

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2021**

Mayor Eric Haas called the meeting of council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 15, 2021. Melissa Beckett, City Clerk, called the roll and the following council members were present: Ben Pendery, Ken Bowman, Jeff Bezold, Adam Blau and Connie Grubbs. Absent: Lisa Kelly. 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 September 20, 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

Badge Pinning for New Police Officers: Chief Casey Kilgore introduced new officers Robert Alex Hall and Tyler James Laffin as the city's newest addition to the police department. Mayor Haas welcomed both of them to the department and thanked everyone for their service to the city.

The Grinch ran in and presented the Mayor with an invitation to the city's Holiday Walk, and with that he ran off with the Mayor's gavel! That Grinch has no limits!

Mark Collier from 16 Madonna was in attendance of the meeting to invite the Mayor, Council, and city administration to the Fort Thomas Business Association meeting on Tuesday, November 23rd at 5 p.m. at Launch, Fort Thomas Independent Schools Professional Studies Center, 20 N. Grand Ave.

Julie Kirkpatrick, president and CEO of meetNKY addressed council. Julie presented council with an update on the activity happening within the NKY Chamber, meetNKY, and Tri-Ed. The mission statement for these combined entities is to make an economic impact on NKY to bring in visitors that leave behind money and build a better quality of life for all Northern Kentuckians. Workforce is an issue across the region and is not one that is going to go away easily. Health and transportation are big advocacy missions as well. The NKY Chamber is working on leadership development on Women's initiative and Grow NKY which is the regional workforce initiative. She mentioned that November 30th is the Chambers "Where we Stand" Event on NKY destinations and the Chamber's Annual Dinner will be held on December 16th. MeetNKY is working on a destination assessment and strategic plan for the NKY area. They are also working on a grant process with Southbank partners to make the Riverfront Commons a reality and in hopes to receive money for tours and industry. Tri-Ed is focused on a how they build and expand NKY. Customized workforce solutions, targeted business growth. Julie mentioned the census. Cincinnati is on a growth projectory but not as large as other surrounding large cities. Population growth is slowing and getting older, without population growth, Cincinnati and NKY will not be

able to keep up with other markets. Julie thanked the mayor and council for allowing her time to present updates.

Reports of Officers

Fire Department Monthly Report, Chief Chris Amon: Fire Chief Chris Amon presented the fire monthly report to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Grubbs to receive and file the monthly report for the Fire Department. Mayor Haas called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Police Department Monthly Report, Chief Casey Kilgore: Chief Casey Kilgore presented the police monthly report for September to council. A motion was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Ms. Grubbs to receive and file the monthly report for the Police Department. Mayor Haas called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

City Administrator's Report: Ron Dill

Dora Update: The city has received the liquor license required to allow the DORA district to be officially opened. The city is working on signage placement and an official opening date with the business owners that is to be determined.

Tower Park Playground Equipment: Mid-States Recreation has completed the installation of both playgrounds in Tower Park. Final inspection was performed this week and they are being used every day!

Mr. Bowman asked about the main playground in Tower Park and in Highland Park and when they might be looked at to be replaced. Most of the equipment is rusted and in bad shape. Ron Dill noted that it is on the radar for replacement in the future, there are specific regulations that have to be followed when it comes to playground equipment.

2020 & 2021 Street Programs: The public inspection of streets has been scheduled for Thursday, November 18th at 4:30 pm. Staff is prepared to meet with the Public Works committee for preparation of the 2022 program in early December.

City Building Update: The Fire Department is scheduled to return to the building beginning next Tue 11/16. The replacement windows are in place, including the police department with only a few exceptions awaiting mounting materials. The façade work, including staining and window structure on the 2nd floor is scheduled to begin next week. The rear addition structure is near completion to the roof decking. The masonry is scheduled to begin on November 22nd. The site work in the back, including the base pavement for the parking lot is also scheduled to begin next week.

Holiday Walk: The annual walk is scheduled for Sunday, December 5th. The event is starting at 3:00 pm and ends with the tree lighting at Inverness at 6:00 pm. There are a lot of fun opportunities along the way from the live nativity at First Presbyterian Church to Inverness and everywhere in between. The business community has newfound support under this new format. The Grinch is stealing items to be included in a raffle at the holiday walk to support the Farmers Market, Education Foundation, and the Forest Conservancy.

BB&T/Restaurant: Quarter One Group has submitted their application for consideration of a revised development plan. The Planning Commission is expected to set this for a public hearing at their December 15th meeting.

All city personnel are now CPR certified. Ron thanked Chief Amon and Lt. Eric Scherpenberg for putting this together for all employees.

The Halloween Walk was a great success, even with the rain, people came out to see it. The Veterans Day event was also well attended.

City staff have been meeting with the City of Southgate, Campbell County and the Kentucky Highway Department on access and egress to the new development on the property where the Beverly Hills Supper Club was located.

New Business

Law Labor and License Committee Report: Connie Grubbs reported that the Law, Labor and License Committee of Council met prior to the council meeting at 6:15 p.m. to discuss a request from Bruce and Sarah Seidel of 191 Miami Parkway. The Seidels are asking to be granted a permanent easement through city property to allow them to build a new home on the lower portion of their lot. Ms. Grubbs stated that there is a good chance that the easement will be with some restrictions.

Finance Committee Report of Disbursements: The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 10111-10316 for the period of **October 13 – November 11, 2021.** 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, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Ms. Grubbs. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Ordinances and Orders

Executive Order EO-09-2021: An executive order appointing Robert Alex Hall to the position of police officer was presented to council with no action necessary.

Executive Order EO-10-2021: An executive order appointing Tyler James Laffin to the position of police officer was presented to council with no action necessary.

Executive Order EO-11-2021: An executive order appointing Ty Robinson to the position of general services laborer was presented to council with no action necessary.

Executive Order EO-12-2021: An executive order appointing Tyler Brocker to the position of general services laborer was presented to council with no action necessary.

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

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk