

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021**

The Public Hearing for the proposed 2021 Tax Rate was called to order by Mayor Eric Haas at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center/Mess Hall. Present for the hearing were, Lisa Kelly, Ben Pendery, Ken Bowman, 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 Tim Schneider.

The legal notice was read by Mayor Haas and stated that the notice was published in the Campbell County Recorder on Thursday, August 12, 2021 and Thursday, August 19, 2021. 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 2021 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 7:05 p.m. The notice is attached below:

**LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS, KENTUCKY
TAX RATE INFORMATION - 2021**

Tax Rate Proposed for 2021	\$.397/ \$100
Revenue Anticipated	5,925,950
Tax Rate Proposed for 2020	\$.397/ \$100
Revenue Anticipated	5,829,303
Compensating Tax Rate 2021	\$.390 / \$100
Revenue Anticipated	5,821,462
Revenue From New Property	\$ 33,967
Revenue From Personal Property	\$ 51,254

General Areas of Allocation: Personnel, Utilities, Supplies

A Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 7th, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at the Fort Thomas Community Center / Mess Hall, located at 801 Cochran Street, Fort Thomas, KY. The purpose of this Hearing is to receive taxpayer input on the proposed tax rate for 2021. This Notice is required by KRS 132.027, as passed by the Kentucky General Assembly.

SIGNED: Melissa K. Beckett,
City Clerk

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday, September 7, 2021. Melissa Beckett, City Clerk, called the roll and the following council members were present: Lisa Kelly, Ben Pendery, Ken Bowman, 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 Tim Schneider.

Minutes

The minutes from the August 16, 2021 meeting were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Grubbs to approve the minutes as written. Mayor Haas called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Visitors and Communications

Chief Casey Kilgore presented Sergeant Michael Dietz with his badge and congratulated him on his promotion. Sergeant Deitz introduced his family and thanked the Mayor and council. Mayor Haas thanked him for his service to Fort Thomas.

Reports of Officers

City Administrator's Report: Ron Dill

Zoning Ordinance Update: The city has initiated the process of updating the city's Zoning Ordinance. This process typically follows the update of the city's Comprehensive Plan that was completed as we entered 2019. Alisa Duffey Rogers, Architect/Planner with CT Consultants will serve as facilitator/advisor for staff & our Planning Commission during this process. She will have initial meeting with the Planning Commission on Tuesday, September 14th at 6:30 pm to discuss the scope of review necessary for this update. Once completed, this will be presented to city council for approval.

Chesapeake Ave. Roadway Improvements: City crews have recently completed the traffic calming medians, signage and pavement markings that were planned for Chesapeake Ave. These items were funded in part through the *Devou Good Foundation* in the amount of \$70,000. While we are staged for closing the road during this construction, we will be performing some limited milling/resurfacing and re-opening the road. Upon completion, the police department will do a new speed study evaluation.

City Building Update: The city has experienced a couple of issues related to the Police Department. The carpeting was removed from the lower level after some water infiltration last month. We are arranging floor covering replacement sooner than the intended replacement closer to the end of the project. We also lost use of the rooftop air conditioning units for the Police Department last week. We anticipated this unit needing replacement and added it to our contract in February. Fortunately, the unit is available and is already scheduled for next Tuesday. Work has begun for finishing the Fire Department quarters during this month so they may return to the building in October. The other critical item is the completion of the public sidewalk that should be finished this Saturday and open for public use after.

Recreational Trails Program Grant/Route 8: The city submitted this grant for the design and construction of a 6,000 linear foot loop along Mary Ingles Highway in Fort Thomas. With the recent closure of this portion of Mary Ingles Highway/Rt. 8 we have a greater need and opportunity for these RTP funds to be invested in our community. The city has asked for an

amendment to the design and engineering for the aforementioned 6,000 liner feet loop along Mary Ingles Highway/ State Route 6335 (formerly Route 8). The city has had preconstruction meetings with the engineer to do evaluations and cost estimating on a project to repair the road and will hopefully put the city in a position to address this with Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

Mr. Bowman asked about the installation of the bollards on Waterworks Road. Ron noted that this will be completed after the Chesapeake project is completed. The city is doing bump outs at Sadye Court and Hartweg Avenue and then the bollards will be installed at the upper intersection at Memorial Parkway and Waterworks Road between Memorial Parkway and N. Ft. Thomas.

Community Plan Implementation: Chris Manning is completing compilation of public input for the proposed bike/skate park & splash parks. This information is being compiled for review and presentation before the *Recreation Committee* at their meeting on **Wednesday September 15th at 6:00pm** in the Mess Hall. Adam Blau asked if there will be conversation regarding the pickleball courts in other areas of the city at the Recreation Committee meeting on September 15, 2021. Ron noted that we do have pickleball courts planned for the lower tennis court in Tower Park and further discussion may or may not happen at this meeting but will be looked at in the future.

2020 Street Program: Public Works Committee will be scheduling a public inspection of the 2020 Street Improvements in the near future. Once scheduled, this information will be posted on the website.

2021 Street Program: *Waterworks Road:* Eaton Asphalt is scheduled to begin work with milling/paving beginning the week of October 4th.

Wilbers Lane: Duke Energy has recently initiated replacement of their utility poles AND gas main/services along the entire street. This work is necessary because the gas utility is too shallow for the undercut/road replacement. This work is scheduled to be completed by October 1st when street reconstruction will begin. Residents were recently notified by mail of this schedule.

New Business

Report of the Law, Labor, and License Committee: Ms. Grubbs reported that the Law, Labor and License Committee met before the council meeting to discuss the outdoor dining ordinance and this is ready to be referred to the Council. The golf cart ordinance and will be more discussion on this matter at before the next meeting of council. Adam Blau noted that if we had a little more time to investigate this, he would be more inclined to lean towards changing the age limit from 19 to 16 years old.

Ordinances and Orders

Ordinance No. O-13-2021: A first reading of an Ordinance establishing the property tax rate for the 2021 tax collection was presented to council. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

Ordinance No. O-14-2021: An Ordinance amending ordinance number O-08-2020, Section IV (5); to allow the operator of a golf cart to be 16 years old with valid driver's license. The first reading of this ordinance was tabled for further consideration by the Law, Labor, and License Committee.

Ordinance No. O-15-2021: First Reading of an ordinance amending ordinance number O-07-2007 to allow for certain changes to requirements for outdoor dining was presented to council. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

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

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk