

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF FORT THOMAS,
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024**

Mayor Haas called the meeting of Council to order at 9:00 a.m.

Council members in attendance of the meeting were: Lauren McIntosh, Ben Pendery, Andy Ellison, Jeff Bezold, Adam Blau, and Eric Strange. Staff members in attendance included: City Administrative Officer Matt Kremer, City Clerk Melissa Beckett, General Services Director Kevin Barbian, and City Attorney Tim Schneider (arriving at 10:20 a.m.).

Recreation Committee: The Recreation Committee of Council discussed several topics. These topics are as follows:

- Tower Park Tennis Courts: It was decided not to do the overlay as bid. Instead the city will move forward with a complete milling and resurfacing. This total cost is \$450K, which includes a paved path in the woods around the tennis courts, new path to each court, and restriping of the tennis courts, with the lower courts remaining multi-purpose. It was also discussed to add a railing and potentially add steps to the side walkway by the tennis courts because it is steep and would help people get down the incline easier.
- Discussion regarding the playground at Highland Park with the concept of two separate playgrounds.
- The city has plans to address Riggs Memorial Park once Highland Park is finished and also discussed putting a new kayak ramp on Route 8 where the city owns a piece of property.

Public Utilities and Buildings Committee: The Public Utilities and Buildings Committee of council discussed the Duke Energy LED street light program which is being considered by Fort Thomas. There are 816 streetlights and 84 lampposts, \$636,000 up front to the city \$441,000 for streetlights and \$125,000 for the lampposts. The committee is asking for some clarity regarding the numbers but it could potentially save the city \$7,000 a month.

Public Works Committee: The Public Works Committee of council discussed the following:

The Midway Streetscape was discussed regarding taking down the overhead utility lines and installing them underground. This work would run from Garrison to Grandview Avenue. The city will also look into widening the sidewalks and including bump outs. The project will cost an estimated \$3.8 million dollars. The committee asked staff to look at options to lessen the cost for the project. This would complete the area to coincide with the other areas that the city and school have worked on in the Midway area.

The city administration has requested to hire two additional greenspace employees. This will cost approximately \$136,000 for both employees. Staff is asking for a budget amendment of \$57,000 to hire two additional full time greenspace employees. The committee was in agreement to ask for council approval on this item.

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