

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 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: Lauren McIntosh, Ben Pendery, Andy Ellison, Jeff Bezold, Adam Blau, and Eric Strange. 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:

August 19, 2024 Minutes: Motion by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Pendery. Motion passed unanimously.

September 3, Public Utilities and Buildings Minutes: Motion by Mrs. McIntosh and seconded by Mr. Bezold. Motion passed unanimously.

September 3 Regular Council Meeting: Motion by Mr. Strange and seconded by Mr. Blau. Motion passed unanimously.

Visitors and Communications:

FF/Paramedic Jacob Melville Badge Pinning: Chief Amon: Chief Amon introduced the city's newest Firefighter/Paramedic to the mayor and council. Jacob's wife Malia pinned his badge on him. Jacob introduced his family and the Mayor welcomed him to Fort Thomas.

NKADD Update: A representative from the Northern Kentucky Area Development District addressed council. She reviewed what they do for city government and some of the programs that they offer.

Proclamation: Extra Mile Day: Mayor Haas read the proclamation for Extra Mile Day.

Proclamation: Kentucky Symphony Orchestra Day: Mayor Haas read the proclamation for KSO Day.

Resident Comments:

Phil Paradis from 22 Sterling Ave. is standing in for the president of the Village Players. He was there to update council about the upcoming shows at the Village Players and the capital program they are working on to make the building a Cultural Arts Center.

Roger Neff from 39 Mayfield Ave addressed council regarding the pickleball courts in Highland Park and if there will be any soundproofing materials installed.

Joan Ferris from 66 Burney Lane addressed council about asking members of council or employees to speak into the microphones when answering a question so that everyone can hear them.

Elizabeth Allegrini from 45 Lockwood Avenue addressed council regarding the pickleball courts in Highland Park and asked when they will be opened. Mr. Kremer noted that the net shipment keeps getting pushed back. Elizabeth also asked about the changes in the Personnel Manual.

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 Mrs. McIntosh 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:

Rossford Culvert: The city received bids for the Rossford Avenue culvert repair which came in under budget at \$270K. The project will begin at the beginning of October and will take approximately three months.

Tower Park Sports Complex: The crews are working on getting the sidewalks opened that connect Sergeant to Tower Park. The school is hopeful that the walkway will be opened by the end of the month.

2025 Street Resurfacing Program: The 2025 street resurfacing program is starting now and the city is already discussing 2026 streets to be resurfaced.

Crosswalk Lighting: The city has been working on brighter crosswalk lighting. The goal is to light up the corners of streets well so at night you can see people at crosswalks better.

Alexander Circle: Grading field in the center of Alexander Circle because of all of the rock that was present. The city has hired a contractor to grade and bring in top soil to improve the condition of the surface. Additionally the side of the softball complex will be regraded to make it nicer for residents.

Highland Park Playground: Matt and Kat Disney have started discussion on new play structure at Highland Hills Park.

Midway Streetscape Improvements: The Midway streetscape will get an additional analysis this month and will begin in the next few months.

Legislation: The city is withdrawing the repealing ordinance and municipal order regarding the personnel manual updates. The second reading on the tax ordinance will be voted on tonight. Two municipal orders will be presented regarding re-appointment to boards.

New Business

Adam Blau asked about the city obtaining an H.R. department. Matt said that he can get some prices on H.R. contractors and see what is out there. Matt will do an analysis and get a price for possibly an in house employee or an outside agency. Council agreed that the city should have an H.R. department.

Finance Committee Report of Disbursements: The Finance Committee presented its Report of Disbursements and recommended the payment of warrants numbered 25920-26045 for the period of **August 17 – September 13, 2024.** A motion was made by Mr. Ellison and seconded by Mrs. McIntosh to concur in the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Ordinances, Resolutions and Orders

Ordinance O-08-2024: An ordinance establishing the 2024 Tax Rate was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Pendery and seconded by Mr. Bezold to approve ordinance O-08-2024. Upon call of the roll, the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. Pendery, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Bezold, and Mr. Blau. Voting “no” none. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Municipal Order MO-25-2024: A municipal order re-appointing Brandon Raybourne as a member of the Board of Adjustment was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Blau and seconded by Mrs. McIntosh to approve MO-25-2024. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Municipal Order MO-26-2024: A municipal order re-appointing Leonard Beck to the Tree Commission was presented to council for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Ellison and seconded by Mr. Blau to approve MO-26-2024. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Adjournment: With no further business to come before council, a motion was made by Mr. Bezold and seconded by Mr. Blau to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

APPROVED:

Eric Haas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa K. Beckett, City Clerk