

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023**

With Mayor Haas's absence, a motion was made by Mr. Blau and seconded by Mr. Pendery to appoint Mr. Ellison as the Mayor Pro Tem for the meeting. Mr. Ellison called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call: Melissa Beckett, City Clerk, called the roll and the following Council members were present: Lauren McIntosh, Ben Pendery, Andy Ellison, Adam Blau, and Eric Strange. Absent: Jeff Bezold. 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.

Minutes

September 18, 2023: The minutes from the September 18, 2023 meeting of council were presented for consideration. Motion by Mr. Strange and seconded by Mr. Pendery. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Visitors and Communications

Elizabeth Allegrini from 45 Lockwood addressed council regarding the citizen's police academy. She noted that the program has been very interesting and everyone involved are having a good time. She thanked the Police Department for putting this together for the community.

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 Mrs. McIntosh to receive and file the monthly report from the fire department. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Police Department Monthly Report: Chief Casey Kilgore: Chief Kilgore presented his monthly report to council. A motion was made by Mrs. McIntosh and seconded by Mr. Pendery to receive and file the monthly report from the police department. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

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

- There have been some changes to the 2023 street program. The Rossford Bridge will be addressed in next year's budget. The city is focusing on sidewalk replacement on Villa Grande and N. and S. Fort Thomas Avenue. There is also some additional work that needs to be performed on Miami Parkway before the final surface is laid.
- The City will be striping parking spots on N. and S. Ft. Thomas Ave. in the next few weeks now that the resurfacing has been completed by the State.
- After communicating with Duke Energy for over a year regarding the significant settling of an access panel in front of U.S. Bank, it has been repaired.
- The city resurfaced Bivouac last year and the state repaved S. Ft. Thomas Ave, there was a 6 ft. strip left unpaved. The city has contracted Riegler to finish this portion of the street.

- The city had a preconstruction meeting with Prus Construction last week. Demolition of Tower Park playground will start around November 20th with a completion date of May 24, 2024.
- Last month council approved 1.7 million additional funding for Tower Park, this amount needs to be corrected to 1.172 million. A motion was made by Mr. Pendery to correct the original amount in the motion from 1.7 million to 1.172 million for the project. It was seconded by Mrs. McIntosh. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Blau and Mr. Strange. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- There is a joint school and council meeting being held on Tuesday, October 24th at 6:00 p.m. at the city building.
- Mr. Kremer reviewed legislation that will be addressed later on the agenda:
- The DRB amendment ordinance will be presented for a first reading with the largest change being to serve on the board you must be a resident of Fort Thomas.
- The waste collection franchise ordinance will be presented for a first reading. Rumpke was the only company that placed a bid. The residential pickup increased 28% from \$177.00 a year to \$228 per year, which is in line with other municipalities. Compared to other cities, the scope of service that the city receives is much better and there is not a fuel surcharge included in this contract.
- An additional surplus item being a police light pole will need to be approved to add into the auction. The memorandum of agreement with the school for the soccer complex is on the agenda for consideration.

Mr. Blau asked for an update about the Duke light poles that were supposed to be updated with LED lighting. Mr. Kremer noted that the city is working with Duke on how to address this as the new LED lighting is very bright. We are asking Duke to possibly begin replacing the lights in the Spring when the leaves are on the trees to help with the brightness of the LED’s.

Mr. Blau questioned establishing parking spots in the Midway for golf carts. He is asking to take 2 parking spots that will fit 3 golf carts. Mr. Kremer indicated that we would have to keep in mind that some golf carts are 6 feet long and would not fit in a smaller stall.

Finance Committee Report of Disbursements: The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 24348 to 24490 for the period of **September 16 – October 13, 2023.** A motion was made by Mr. Strange and seconded by Mr. Blau to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Blau, and Mr. Strange. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Ordinances and Orders

Ordinance O-07-2023: An ordinance amending the Design Review Board Ordinance was presented to council for a first reading. The legislation will be laid over for final approval next month.

Ordinance O-16-2023: An ordinance adopting the waste contract through Rumpke, Inc. was presented to council for a first reading. The legislation will be laid over for final approval next month.

Municipal Order MO-12-2023: A municipal order declaring city owned property as surplus was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mrs. McIntosh to approve municipal order MO-12-2023. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Municipal Order MO-13-2023: A municipal order allowing the mayor to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement between the Fort Thomas Independent School District and the City of Fort Thomas pertaining to the soccer complex renovations in Tower Park was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by

Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mrs. McIntosh to approve municipal order MO-13-2023. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Blau, and Mr. Strange. Voting “no”: none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Adjournment: With no further business to come before council, a motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mr. Ellison to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

APPROVED:

Andy Ellison, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk