

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL  
CITY OF FORT THOMAS, CAMPBELL  
COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2024**

The special meeting of the Public Works Committee of Council was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on January 12, 2024. Members present included: Chairman Adam Blau, Andy Ellison, Lauren McIntosh, and Eric Strange. Staff members attending included: City Administrative Officer Matt Kremer, City Clerk Melissa Beckett, General Services Director Kevin Barbian, and City Engineers Frank Twehues and Robert Seitzinger, CT Consultants.

Chairman Adam Blau opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. The agenda was re-arranged due to visitor and former council member Adam Meier being in attendance. The city is considering raising the Duke Energy franchise fee to cover the annual street resurfacing program. The city currently uses an assessment process that bills the property owner based on the front footage of their property. This process takes an excessive amount of staff time. Mr. Meier gave his comments on using the franchise fee as opposed to the assessment process. Mr. Meier had initiated this when he was on city council but it never passed through the full council at the time, but noted that it makes more sense to use the franchise fee for the resurfacing costs, it is easier to plan and budget and is something that will give minimal impact on the property owner.

The city is legally permitted to raise the franchise fee at any time up to 5%. Currently residents pay \$.071 per month at a set rate. The only charge directly to residents would be if the city contracts out driveway aprons.

It was the consensus of the Public Works Committee to direct staff to look into the next steps on raising the franchise fee and set a percentage that would bring approximately 250 to 300K for the street resurfacing program. This percentage can be adjusted if needed. The city will schedule a Law, Labor, and License Committee Meeting prior to the council meeting in February to discuss further.

The second item on the agenda was the 2024 Street Resurfacing Program. The streets the city are looking to resurface are: Covert Run Pike, Gunpowder Ridge, Memory Lane, Pleasant Ridge, and Winston Hill Road. In addition to these roads, the city is proposing sidewalk, curb and apron replacement. This total is approximately \$500K. City curbs and the replacement program were discussed and Mr. Blau noted that he would like to see more consistency with curbs. Kevin Barbian also mentioned that curbs are the biggest cost in a street program. Mr. Kremer noted that the city will be bidding out curb and sidewalks to allow Public Works to work on other projects and to focus on other sidewalks through town that need to be addressed. The city will also be utilizing our Public Works Department to perform improvements to the business districts on N. and S. Fort Thomas Ave. The proposed 2024 street resurfacing program will be brought before the full council at the February 20, 2024 meeting for consideration.

With no further business to come before the Public Works Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

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Adam Blau, Chairman

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Andy Ellison, Member

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Lauren McIntosh, Member

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Eric Strange, Member

ATTEST:

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Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk