

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, May 14, 2018 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, Fred Downey, and Lee Ann Armstrong. Absent was none. Also, in attendance were City Attorney William Brammell; City Clerk Sandra Doane; Public Works Director Matt McAllister; Police Sergeant Mike Wells; Stacie Rockaway with Congressman Thomas Massie's office; Citizens Reese Morgan, Bill Webb, Angela Bassett, and Reagan Morgan; and Henry County Local Representative Chris Brooke.

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

Pledge of allegiance held.

Subject: Chickens – Ten-year-old Reese Morgan of 111 Oldham Street was present to request that the City change the ordinance to allow him to have three chickens for eggs and for animal therapy. Reese presented a letter to the Council along with copies of a map showing his home and copies of ordinances from LaGrange and Louisville which allow a small number of chickens within the City. Citizen Bill Webb spoke on behalf of Reese as well. Reese stated he has tried to make contact with all his neighbors with some signing off that they are okay with him having three chickens. Mayor Stephens reviewed the current ordinance and the reasons for the law to not allow chickens. The current law requires 5 continuous acres. Discussion followed including handling of permitting and documentation; zoning concerns; type of coop, etc. Council in agreement for Attorney Brammell to proceed with amending our ordinance to allow a small number of chickens as therapy animals for consideration at the next meeting. Council person Joey Bell agreed to work with Reese and Attorney Brammell on this ordinance amendment. Mayor Stephens explained the process of ordinance adoption to Reese to make sure he understands that nothing will be final until after at least two readings and publication of the ordinance. Attorney Brammell cautioned that we may be opening the door on therapy animals in general and should perhaps consider just allowing a limited number of chickens and no referencing therapy animals.

Subject: County Business - Magistrate Scott Bates was absent. Mayor Stephens asked if any concerns that he needs to take back to Scott. Discussion held that it appears that the sign on Narrow Gage Road has finally been moved to the end of the road. It was suggested that a "no semis" sign would work better, but at least this is some progress.

Subject: Tom Massie Representative – Stacie Rockaway, representative for Congressman Tom Massie reported that if anyone has a federal concern to let them know and they would be glad to assist with the problem or question. Mayor Stephens thanked her for coming.

OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Minutes – The minutes of the previous regular session held on April 9, 2018 were reviewed. Mayor Stephens asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. With no

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

REPORTS:

Subject: Police Department Report (Copy Attached Hereto) – In the absence of Chief Kemper, Police Sergeant Mike Wells presented the monthly activity report to council. They had 370 total contacts for the month with eight traffic collisions. Forty-four citations were issued on fifty-six charges. Sixteen individuals were arrested on twenty-two charges.

Sergeant Wells reported that he and Chief Kemper have completed a four-hour active shooter course and are now certified. All officers have completed an online 7-hour online course on verbal de-escalation.

Reported that multiple complaints about drug trafficking at Coach D Park have been received. Officer Parham has worked these complaints with a suspected dealer being arrested based on three outstanding warrants. Upon this arrest, a search revealed an amount of marijuana consistent with trafficking and \$700.00 in cash.

Reported that Officer Bailey will be making an arrest of two individuals on the Subway burglary. Officer Bailey has charged an individual in the Apothecary burglary with a warrant being served by the Paoli, Indiana Police Department.

On May 5th one of our cruisers was hit during a response to a heroine overdose. The driver's car was not in park and rolled back into the cruiser. The driver was arrested for DUI, Driving Suspended, Resisting Arrest and Criminal Mischief.

Sergeant Wells reported that the drug take-back program resulted in 46.9 pounds of medication being taken to Lexington for DEA destruction.

Reported that Paige Lucas is planning to set up training on the use of Narcan.

Reported that the building on Main Street was given two years to comply with our property ordinance. That does not expire until December. Member Mason reported he has received a call on the property behind him.

Subject: Public Works Department Report (Copy Attached Hereto) - Public Works Director Matt McAllister reviewed the monthly activity report with council. Reported on routine activities.

Reported that speed bumps and crosswalks around town have been striped for better visibility.

Reported that all the data was compiled and submitted for the 2017 Consumer Confidence Report which is due by July 1st.

Reported that he has met with Cyndy Leasor from Hall Environmental and visited our industrial users to confirm the current classifications required by the State.

Reported that a new tennis net was installed at Coach D Park. Repairs have been made inhouse to the finish mower and a new fuel line has been installed on the tractor.

Member Armstrong requested that Public Works put up the signs for the June 2nd event.

Subject: Administrative Office Report (Copy Attached Hereto) - City Clerk Sandra Doane reviewed the monthly administrative office report with council reporting that her office has collected 98.6% of the total 2017 billed taxes with only \$5,398.71 remaining unpaid at May 10, 2018. The final delinquent letters were sent today prior to placing a lien on the properties.

Clerk Doane reported receipt of the third quarter HB 413 funds.

Clerk Doane reported we are still waiting on the audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

Reported that the debt service and reserve accounts associated with the paid Rural Development and KIA loans have been closed with the funds transferred to the Water and Sewer Reserve Account.

Clerk Doane reported that training is still a main focus for the Clerk's office as we plan for her retirement and future promotions.

Clerk Doane reported we have received 34 applications for the utility clerk/receptionist position. Review and interviewing should commence soon.

Subject – Financial Report – Mayor Stephens reviewed the third quarter financial budget comparison for all departments. Asked council to review and call if any questions.

Subject: Fire Department Report – Member Meadows reported that all is going well in the Department. The department had five runs and other training hours during April for a total of 78 manhours.

Subject: Festivals Update – Member Mason reported that Eminence Day planning is on track. Booths are being sold and the music is all set. Still working on getting a tent. Mayor Stephens reported that he has Robbie Malin looking for a tent for us. Mayor Stephens reported that the electrician is working on the needed electrical outlets for the other street. KU has been contacted on getting this pedestal service. The committee decided to have the next meeting on Thursday, May 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Member Armstrong reported on the Festival for Kids scheduled for June 2, 2018 in the City hall parking lot. A conflict does exist with the Fire Department holding Crusade for Children the same day; however, nothing can be done to change either so everyone will have to work together. She stated all calendars should be marked accordingly so that this will not happen again on Crusade weekend. She has twelve booths setting up with the DJ scheduled.

Subject: Parks Update – It was reported that the water at the park was turned on two weeks ago with leaks discovered in the walls between the two bathrooms. Holes had to be knocked into the

walls and commodes taken down. They have all these repairs to the water line made and the commodes back with the area ready to be cleaned for opening. It was suggested to look at roll-in portable bathroom units with the possibility of tearing this old building down.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subject: Leadership Class Project – Robin Mullins requested the City assist with her leadership project which is installation of a flagpole at the County Park. The request is for the City to purchase the plaque for an estimated \$150.00. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Mason to authorize the purchase of the plaque for the County Park for a cost not to exceed \$200.00 with appropriate invoice. On a call for vote, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Attorney Brammell held the first reading of an ordinance amending the zoning ordinance under Section A-1 Conditional Uses as pertains to bourbon storage.

Subject: Resolution Changing Fire Department Compensation – It was discussed that with the taxation of the fire department personnel’s run and other compensation that we should consider increasing their amount to 10.00 per fire drill or meeting; 15.00 per non-working fire attended; and 15.00 per working fire attended. The Chief would be increased to \$525.00 per month; the secretary to \$600.00 per year and the treasurer would remain at \$1,500.00 per year. Attorney Brammell read the resolution adopting the above reimbursement for the fire department volunteers. Motion made by Member Troxell and seconded by Member Mason to approve the resolution as presented and read. On a call for voted, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Mayor’s Budget Message and Budget Presentation – Mayor Stephens presented his written budget message and reviewed the budget summaries for all departments with council.

Subject: Budget Ordinance – Attorney Brammell held the first reading of the budget ordinance for fiscal year 7-1-18/6-30-19.

Subject: Insurance Premium Tax – Mayor Stephens reported that Council Member Downey had expressed concerns on whether we are receiving the correct insurance premium tax from the factories. Assistant City Clerk Robin Mullins reported she did contact each industry to inquire who their health insurance is through and then talked with the Department of Insurance who indicated that they would not be able to determine if a business needed to report without seeing a copy of their policy. Attorney Brammell stated we can audit an insurance company at our own expenses which would be high. Discussion held with no action taken.

Subject: Speed Bump Request – Mayor Stephens reported he has been contacted about a speed bump on Vernon Avenue. He stated he informed them not to come requesting this without the proper petition being signed by all residents.

Subject: Open Citizen Comments – No one present who wished to comment.

Subject: Mayor's Update – Mayor Stephens expressed his appreciation for the support on the death of his mother.

Subject: Council – New Business – Member Armstrong asked if we intend to hire an ordinance enforcement person and if so did the Mayor have anyone in mind. Mayor Stephens stated the money is in the new budget for 20 hours per week with no one in mind other than a patient but persistent person.

Member Armstrong stated that you cannot see to pull out of Elm Street onto Main Street with vehicles parked on the corner in front of the chiropractor. It was discussed that we had tried to get this changed years ago with the State allowing us to remove one parking spot. Member Downey questioned how we are being allowed to stop parking on Elm Street and not be able to do away with the parking spot. Mayor Stephens stated he did not have the answer for this.

Member Armstrong asked about the procedure for back door trash pickup. Mayor Stephens stated a form needs to be filled out requesting this which will be reviewed for approval.

Member Meadows asked if the property maintenance issue on Crabb Avenue had been solved. Mayor Stephens stated no but they are working on the problem. Other areas of concern were discussed.

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, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Closed Session – None needed.

With no further business to be discussed, motion made by Member Troxell and seconded by Member Mason to adjourn. All members present voted “Yea”. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

DRANE STEPHENS, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

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