

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024**

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

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call: Matt Kremer, City Administrator, called the roll and the following Council members were present: Ben Pendery, Andy Ellison, Jeff Bezold (left prior to re-convening from executive session), Adam Blau, and Eric Strange. Absent: Lauren McIntosh. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Matt Kremer, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Joe Ewald, Fire Chief Chris Amon, Police Chief Casey Kilgore, and City Attorney Tim Schneider.

Minutes:

July 31, 2024 Joint PC and Council Meeting Minutes: The minutes for July 31, 2024 were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Pendery to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

September 16, 2024 Regular Minutes of Council: The minutes for September 16, 2024 were presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Pendery to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Visitors and Communications:

Fort Thomas Business Council Update: Nick Rolf from the Fort Thomas Business Council updated council on the events happening for the month of September. Kendall Sweeney was present to discuss her physical therapy clinic located at 604 S. Fort Thomas Avenue.

Amy Waldfogle from the Village Players addressed council and gave updates regarding future projects and fundraisers.

Steff Chalk from 21 Lafayette Avenue addressed council regarding city council campaigns and the October 1st Planning Commission meeting.

Joan Ferris from 66 Burney Lane addressed council regarding the planning and zoning code.

Daniel Cropper from 662 N. Fort Thomas Avenue addressed council regarding the overlay on N. and S. Fort Thomas Avenue. He took a poll of people on the avenue and most were against it.

Reports of Officers

Fire Department Monthly Report: Chief Chris Amon presented the monthly report for the Fire Department. A motion was made by Mr. Blau and seconded by Mr. Pendery to receive and file the monthly report for the Fire Department. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Police Department Monthly Report: Chief Casey Kilgore presented the monthly report for the Police Department. A motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mr. Strange to receive and file the monthly report for the Police Department. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

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

- The Rossford culvert is in full swing and should be completed in the next month.
- The Tower Park sports complex pedestrian walkway is open.
- The City Staff will meet with the city engineer regarding the 2025 Street Resurfacing Program at the beginning of November.
- The city has collected approximately 1/3 of the tax bill revenue to date.
- The grassy field on Alexander circle has been completed, grass is growing and it looks much better.
- City staff are looking into fencing for the softball field to add some additional protection to the homes in Alexander Circle.
- The Pickleball courts in Highland Park are in full swing, staff are working to install signs.
- Staff are waiting on final numbers for the Midway streetscape utilities project and will meet with the Public Works Committee to look at options moving forward.
- Mr. Kremer reviewed the legislation on the agenda for later in the meeting.

Adam Blau briefly discussed the skate ramps that were sold to the city of Alexandria and that while the city lost money on these, it did help us understand a better location for the permanent park. Also, Alexandria was able to purchase them and fulfill a 13 year commitment to their community with the ramps.

Jeff Bezold asked about street cuts on streets that have been newly resurfaced. Matt noted that when it is on a state highway, it is harder to control but the city is trying to keep a handle on this so it does not happen often. Matt will follow up on this for more information.

New Business

Maine Avenue Reconstruction: The city had an analysis of Maine Avenue done about a year ago due to slippage on the road. Since SD1 is doing a sewer project on Maine Avenue, it made sense to pave it once they are completed with the project. This is an expensive project that the city saw coming and it needs to be addressed. The estimate is just under 261K. We will bid this out in February. A motion to amend the budget for 261K in order to complete the Maine Avenue Reconstruction Project was made by Mr. Blau and seconded by Mr. Ellison. 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.

A motion was made by Mr. Strange and seconded by Mr. Blau to adjourn into executive session pursuant to KRS 61.810 (f) Discussions or hearings which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee, member, or student without restricting that employee's, members, or student's right to a public hearing if requested. This exception shall not be interpreted to permit discussion of general personnel matters in secret. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Council reconvened from executive session made by a unanimous voice vote. Absent: Jeff Bezold.

Finance Committee Report of Disbursements: The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 26046-26215 for the period of **September 14- October 17, 2024.** A motion was made by Mr. Ellison and seconded by Mr. Pendery to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Blau and Mr. Strange. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Ordinances, Resolutions and Orders

Ordinance O-09-2024: An ordinance amending the Personnel Ordinance was presented to council for a first reading. This ordinance will be laid over to the next regular meeting of council for consideration.

Resolution R-03-2024: A resolution providing city road data to the Northern Kentucky Area Development District was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Strange and seconded by Mr. Blau to approve resolution R-03-2024. The vote passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution R-04-2024: A resolution pertaining to a grant application for the skate park was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mr. Blau to approve resolution R-04-2024. The vote passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment: With no further business to come before council, a motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mr. Blau to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk