

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024**

Mayor Haas called the meeting of Council 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: Ben Pendery, Andy Ellison, Jeff Bezold, Adam Blau, and Eric Strange. Absent: Lauren McIntosh. 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, City Attorney Tim Schneider.

Minutes

December 18, 2023: The minutes from the December 18, 2023 meeting of council were presented for consideration. Motion by Mr. Bezold and second by Mr. Ellison. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Visitors and Communications: None

Reports of Officers

City Administrator's Report: Matt Kremer: Matt Kremer gave an overview of the 2023 projects, accomplishments, and major events for the city. They are listed below:

2023 Projects/Accomplishments/Major Events

- 1 Approval and start of \$3.6M Tower Park Playground. Working on statue, hopeful to be completed in May of 2024.
- 2 2023 Street Program Completion. Seven roads have been inspected and completed. Kyles Lane has been completed as well.
- 3 Route 8 Improvement approved and began. In hopes to be completed by May.
- 4 Started foreclosure on 4 properties to gain compliance of code violations.
- 5 Completed the city building remodel. Still working on a few punch items that still need to be completed.
- 6 Instituted new Accounting Software - Springbrook
- 7 Continued Zoning Ordinance Update. Working to complete in July of 2024.
- 8 Blossom Lane reconstruction completed.
- 9 FTIS Sport Complex started a couple of weeks ago.
- 10 Negotiated Union Contracts.
- 11 Completed sanitary restoration in lower Highland Hills Park.
- 15 Installed new soccer field in lower Highland Hills Park.
- 16 Riverside Park was updated and completed.
- 17 Applied for Chesapeake Sidewalk grant through OKI.
- 18 Applied for Skatepark grant with Land & Water Conservancy Foundation.
- 19 Fort Thomas Ave. repaved and striped along with parking stalls added.

- 20 PD Accreditation was completed.
Cameras install in City Building, Tower Park, Armory and in 4 major intersections within the
21 city.
22 Created plan to limit tournaments/traffic in Highland Park.
23 Updated trash collection franchise.
24 Joint FTIS and City Council meeting.
25 Ordinance Updates.
26 Street Program Analysis.
Vietnam Veteran Monument in Tower Park. This is being funded by the Vietnam Veterans
Association of Campbell County. The city will fund the sidewalk that goes around the
27 monument. Looking at March 29th to do the ribbon cutting for the monument.
28 Hired 1st new Finance employee since 2013, Lana Morton.
29 Hired a Part Time Code Enforcement Officer, William Hunt.
30 Hired a 2nd School Resource Officer for the city/FTIS, Chris Goshorn.

New Business

Finance Committee Report of Disbursements: The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 24812-24840 for the period of **December 16 - 28, 2023.** A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Ellison to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Bezold, Mr. Blau, and Mr. Strange. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Ordinances and Orders

Municipal Order MO-15-2023: A municipal order pertaining to committees of council was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Ellison to approve municipal order MO-15-2023. Mayor Haas called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Adam Blau brought up not having a special meeting in January and keeping it at the 2nd Tuesday (Monday is MLK Day) of January so it is not considered a special meeting. He also asked if council would like to go ahead and have the council meeting on January 16th. It was the consensus of council that if there is no business to discuss, there is no need for another meeting in January. Mayor Haas noted that the first meeting of the month was cancelled because there was not enough time between meetings to add items for discussion and council was having a 15 minute meeting for no reason. By having one meeting a month, this gave staff and council more time to schedule a committee meeting if needed to discuss items for the next council meeting.

Adjournment: With no further business to come before council, a motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Pendery to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk