

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,  
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021  
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. City Clerk, Melissa Beckett called the roll and the following council members were present: Ben Pendery, Ken Bowman, Lisa Kelly, Jeff Bezold, Adam Blau and Connie Grubbs. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Ron Dill, City Clerk Melissa Beckett, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, Fire Chief Chris Amon, Police Chief Casey Kilgore and City Attorney Jann Seidenfaden.

Mayor Haas welcomed new council members Lisa Kelly, Connie Grubbs and Ben Pendery and returning council members Ken Bowman, Jeff Bezold and Adam Blau. Mayor Haas also welcomed the city's new Fire Chief, Chris Amon who previously retired from Fort Thomas Fire Department.

Mr. Bowman quickly questioned the status of the phase 1 covid vaccination for the police and fire departments. Both chiefs indicated that they have had good participation from their employees.

### **Minutes**

The minutes from the December 21, 2020 meeting was 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. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Reports of Officers**

**Fire Department Monthly Report, Chief Chris Amon:** Chief Amon presented his report for December to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Ms. Grubbs to receive and file the monthly report for the Fire Department. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Police Department Monthly Report, Chief Casey Kilgore:** Chief Kilgore presented his report for December to council. Chief Kilgore reviewed new guidelines for fingerprinting and gave updates on current scams. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Bezold to receive and file the monthly report for the Police Department. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted "aye": Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting "no" none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **City Administrators Report:**

**Administration offices relocating to Armory:** Administrative staff has successfully transitioned all offices and services to the first floor of the Armory. Temporary quarters are complete and we have occupied the space beginning January 4, 2021. We have limited public access and have continued some remote work schedules but have experienced very positive interactions/service delivery. We will re-evaluate Covid-19 policies each month moving forward.

**Short Term Rental/Bed & Breakfast Ordinance:** This matter was brought to council and referred to the Planning Commission for further consideration. The Planning Commission has worked over several meetings to draft ordinances that will be presented as a text amendment. They have scheduled a public hearing before the commission on Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Mess Hall. Once it is approved through Planning Commission, this matter will be forward with recommendation to city council, likely in February.

**TANK Route changes:** As previously reported, TANK has redesigned their route system and has resulted in the elimination of #11 through the north part of town and limits #16 to only come as far as St. Elizabeth (formerly Grand/Highland/S. Ft. Thomas). Obviously this is a large reduction in service area that has been vetted through their study process. These changes will take effect beginning **Saturday January 30<sup>th</sup>**.

**Bid Openings:** The bid openings for the N. Ft. Thomas Ave. Sidewalk project is January 29<sup>th</sup> and the 2020 Street Program is scheduled for February 12<sup>th</sup>. Both items will be included on the February 15<sup>th</sup> council agenda.

**Renaissance activities:** Forwarded to Council were 2 letters from Debbie Buckley. The first one is regarding the GROW grant program distribution from last year. As noted, residual funds from the previous year were utilized for several projects. The second item was the award for historic tax credits from the roofing/gutter/painting etc. that was performed on the Mess Hall and Armory buildings in 2019. Those projects totaled \$518,627 and our return on sale of historic tax credits will provide \$47,785 to offset these costs. Debbie was diligent in the pursuit of these funds and they finally paid off!

Adam Blau questioned the status of the work on Waterworks Road. Ron noted that there is a group of lines that are encased in concrete and they are also going to extend the project across Memorial Parkway. Waterworks will likely be part of the 2021 Street Resurfacing Program. Mr. Bowman asked if we could look at Kyles Lane along with Waterworks Road resurfacing. Ron noted that we do not want both Waterworks and Kyles Lane to be under construction in the same year.

## **New Business**

**Consideration of Bids – Asbestos Abatement in City Building:** Pinnacle Environmental assisted with developing scope of work & evaluation of bids received for asbestos abatement necessary for the city building restoration project. Bids were publicly opened on Friday January 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm in the lobby. We received four (4) bids ranging from \$47,290 from Environmental Demolition Group (EDG) to \$65,000 from Sunesis. Other bids received were from DSEA (\$47,610) and Enviroworx (\$64,850). Staff recommends acceptance of the bid submitted by EDG in the amount of \$47,290. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to accept the bid from EDG in the amount of \$47,290.00. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Presentation of Community Plan Implementation:** Chris Manning and Ron Dill presented a comprehensive update of the implementation of the city’s Community Plan. Staff has annually started the new year with this type of update. It is an opportunity to review progress through the last calendar year, visit the pending items and highlight the next steps toward implementation.

**NKY Firefighters’ Association Mutual & Automatic Assistance Contract:** This document is an affirmation of the city’s intent to continue participation in the mutual aid between agencies. The contract is updated periodically to allow review and current acknowledgement from the respective participating agencies. Staff recommends authorizing the mayor’s signature/execution. A motion was made by Mr.

Bowman and seconded by Ms. Grubbs to authorize the mayor to enter into the contract. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Finance Committee Report of Disbursements:** The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 8662-8811 for the period of **December 17, 2020 to January 15, 2021** was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Mr. Pendery to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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

**Ordinance No. O-16-2020:** Consideration of an Ordinance consenting to the assignment and transfer of control of the Cable Systems Franchise Agreement with Cincinnati Bell to Red Fiber Parent, LLC. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to approve Ordinance O-16-2020. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Ordinance No. O-17-2020:** Consideration of an Ordinance establishing the annual salary of the position of Fire Chief was presented to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to approve Ordinance O-17-2020. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Municipal Order MO-01-2021:** A Municipal Order declaring surplus city equipment and arranging disposition of property in accordance with state statute. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Kelly to approve Municipal Order MO-01-2021. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Resolution R-01-2021:** A Resolution supporting legislative action to increase transportation funding to cities was presented to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Grubbs to approve Resolution R-01-2021. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Pendery, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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

APPROVED:

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Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk