considered. Staff is also working on potential modifications of city events (Pumpkin Walk) that could be conducted safely. Mr. Bowman raised concern about having trick or treating with the current status of the Covid virus. He stated that we know people do not follow the CDC guidelines and there was a spike after Memorial Day and the 4th of July. Mr. Bowman noted that he is against having this event and is hopeful that council will reconsider their decision.

Community Plan Implementation: City Building concept plans are being completed and should be ready for presentation/approval of this project in committee and/or with city council at the next council meeting on September 21st. Information and details will be forwarded in the next couple of weeks for review by members.

Memorial Parkway: Ron Dill thanked the Garden Club and Green Team for their work on Memorial Parkway planting. Lori Wendling and Allison Murphy headed this project up along with help from city crews. All of the work is greatly appreciated by the city.

New Business

2020 Street Resurfacing Program: Ken Bowman reported on the 2020 Street Resurfacing Program. The report read as follows:

Honorable Mayor and Board of Council:

We the undersigned members of the Public Works Committee of Council hereby report that a public hearing was conducted on Thursday, August 27, 2020 regarding the city’s proposed 2020 street resurfacing program. The committee conducted two hearings to divide the streets/residents into smaller groups. The 2020 street resurfacing program consists of the following streets:

Beechwood Avenue
Crowell Avenue (US27 to Corp line)
Greenwood Avenue
Holly Lane
Mayfield Avenue & Highland Park Drive
Military Parkway
Robson Avenue

Committee members and staff conducted the hearings, which were attended by approximately thirty-five (35) residents and property owners, twenty (20) of which addressed the committee. One hundred sixty-six (166) properties are being assessed in this year’s program. Generally speaking, there was support for the proposed improvements outlined within the attached Engineer’s Comprehensive Report. Several residents asked questions specific to deteriorated conditions or drainage issues on their streets/sidewalks.

There was a request to connect a missing section of sidewalks on Military Parkway. One resident questioned the assessment method and fairness of assessments in general. Two residents requested slower speed limits/speed bumps (on Crowell & Military Pkwy). Several residents from Mayfield requested that their street be designated as a 60/40 split based on the amount of use that is associated with Highland Park and stated examples of impact from park users. Generally, questions were addressed at the hearing and staff will provide follow-up to other issues discussed.

Based upon the results of the public hearing the Public Works Committee of Council hereby recommends that the city proceed with the street resurfacing improvements as proposed with the exception of adjusting the 60/40 assessment to include Mayfield Avenue; and that the Board of Council authorize the first reading of the Ordinance acknowledging the city's intent to proceed with the project.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ken Bowman, Chairman

Jeff Bezold, member

Adam Blau, member

The first reading of this ordinance will be read later in the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Collier to accept the recommendation from the report from the Public Works Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, and Mr. Peterman. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Consideration of bids for Tower Park Ballfield Grading/infield preparation: Sealed bids for performing infield grading & preparation for the ballfield in Tower Park were opened on Monday August 24, 2020 at 2:00 pm. The city received two (2) bids for the project from O'heil Site Solutions for \$80,150.00 and Team All Sports for \$39,954.90. Team All Sports has previously constructed Rossford fields and Winkler Field. Staff recommends acceptance of the low bid for the project at \$39,954.90 be awarded to Team All Sports. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Peterman to approve the bid from Team All Sports in the amount of \$39,954.90. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, and Mr. Peterman. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Consideration of License Agreement with the Fort Thomas Forest Conservancy: A license agreement between the city and the Fort Thomas Forest Conservancy for leaf disposal on Fort Thomas Forest Conservancy's property. A motion was made by Mr. Peterman and seconded by Mr. Bowman to approve the license agreement with the Forest Conservancy. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, and Mr. Peterman. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Ordinances, Resolutions, and Orders

Ordinance No. O-11-2020: A second reading of an ordinance adopting a 3% adjustment in pay for members of the IAFF (Fire) was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Collier to approve ordinance O-11-2020. Upon call of the roll, the

following members voted “aye”: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Collier, and Mr. Peterman. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Ordinance No. O-12-2020: First Reading of an Ordinance establishing the city’s intent to proceed with the 2020 Street Resurfacing Program. 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. This ordinance will be laid over until the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

Ordinance No. O-13-2020: First Reading of an ordinance establishing the 2020 tax rate. This ordinance will be laid over until 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:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk