

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023**

Mayor Haas called the Budget Hearing to order at 6:45 p.m. Mayor Haas read the budget message and called for public comment.

Tiffany Huber from 26 Hawthorne Avenue addressed council regarding the budget. Mrs. Huber prepared a survey that was put out on Facebook and she relayed the information to Council that was collected.

Sharon MacKnight from 62 Miller Lane addressed council regarding the budget. She asked about the ARPA funds, hiring a communications director, the IRBs that the city currently have, and the project that Highlands High School is working on for the soccer fields in Tower Park.

Peggy Maggio from 37 S. Shaw Lane addressed council regarding the Community Plan.

Dennis Pompilio from 40 Kathy Lane addressed council regarding the Highlands Sports Complex. Matt Kremer noted that this is a school project.

Melanie Powers from 13 Pearson addressed council regarding the Highlands Sports Complex in Tower Park.

Liquor License Public Hearing, Tickle Pickle LLC: Joe Ewald opened the liquor license public hearing at 7:45 p.m. The advertisement read as follows:

Application has been received from Tickle Pickle Fort Thomas, LLC, dba: Tickle Pickle Restaurant, 915 North Fort Thomas Avenue, Fort Thomas, Kentucky 41075, for an NQ-2 Restaurant Retail Drink and Special Sunday Sales License. The application is on file in the office of the Director of Finance and will be finally considered at a Public Hearing during the Council meeting on Monday, June 5th at 7:00 p.m., at the Fort Thomas City Building Council Chambers located at 130 N Fort Thomas Avenue. Any person having good cause or reason to object to the granting of this license may appear before the ABC Administrator and be heard or may submit written comments prior to the meeting. **Signed: Joseph Ewald**, ABC Administrator
With no comment from the audience, the hearing was closed at 7:50 p.m.

Liquor License Public Hearing, Highland Square Café: Joe Ewald opened the liquor license public hearing at 7:50 p.m. The advertisement read as follows:

Application has been received from Melisa Buechel, dba: Highland Square Café, 654 Highland Avenue Suite 1, Fort Thomas, Kentucky 41075, for an NQ-4 Malt Beverage Drink, Quota Retail Drink, and Special Sunday Sales License. The application is on file in the office of the Director of Finance and will be finally considered at a Public Hearing during the Council meeting on Monday, June 5th at 7:00 p.m., at the Fort Thomas City Building Council Chambers located at 130 N Fort Thomas Avenue. Any person having good cause or reason to object to the granting of this license may appear before the ABC Administrator and be heard or may submit written comments prior to the meeting. . **Signed: Joseph Ewald**, ABC Administrator
With no comment from the audience, the hearing was closed at 7:55 p.m.

Mayor Haas called the regular meeting of Council to order at 8:00 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 May 15, 2023 regular meeting of council were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Strange and seconded by Mr. Ellison to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Blau and seconded by Mr. Ellison to adjust the agenda to have the reading of Municipal Order MO-08-2023 prior to the joint discussion with Planning Commission because Mr. Durbin was present might prefer to not stay for the entire meeting.

Municipal Order MO-08-2023: A municipal order appointing Derek Durbin as an alternate to the Board of Ethics was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Blau and seconded by Mr. Ellison to approve MO-08-2023. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Blau, Mr. Pendery, Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Strange. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Durbin introduced himself and gave a brief overview of his background. He was welcomed by the Mayor and Council.

Joint Discussion between Council and the Planning Commission: Council and Planning Commission met to discuss updates to the Zoning Code. Planning Commission members present were: Pam Schweiss, Tim Michel, Larry Schultz, Jerry Noran, and Dave Wormald. Also present were Kevin Barbian General Services Director, Frank Twehues with CT Consultants, and Alisa Duffy Rogers with CT Consultants. Ms. Rogers presented a power point on the proposed updates to the Zoning Ordinance. Discussion topics included the following:

Character Considerations – Building Form and Placement
Use – Residential on the first floor & Single Family Detached
Boundaries – Midway and Downtown
Other City Council & Planning Commission Topics

Discussion ensued between Council and the Planning Commission.

Next steps are for CT to draft text which will incorporate discussion at this meeting to potentially present to the Planning Commission in July and to looking into regulations for all districts for parking regulations.

Public Comment on the Zoning Code Update:

Peggy Maggio from 37 S. Shaw Lane addressed Council and P.C. regarding permitted uses in the districts and the historic overlay in the Central Business District.

Joan Ferris from 66 Burney Lane addressed Council and P.C. regarding the homes in the Midway being included in the zoning plan. It was discussed that a “sub-district” would be created so that they can remain in the CBD that would reflect what is currently located in that area.

Tiffany Huber from 26 Hawthorne Avenue addressed council and P.C. regarding homeowners that abut commercial properties and there should be significant buffering between these.

Sharon MacKnight from 62 Miller Lane addressed council and P.C. regarding hiring a historic preservation specialist that would provide training for city boards and residents to ensure that everyone knows what the guidelines are and understand them.

Elizabeth Allegrini from 45 Lockwood Place addressed council and P.C. regarding a certificate of appropriateness and who's responsibility it was to get the COA before the buildings were torn down for One Highland. Kevin Barbian noted that the minutes reflected the formal approval for the removal of these buildings.

Ordinances and Orders

Ordinance O-11-2023: An ordinance amending the 22/23 Fiscal Year Budget was presented to council for a first reading. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

Ordinance O-12-2023: An ordinance establishing the 23/24 Fiscal Year Budget was presented to council for a first reading. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

Ordinance O-13-2023: An ordinance updating the Personnel Pay and Classification Plan for the City. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

Municipal Order MO-07-2023 was tabled until the next regular meeting of council.

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 10:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk