

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, July 13, 2015 at 6:15 p.m. at the Eminence City Hall with Mayor Drane Stephens and the following members present: Danny Meadows, Polly Troxell, Leo Mason, Joey Bell, and Lee Ann Armstrong. Absent was Member Tom Shroyer. Also in attendance were City Attorney William Brammell, City Clerk Sandra Doane, Wastewater Plant Operator/Public Works Director Matt McAllister, Police Chief Kevin Kemper, Jay Hoffman with Wet or Dry, Citizens Earl Lawson, Earl Lawson, Jr., and John Adcock, and Henry County Local Representative Chris Brooke.

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

Pledge of allegiance held.

Subject: County Business – In the absence of Magistrate Scott Bates, Mayor Stephens asked if there are any concerns to take back to Magistrate Bates. The problem seems to be solved with the semi-trucks getting onto Narrow Gage Road to go to our factories via Clear Creek and Mulberry. The request for larger signs on Highway 55 has not been honored yet by the State.

Subject: Water Tower Project - Jay Hoffman with Wet or Dry was present to discuss the logo for our water tank painting project. Mr. McAllister showed council three different possible logos and font sizes for the City's name on the tower. Consensus of council to use the second one shown with the larger fonts. Two color schemes for the letter bordering were reviewed with consensus to use the blue/lighter blue colors. Mayor Stephens stated the color was chosen after several made their preferences known to him. Red was a favorite but was not chosen as it was advised that it causes the chlorine to boil out of the water. Mr. Hoffman will be sent the logo selected. Mr. Hoffman stated he does not have a start date as of yet but will keep us informed.

Subject: East Broadway Road Collapse – Mr. McAllister presented a slide presentation of the East Broadway street collapse and repair. Mayor Stephens reported that the re-paving of the street and trail that was also damaged is scheduled for tomorrow.

Subject: Drainage Concerns – Earl Lawson who owns property at 168 Merriweather Avenue was present to discuss drainage concerns on his property. Mr. Lawson stated the City agreed several years ago to install culverts for anyone on King Street or Merriweather who wanted to purchase one for themselves. Mr. Lawson stated he is the only one who had one installed. His culvert will not take care of the water from other places that go under and over the street. Mayor Stephens stated the residents would have to be willing to buy a culvert. Earl Lawson, Jr. asked about the legal easement in this area. Attorney Brammell stated we do have an easement to enter the property in order to maintain the road only unless the City has deed to additional property. Attorney Brammell stated he would have to look at a specific property and investigate the easements before he could answer for a definite property. Mr. Lawson, Jr. stated there used to be a pipe that ran on the right side of the street that was open for drainage that ran between two houses that no longer exists. It was at Mrs. Henderson and ran behind the houses on

Merriweather and Elm Street. It has been blocked for twenty plus years. Mr. McAllister showed a video which was taken on Merriweather and specifically at Mr. Lawson's house that shows the water trail. It also shows that a lot of the drainage that goes under Mr. Lawson's trailer is from his own lack of downspouts. Mayor Stephens stated he will look at the culvert past Mr. Lawson's house that used to exist and see if replacing it will help; the City will still honor the installation of culverts on Merriweather if the residents will purchase them; and Mr. Lawson needs to install downspouts that drain underground. Member Mason asked if the property owners are ultimately responsible for the drainage on their own property. Attorney Brammell stated yes unless the City has created any extra problem then we could be responsible. Water is a common enemy. It was discussed that unless every resident puts in a culvert the drainage will still be an issue. Attorney Brammell stated we can look back through the minutes and see the same problem reflected and discussed numerous times in the past.

OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Minutes – The minutes of the previous regular session held on June 8, 2015 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.

REPORTS:

Subject: Police Department Report – Chief Kevin Kemper reviewed the monthly activity report with council. Chief Kemper reported that Officer Hamilton has transferred back to the Public Works Department and Major Jones has resigned to take a position with Kentucky State. Both did a good job for the department and will be missed. Chief Kemper reported they had 215 total contacts for the month. Thirty-two citations were issued on sixty-four charges. Twenty-one individuals were arrested on forty-three charges. There were eight ordinance violations. Chief Kemper reported that Officer Parham was involved in a vehicle pursuit through multiple counties that ended up with an accident. Chief Kemper stated he did not know about this until it was all over even though Officer Parham did try to let him know. After investigation, it was determined that Officer Parham followed procedure and used good judgment. Officer Parham also was able to locate an individual in Shelbyville that the department had been looking for with an arrest being made. The cruiser declared surplus has been stripped and is ready for sale.

One of the ordinance violations involved a livestock issue on Jackson Road. A citation was eventually written on this violation.

Chief Kemper reported we have hired Mike Wells as an officer and apologized for not asking Officer Wells to attend the meeting tonight.

Subject: Public Works Department Report – Wastewater Plant Operator/Public Works Director Matt McAllister reviewed the monthly activity report with council. Mr. McAllister reported the large sinkhole on East Broadway has been repaired. Two bags of rubber mulch have been added at the Park.

Mr. McAllister reported that we are getting a lot of dirty water calls. We have been flushing as needed; however the District is where the water is coming from and they are flushing which make us have more of a problem in different areas of town. One of their chemical providers changed a chemical being used that caused a lot of the problems with brown water. The water is save but does not look good.

Mr. McAllister reported the local limits are ready for adoption as there were no comments or oppositions noted during the public comment time.

Reported that safety nets are being installed over the wells of each pump station.

Reported that with all the rain, we are seeing a lot of inflow/infiltration.

Mayor Stephens reported that Matt is now the Public Works Director along with Bill until July 31st. Mr. McAlister plans to develop a rotating responsibility at the Sewer Plant and for water readings so that everyone will remain fresh.

Subject: Administrative Office Report – City Clerk Sandra Doane reviewed the monthly administrative office report with council, reporting that approximately 97.34% of the 2014 tax bills have been collected as of July 8, 2015. The total outstanding 2014 base tax bills is \$9,539.41.

Clerk Doane reported we have received the payment in lieu of taxes from the Housing Authority in the amount of \$13,285.33.

Reported that the Fire Department has returned \$6,303.77 in City funds with them being allowed to keep \$2,500.00 in their account for startup funds.

Reported we have collected \$1,050.00 in booth rentals and \$650.00 in sale of ads for Eminence day through June 30th.

Occupational year end transfers have been made according to ordinance.

Working on end of year documents in preparation of the annual audit.

Subject: Budget Line Item Changes - Clerk Doane reviewed additional proposed line item changes needed, mostly due to the street collapse, within various departments to allow for correction of overages for the current budget fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. No net changes within departments. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Mason to adjust the line item changes as proposed (copy attached to minutes). On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Fire Department Report – Member Meadows reviewed the Fire Department report with council which showed seven total runs and special details in June for total man-hours of approximately sixty-four. Member Meadows reported the department is in good shape at this time. Mayor Stephens reported that the building on South Main is still pending as to how to repair or whether to take it down after the fire last year. The owner has removed all the windows after one fell recently.

Subject: Festivals Update – Member Armstrong reported that DJ in the Park is scheduled for July 25, 2015. Member Troxell reported that the plans for Eminence Day are progressing along with the committee to meet again tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. Member Bell reported that Fire Chief Gary Lucas has accepted at Grand Marshall and that the parade route will set up behind the old Shoppers Mart. Chief Kemper reported we would need special permission to line up on a state highway. Member Mason stated he would get a list of checks needed for Eminence Day to Clerk Doane.

Subject: Parks Update – Mayor Stephens reported he is working on a meeting date for the committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subject: Resolution Approving Wastewater Treatment Project Expenses – Council reviewed a resolution to approve invoices on the wastewater treatment plant project payable to Pace Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$20,000.00 and payable to Derrick Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$1,967.12. These invoices represent the final amount due on the project and were actually paid on June 30th in order to close the project out in that fiscal year. Motion made by Member Troxell and seconded by Member Mason to approve Resolution No. 2015-006 as presented approving the invoices for payment as presented retroactive to June, 30, 2015. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Homeland Security Grant – Police Chief Kemper reviewed a proposed grant which would pay up to \$665.00 per body armor vest. He would like to apply for four vests thru this grant program. The grant will not cover the carriers. The resolution approving application and administration of the Homeland Security Grant for purchase of Police Department body armor vests was reviewed by Council. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Troxell to adopt Resolution 2015-007 as presented authorizing Mayor Stephens to make application for and administration of a Homeland Security Grant for purchase of Police Department body armor. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject – Sewer Use Ordinance – Attorney Brammell held the first reading of a summary of an amendment to the sewer use ordinance to update the local limits.

Subject: Employee Salary Increases – Mayor Stephens reported we did not specifically approve the yearly salary increases budgeted when we adopted the budget ordinance. Mayor Stephens reviewed the proposed increases with Council for each employee to receive 2-1/2% plus the cost of living at .008% with the exception of Matt McAllister, Dustin Hamilton and Kevin Kemper who have or will be receiving promotion/job change increases. They will get the .008% cost of living in addition to their promotion increase. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Mason to approve the budgeted salary increases as detailed by Mayor Stephens. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Open Citizen Comments - Mayor Stephens asked if anyone was present who wished to address Council. John Adcock was present to invite everyone to the library on August 17, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. to support medical marijuana. He feels this would be a plus for the community

in many forms, including tax collection. They plan to have neurologists at the event to discuss the benefits of the medical marijuana.

Mr. Adcock also inquired if the City could adopt an ordinance regarding fireworks and the continual use of them after July 4th. Discussion held including that we can control this indirectly with our noise ordinance. Chief Kemper stated he will review the guidelines stating that they do usually allow some leeway on July 4th. Attorney Brammell stated perhaps we could tighten our local restrictions on fireworks.

Subject: Mayor's Update – Mayor Stephens reported the engineering report from Donan Engineering on the Police/Fire building was a big waste of money as it doesn't tell us anything that we don't already know. At least we can show proof that we have tried to get an opinion and recommendations on fixing the problem.

Member Meadows asked if the new car auction will be hiring any local people. Mayor Stephens stated possibly they would, depending on how many of their current employees would be coming with them.

Mayor Stephens reminded council of Bill Smith's retirement reception on July 31, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. for the City and invited guests and from 2:30 until 4:00 p.m. for the public.

Subject: Council New Business – None.

Subject: Warrants - The warrants for payment were presented and reviewed. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Troxell 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 Meadows and seconded by Member Mason to adjourn. All members present voted "Yea". Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

DRANE STEPHENS, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

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