

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, January 14, 2013 at 6:15 p.m. at the Eminence City Hall Council Chambers with Mayor Drane Stephens and the following members present: Tom Shroyer, Treva Browning, Danny Meadows, Lee Ann Armstrong, and Leo Mason. Absent was Member Polly Troxell. Also in attendance were Attorney William Brammell, City Clerk Sandra Doane, Police Sergeant O.C. Jones, Magistrate Scott Bates, Magistrate Roger Hartlage, Animal Control Officer Dan Flinkfelt, Citizen Jennifer Thomas and Henry County Local Representative Brad Bowman.

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

Pledge of allegiance held.

Subject: County Update – Magistrate Scott Bates reported that everything is running smooth on the County level. Magistrate Bates stated that because of the questions last month about the animal shelter he asked Animal Control Officer Dan Flinkfelt and Magistrate Roger Hartlage to attend this meeting with him. Mr. Flinkfelt reported that 58 animals were picked up in Eminence last year. Member Armstrong discussed some heated conversations that have occurred on Face book concerning the animal shelter. Mr. Flinkfelt stated he cannot set on Face book all the time and he set it up to inform citizens of shots, clinics, etc. Member Armstrong stated she felt some of the comments were unnecessary and that the overall feeling is that the shelter is not being operated as highly as it was expected. One of the main concerns is the failure by citizens to have their calls returned. Magistrate Hartlage stated that the shelter was built for 30 dogs and they had 80. They have changed the policy to only take 40 now at one time. Mr. Flinkfelt stated that the shelter is closed on Sunday and Monday and if people are calling on those two days they are not getting a call back until Tuesday. Mr. Flinkfelt assured Council that all calls are returned and logged. The number for Henry County residents is still 845-8050. Mayor Stephens stated it sounds like problems are being addressed better with a better structure. Magistrate Hartlage stated the committee meets on the second Wednesday of every month and all are welcome and to please call the Judge or the Magistrates if no resolution of a problem is seen. Question asked if cats are still being taken. Mr. Flinkfelt stated that due to cutbacks the cat room was done away with entirely and that cats are no longer being accepted. He suggested contacting Alley Cat Advocates for assistance with feral cats.

Mr. Flinkfelt stated that a spay/neuter clinic will be held on February 27th with pre-registration required by February 20th for 40 spots only. A female dog will cost \$75.00; a male dog will cost \$50.00; a female cat will cost \$55.00 and a male cat will cost \$45.00. Mr. Flinkfelt stated he is looking into a grant in March that would give assistance on future spay/neuter clinics.

OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Minutes – The minutes of the previous regular session held on December 10, 2012 were reviewed. Mayor Stephens asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. With no

additions or changes forthcoming, Mayor Stephens stated they would stand approved as presented.

Subject: Garbage Franchise Ordinance – Attorney Brammell held the first reading of a garbage franchise ordinance awarding the five year franchise for garbage collection and recycling services to Rumpke commencing on July 1, 2013.

Subject: Subject: Amendment to Personnel Policy – Attorney Brammell held the second reading of a summary of an ordinance amending the personnel policy ordinance to add a part-time janitor position. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Mason to adopt the ordinance as read. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”. Mayor Stephens stated he has had no contact from any of the council members for a recommendation on this and will proceed accordingly.

REPORTS:

Subject: Police Department Report – In the absence of Police Chief Carey Duncan, Sergeant O.C. Jones reviewed the monthly activity report with council. Sergeant Jones stated they had 186 total contacts for the month. Four individuals were arrested on six separate charges. The Department had one driving under the influence and no other alcohol related incident.

Sergeant Jones stated they had one property ordinance violation this month on Fairview Court. They are working on an issue on Moody Drive. It was reported that there was some spray painting done around town last Friday evening at the School, a Church and a couple of residents. There are no leads on this at present but it is an ongoing investigation. Member Meadows asked about the regulations for parking at the park now that it is closed. Sergeant Jones stated he thinks dusk or park closing time and that all officers should be running people off who are there after dusk. Member Browning inquired about the thefts from vehicles. Sergeant Jones stated that the information we put out caused more people to lock their vehicles which has mostly stopped the thefts in this area. The citizens really appreciated the Mayor’s community call on this and felt informed.

Subject: Public Works Department Report – In the absence of Public Works Director William Smith, Mayor Stephens reviewed the monthly activity report with council. Mayor Stephens reported that Libertas Copper has spent about \$200,000.00 to upgrade their pretreatment system. Mayor Stephens reported that we have had two of the City lampposts damaged this month with an accident report on the larger of the two. They will cost approximately \$5,025.00 for the replacement lampposts which doesn’t include shipping or installation. Mayor Stephens reported he was able to sell the S-10 pickup truck on Craig’s List for \$2,000.00 which is \$875.00 more than the highest local bid we received.

Subject: Administrative Office Report – City Clerk Sandra Doane reviewed the monthly administrative office report with council reporting that we have collected approximately 90.1% of the 2012 tax bills through January 10th. She stated we will probably have several paid toward the end of January before the 10% penalty goes on. Clerk Doane reported we received a grant in the amount of \$2,355.00 from the Department of Libraries and Archives for roller shelving for storage of minute, ordinance and resolution books.

Mayor Stephens stated that we have hired Lena Turner as our new part-time records manager/office assistant pending no issues with the retirement office.

Subject: Audit for Fiscal Year Ending 6-30-12 – Mayor Stephens and Clerk Doane presented council with copies of the audits for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. Mayor Stephens stated that the auditors gave an excellent rating and that both the City and Water Works are in good financial shape. Member Meadows asked if it was possible for the funds the Fire Department turn back in each year to go toward Fire truck notes. Attorney Brammell stated it is possible but would probably have to be allocated as so in the new budget year. Member Shroyer stated all unused funds from all departments go back in for reallocation. Member Meadows stated they could be put in a savings and earmarked for payments. Mayor Stephens stated if we know ahead of time we can put extra payments into the new budget. Mayor Stephens asked Council to review the audits and if you have any questions please let him or Clerk Doane know.

Subject: Fire Department Report – Member Meadows reviewed the Fire Department report with council which showed eight total runs and special details in December for total man-hours of approximately 51. The 2012 yearly run report shows 100 total runs and special details for total man-hours of 808. Member Meadows stated the trailer will be moved to the Fire Department soon and the airbags should be sold in two to three weeks.

Subject: Festivals Update – Nothing to report.

Subject: Parks Update – Mayor Stephens reported he will be meeting with other vendors tomorrow on the splash pad proposal. Mayor Stephens reported that the best location appears to be by the old pump house where it can drain into the sewer system. He would like to meet with the committee once the proposals are received, perhaps before a council meeting one night so all can see the location.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subject: Open Citizen Comments/Questions – Jennifer Thomas who lives at 16 Quail Hollow Drive was present to address council concerning speeding and drainage concerns. Ms. Thomas stated she has lived in Quail Run Subdivision for about a year and that severe speeding is going on with even some drag racing. She has been working with the police on this. She has almost been hit herself and that vehicles are running upon the sidewalks. The worst speeder is a black Jeep Cherokee. Sub-contractors are also having problems with this. Children are in danger even in their own yards.

Ms. Thomas showed pictures of drainage problems behind her house and that Mr. Porter (the subdivision developer) told her he was not going to do anything to help with this problem. Mayor Stephens stated that while the subdivision is under construction, the developer is responsible for the roads and that when the whole subdivision is 80% developed it can be turned over to the City by dedication. This has not happened. Ms. Thomas stated this pooling of water also creates mosquitoes with the whole area being marshy even during a normal rain. Attorney Brammell stated that she might want to speak with a private attorney on the drainage issues and that the City can assist with the speeding issues. Attorney Brammell stated the subdivision is basically in the developers' control until a certain number of houses are built. It was discussed if planning and zoning can review the subdivision plat and require conformity to the plat. Attorney

Brammell stated it must be constructed to certain standards. Mayor Stephens stated he will call Planning and Zoning Enforcement Officer Jody Rucker to see if he can help resolve the drainage problems and will ask Mr. Porter to possibly put in speed bumps to help with the speeding.

Subject: Safety Policy – Council presented with and reviewed a resolution to adopt a safety policy for the City and specifically for the Public Works Department. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Mason to approve the resolution adopting a safety policy as presented. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Animal Control Ordinance – Mayor Stephens stated he hopes to have this ready by the March meeting.

Subject: Mayor’s Update – Mayor Stephens reminded Council of the City Officials Academy scheduled for January 16-18, 2013 in Lexington and requested they meet at 11:30 a.m. in the lobby of the hotel on Wednesday.

Subject: New Business/Council – Mayor Stephens asked if any council member had anything they wanted to discuss. Member Shroyer asked for an update on the new development. Mayor Stephens stated it is his understanding that all current businesses must be gone by February 1st. KOI will be relocated in the old Superior Grocery space and that Lee Chiropractic will be going into the old Humane Society building. Browning Pontiac will be moving everything across the street. Demolition is to start in February with possible temporary closing of West Broadway. Penn Avenue will be torn up in sections, but should not be closed.

Member Meadows inquired about having a street light installed on Main Street beside the old Five Star as you cannot even see the entrance to King Street very well. Mayor Stephens stated we will check with Kentucky Utilities on this.

Subject: Warrants – The warrants for payment were presented and reviewed. Motion made by Member Shroyer and seconded by Member Browning to approve the warrants for payment as presented. On a call of vote by Clerk Doane, 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 Mason to adjourn. All members present voted “Yea”. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

DRANE STEPHENS, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

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