

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023**

Mayor Haas called the meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Melissa Beckett, City Clerk, called the roll and the following Council members were present: Jeff Bezold, Ben Pendery, Lauren McIntosh, Andy Ellison, Adam Blau, and Eric Strange. Absent: none. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Matt Kremer, City Clerk Melissa Beckett, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, Fire Chief Chris Amon, Police Chief Casey Kilgore, and City Attorney Tim Schneider.

Pledge to the Flag

Minutes

The minutes from the March 20, 2023 Regular meeting of Council were presented for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mrs. McIntosh to approve the minutes as written. Mayor Haas called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Visitors and Communications

Brandfuel Presentation: Mark, Stephanie and Kelsey with Brandfuel presented the process and final design for the city branding. Matt Kremer is looking forward to rolling out the new design for the city. Mayor Haas appreciates the process and inclusion of the city as a whole.

Terrell Biedenbarn from 22 Arno addressed council regarding a truck parked in a front yard on Clover Ridge and other misc. concerns.

Ken Bowman from 60 Altamont addressed council regarding lighting up the Tower orange for Gun Violence Awareness Day.

Patrick Hagerty from 49 W. Villa Place addressed council regarding the Design Review Board. He feels that it is taking it too far to limit who can serve on a board or commission.

Leilia Wendel from 231 S. Fort Thomas Avenue addressed council regarding the splash pad and the potential location in Tower Park. Mrs. Wendel is in favor of a splash pad in the city but feels that the location in Tower Park is not a good idea because the play equipment would be slippery, wet and muddy from kids playing on both.

Jesse Reynolds from 407 Chesapeake Avenue addressed council regarding the splash pad she is in favor of installing in the city and asked about potentially installing sidewalks on Chesapeake Avenue.

Bridget Go from 9 Linden Avenue addressed council regarding the splash pad. Mrs. Go is in favor of a splash pad in the city.

Alex Wendel from 231 S. Fort Thomas Avenue addressed council regarding the splash pad. Mr. Wendel is in favor of adding a splash pad but also feels that Tower Park is a bad location.

Barb Thomas from 73 W. Villa Place addressed council regarding her position on Design Review Board and the proposed amending ordinance. Mrs. Thomas feels that the amending ordinance excludes Fort Thomas business

owners that pay taxes, same as property owners. Mayor Haas noted that he would like the flexibility to include business owners if they are needed on city boards.

Carrie Ziegler from 31 Delta Ave. addressed council regarding the skate park that creates excessive noise. The closure by the city is being ignored. Staff are looking into other locations for the equipment.

Denise Dierig was present on behalf of her mother in law that resides at 61 Miller Lane regarding a handicap parking appeal. This matter will be addressed later in the meeting.

Lucia Todd from 203 Mullberry Court addressed council regarding the Design Review Board. She asked that council consider allowing the flexibility and not limit to resident members.

Carley Jamey from 5 Tremont addressed council regarding Design Review Board and the property adjacent to her that currently houses 2 goats and chickens.

Pat Lance from 5 Rosemont addressed council regarding a legal issue.

Elizabeth Allegrini from 45 Lockwood addressed council regarding clarification on motions at committee meetings. Ms. Allegrini also questioned the status of the re-appointment of Dan Gorman. Mr. Kremer indicated that this matter would not be an issue regarding quorum at a Planning Commission meeting. She also relayed that she feels that boards and commissions should only be resident members.

Kendal Fields from 36 Crowell Ave. addressed council regarding the splash pad. She asked that council look at examples of other splash pads in other cities that are not located near a playground.

Kaitleen Tallent Adams who owns a business at 122 N. Fort Thomas Avenue addressed council regarding supporting small business and non-residents being allowed to serve on a boards/commissions/committees. She asks that council think about who the business owners are, that they matter, and they are just as invested in the success of the city.

Reports of Officers

Fire Department Monthly Report: Chief Chris Amon: Chief Amon presented his monthly report to Council. A motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mr. Ellison to approve the monthly report from the fire department. Mayor Haas called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Police Department Monthly Report: Chief Casey Kilgore: Chief Kilgore presented his monthly report to Council. A motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve the monthly report from the police department. Mayor Haas called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

City Administrator's Report: Matt Kremer: Matt Kremer reported on the following:

- The sewer work performed by Sanitation District No. 1 on James Avenue has been completed.
- The city will host an open house on Tuesday, May 9th from 1 to 5 p.m.
- The Ethics Ordinance was slated to be updated at this meeting by adding the financial disclosure requirement. Prior to the ordinance being updated, staff will ask members for the disclosure. Mr. Kremer is asking for approximately 6 months or less to look at the ordinance and make all changes for an update.

Old Business

Handicap Parking located at 61 Miller Lane: Matt Kremer reviewed the details of the application. Discussion ensued with council regarding the pros and cons on approval of the application. A motion was made by Mr.

Ellison and seconded by Mr. Strange to approve the handicap parking place located at 61 Miller Lane. Upon call of the roll, the following voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Mr. Strange. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

New Business

Consideration of Easement for Bruce and Sarah Seidel: Council approved this easement to move forward last year. The property owner and city are finalizing payment documents. Staff is asking for a final vote from council to move forward with this easement. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mrs. McIntosh to approve the easement with the condition that it be for one home/unit only. Upon call of the roll, the following voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Mr. Strange. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Finance Committee Report of Disbursements: The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 12714-12830 for the period of **March 17 through April 13, 2023.** A motion was made by Mr. Blau and seconded by Mr. Ellison to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Mr. Strange. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Ordinances and Orders

Discussion ensued pertaining to updates to the Board and Commission Ordinances that are on the agenda for consideration by council. The main topic brought up for each ordinance was whether to allow non-resident business owners on the boards and commissions. It was the consensus of council to allow appointment for up to two (2) non-resident business owners within the city for the Design Review Board only. Mr. Bezold, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Strange, and Mrs. McIntosh will not require a unanimous vote from council and believes in the “vetting process”. Mr. Ellison and Mr. Blau would require a unanimous vote. The Design Review Board Ordinance will be amended and brought to the next council meeting for a first reading.

Ordinance O-05-2023: An ordinance amending Chapter 36, Sections 36.040 through 36.044 of the Fort Thomas Code of Ordinances pertaining to the Planning Commission was presented to Council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mrs. McIntosh to approve Ordinance O-05-2023. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Mr. Strange. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Ordinance O-06-2023: An ordinance amending Chapter 36, Sections 36.001 through 36.004 of the Fort Thomas Code of Ordinances pertaining to the Board of Adjustment was presented to Council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mr. Ellison to approve Ordinance O-06-2023. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Mr. Strange. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Ordinance O-07-2023: An ordinance amending Chapter 36, Sections 36.010 through 36.015 of the Fort Thomas Code of Ordinances pertaining to the Design Review Board was presented to Council for consideration. With no motion received, the ordinance will be re-evaluated and presented at the next meeting of council.

Ordinance O-08-2023: An ordinance amending the Personnel and Pay Classification Plan by adding a part-time Code Enforcement Officer and a part-time Facilities Maintenance Worker was presented to Council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Blau to approve Ordinance O-08-2023. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Mr. Strange. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Ordinance O-09-2023: A first reading of an ordinance to establish the Intent to Proceed with the 2023 Street Resurfacing Program. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

Adjournment: With no further business to come before council, a motion was made by Mr. Blau and seconded by Mr. Ellison to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk