

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, April 9, 2012 at 6:15 p.m. at the Eminence City Hall with Mayor Drane Stephens and the following members present: Polly Troxell, Tom Shroyer, Treva Browning, Danny Meadows, Lee Ann Armstrong, and Leo Mason. Absent was none. Also in attendance were Attorney William Brammell, City Clerk Sandra Doane, Police Chief Carey Duncan, Citizen Bob McGee, Citizen Jerry Clark, and Henry County Local Representatives Jonna Spelbring Priester and Brad Bowman.

Mayor Stephens called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance held.

Subject: New Reporter – Jonna Spelbring Priester introduced Brad Bowman who will be serving as a new reporter for the Henry County Local. He will be covering our future meetings.

Subject: County Update – Mayor Stephens reported that Magistrate Scott Bates was unable to be here tonight.

OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Minutes – The minutes of the previous regular session held on March 12, 2012 were reviewed. Mayor Stephens asked for any additions or changes to the minutes. With no changes or additions forthcoming, Mayor Stephens stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Subject: Alcohol Ordinance Amendment – Attorney Brammell held the second reading of a summary of an amendment to the alcohol ordinance which would make the “Star” training mandatory for all businesses and employees who sell or serve alcohol. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Mason to adopt the amendment to the alcohol ordinance as read. Member Armstrong asked for clarification as to whom the word “licensee” is referring. Attorney Brammell stated the licensee is the business not the individual person. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

REPORTS:

Subject: Police Department Report – Police Chief Carey Duncan reviewed the monthly activity report with council. Chief Duncan stated they had 260 total contacts for the month. Nine individuals were arrested on twenty-three separate charges. The Department had four driving under the influence and two other alcohol related incidents. The Department currently has one officer (Phillip Parham) in handgun training.

Subject: Property Ordinance Report – Member Meadows asked what is being done about all the un-mowed properties in town. Mayor Stephens stated he has had the Public Works Department drive around and compile a list of un-mowed properties and that he has worked on

this all day making contacts to mortgage companies and owners. Member Shroyer asked about the status of the Smith property on North Main Street. Mayor Stephens inquired if we could possibly condemn this property. Attorney Brammell stated we cannot force condemnation, but with all the obvious problems it might end up being cheaper for the owner to just tear it down rather than make repairs. Member Shroyer asked if we could approach this as a fire hazard or health hazard. Attorney Brammell stated we cannot under a health hazard, but could check with Fire Chief Lucas on the fire hazard issue on the outside of the property. Attorney Brammell reminded council that we had passed an ordinance several years ago which allows for a higher tax rate for distressed property. We would have to get the Board re-established to utilize the ordinance.

Subject: Public Works Department Report – Public Works Director William Smith was absent due to illness. Mayor Stephens reviewed the monthly activity report with council. Mayor Stephens reported that all the fire hydrants in town have been exercised, greased, and repaired as needed.

Mayor Stephens reported that we were able to use the utility pole at the Park for our updated service which was taken down from the previous Music on Main location. The security cameras are being installed at the Park. The Police Department will be able to monitor these from their cell phones and computers. We are still having vandalism in the bathrooms. The pump house door has had a new latch and bolt installed. This will be torn down later, once a determination is made on how to cap off the water for possible future use with a splash pad.

Mayor Stephens reported that there are new plugs outside the Fire Department which will more than accommodate the Music at the Depot and other events. The electric on the other side of the parking lot has been updated as well. A dry run of putting up the tent and stage will be done week after next.

Subject: Administrative Office Report – City Clerk Sandra Doane reviewed the monthly administrative office report with council reporting that we have collected approximately 96.8% of the total 2011 property taxes as of April 3rd. We have also collected one large delinquent tax bill for prior years.

Clerk Doane reported we have collected \$700.00 in Eminence Day Booth Rental already.

Clerk Doane reported that we sold the confiscated vehicle for \$1,500.00 and less net expenses were able to net \$628.40 instead of the anticipated \$268.00. This is due to a refund on the cancelled insurance and the return of the portion sent to the Commonwealth Attorney's office stating they were not to receive any of this confiscation as this case was pursuant to a different KRS.

Clerk Doane reported that we have requested and received our first draw request on the HB 608 Grant in the amount of \$87,251.90 for our sewer plant expansion, which will be paid out to our engineer for invoices due him. Mayor Stephens stated the significance of this draw protects our grant from being possibly withdrawn due to the long delay in starting our project.

Clerk Doane reported we have received the first of three annual payments on the Housing Authority Agreement entered into last month.

Clerk Doane reported that return air ducts have been added to the heating/cooling units at City Hall. This should help in better controlling the temperature and may even save some money as the return is not just going up into the open attic as before.

Subject: Fire Department Report – Member Meadows reviewed the Fire Department report with council which showed five total runs and special details in March for a total of 41-3/4 total man-hours. Member Meadows reported that an AED has been ordered for the Fire Department Rescue Truck and will be paid for out of the Fiscal Court's new budget.

Mayor Stephens reported that the siren pole has been changed out with the extra 20 feet in height helping with the ability to hear the siren. Kentucky Utilities did a great job on this and only charged \$1,100.00 which will be reimbursed by the County from the 911 Fund.

Subject: Festivals Update – Member Armstrong reported that the committee met on April 2nd to discuss upcoming events. Margaret Beaumont will be walking the town to solicit Eminence Day advertisements from the businesses. The next meeting will be May 7th. Member Armstrong reported that the first Music at the Depot will be held on Saturday, May 12th instead of on the Friday with the featured new music group being Lindsey Lane and Axis.

Subject: Parks Update – Member Armstrong thanked the Public Works Department for all their hard work in preparing the park for the summer.

Subject: Community Center Report – Mayor Stephens reported no meeting has been held.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subject: Ordinance Amendment Pertaining to Adjustment for Filling Pools – Mayor Stephens reported he has asked Attorney Brammell to draft an amendment to the ordinance allowing an adjustment for filling pools due to the very difficult time had last year in making a determination as to who should receive an adjustment. He feels we should take out the wording “permanently” and set a limit on the excess amount of gallons capacity allowed for an adjustment. Attorney Brammell held the first reading of an amendment to the water and sewer ordinance allowing a sewer adjustment once per calendar year for filling pools in excess of a specified gallons capacity and omitting the wording “permanently” on installed above ground or in ground swimming pool.

Subject: Board of Adjustment Re-Appointment – Mayor Stephens reported he has received notice that Glenn Smith's term on the Board of Adjustments expired on January 1, 2012 and that he is willing to serve another four year term. Mayor Stephens stated he approves of this re-appointment. Motion made by Member Troxell and seconded by Member Shroyer to ratify Mayor Stephen's recommendation to re-appoint Glenn Smith to another four year term on the Henry County Board of Adjustments. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Open Citizen Comments/Questions – No one present who wished to address the council. Mayor Stephens thanked Bob McGee and Jerry Clark for their interest and attendance.

Subject: Mayor's Update – Mayor Stephens reported he is receiving numerous requests for allowing solicitation on Main Street at the traffic light. He has allowed Project Prom to do this last Saturday with only adults to be present and with coordination from our Police Department; however as more and more requests are being made he feels we need to control this by policy or ordinance. Discussion held, including that this should be for only non-profit groups, etc. Clerk Doane volunteered to put a global e-mail out to the Kentucky Clerks to get copies of other policies or ordinances. Attorney Brammell stated he feels an ordinance is the best way to proceed.

Subject: New Business/Council – Mayor Stephens asked if any council member had anything they wanted to discuss. Member Troxell stated she has been contacted by a customer concerning the penalty she had to pay on her water and sewer bill. Clerk Doane explained the billing cycle to council which gives a customer at least twelve days during a 30 day month to pay on time before a penalty is assessed or late notice sent. Discussion held concerning the minimum bill charged for unused services. Clerk Doane stated that if an account is active it will receive a minimum bill which covers zero to 2,000 gallons of water usage. Attorney Brammell stated this is not unusual.

Member Armstrong reported that she attended the Alcohol Star Training Program which was very in-depth with a difficult test. There were about 50 attending from Eminence. They were able to participate under the grant program for only \$10.00 per person.

Member Shroyer presented council with three pictures of our business district that were done in the 1970's. He knows there are at least a few more pictures out there and will approach the owners about giving them to the City for display.

Member Meadows stated he stills want something done about the intersection of Blackaby Lane and South Main Street. Mayor Stephens stated Public Works Director Smith has asked for a price to have this milled down and should get a response this month.

Subject: Warrants - The warrants presented for payment were reviewed. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Browning to approve the warrants for payment as presented. On a call for vote, all members present voted "Yea".

Subject: Closed Session – None needed.

With no further business to be discussed, motion made by Member Shroyer and seconded by Member Troxell to adjourn. All members present voted "Yea". Meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

DRANE STEPHENS, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

ATTEST: _____
SANDRA A. DOANE, CITY CLERK
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY