

CITY OF DRY RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 04, 2016

Council for the City of Dry Ridge met in regular session on April 04, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Dry Ridge City Building, 31 Broadway, Dry Ridge, Kentucky, 41035, with the following present:

Mayor: James Wells

Council: Kenny Edmondson-absent, James Hendy, Fred Money, Joni Pelfrey, Sara Cummins, Carisa Hughett.

City Attorney: Pete Whaley

Staff: Amy Kenner, Brent Cummins, Chief Rick Kells, Chief Rodney Smith, Superintendent Ken Little, Superintendent Jamey Rhoton, Officer Kyle Wallace.

Guests: Melissa Wallace, Roger Wallace, Emogene Smoot, Katrina Harris Greene, Gary Brock, Judy Osborne, John Carroll, Bryan Cobb, Jamie Baker-Nantz.

Mayor James Wells called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Mayor Wells welcomed our guests, and Council members.

Mayor Wells welcomed our staff.

Mayor Wells introduced Roger Wallace to give the invocation.

Roger Wallace gave the invocation.

City Clerk/Treasurer Amy Kenner took attendance with five Council members being present.

Mayor Wells presented the agenda for approval.

Council member Jim Hendy moved, Council member Joni Pelfrey seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried. Kenny Edmondson-absent, James Hendy-yes, Fred Money-yes, Joni Pelfrey-yes, Sara Cummins-yes, Carisa Hughett - yes.

Mayor Wells presented minutes from the March 21, 2016 meeting for approval.

A spelling error was noted and an incorrect date for Kyle Wallace to start classes was noted. These will be corrected before posting.

Council member Sara Cummins moved, Council member Fred Money seconded to approve the 03/21/2016 minutes. Motion carried. Kenny Edmondson-absent, James Hendy-yes, Fred Money-yes, Joni Pelfrey-yes, Sara Cummins-yes, Carisa Hughett-yes.

REPORTS

Mayor Jim requested to conduct the reports somewhat out of order to accommodate our guests.

NEW BUSINESS

A. GC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (aka, IDA) – DIRECTOR JAMIE BAKER-NANTZ

Mayor Wells introduced Jamie Baker-Nantz. Jamie will be taking over as IDA director. Mayor Wells explained Jamie has another commitment this evening and this is why he requested to introduce her first.

Jamie Baker-Nantz addressed the City Council. She explained that today is her first day on the job. She informed council she plans on attending more meetings and providing more reports from the IDA.

FIRE

Chief Rodney Smith presented the March 2016 Fire/EMS report for review.

Chief Smith stated he was not expecting an increase in runs until the Ark opens in Williamstown. At that time he does expect to see an increase in runs.

Chief Smith stated the helicopter is up and running in Williamstown and they have utilized the service.

Chief Smith stated there are two units that will be sold as surplus this month, they are getting the equipment ready for the sale.

POLICE

Chief Rick Kells presented the March reports for council to review.

Council member Fred Money asked Chief Kells about the number of alarm drops listed. He wanted to know if there was a fee associated with those calls.

Chief Kells replied there is currently not a fee within the city. He did state some larger cities do charge for alarm calls.

Mayor Wells announced he would be swearing in Officer Wallace tonight.

Officer Kyle Wallace took the oath of officer.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Superintendent Jamey Rhoton spoke about the notice sent to residents regarding the HAA5 reading. Superintendent Rhoton stated they are trying to flush the lines to get the numbers down.

Mayor Wells stated he had spoken to Mayor Skinner with Williamstown and they are in the same boat we are. He stated the water is the same as last year, however the regulations have changed since last year. He stated Williamstown is working to clean tanks to help reduce readings. 80% of departments across the state did not pass this test.

SEWER DEPARTMENT

Superintendent Ken Little stated the department is up to compliance.

Superintendent Little stated smoke tests are still scheduled for May.

Superintendent Little stated the panel for the Walmart Station has been order, it was not required to be put out to bid.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Mayor Wells stated there are two bids currently out for the road department.

PLANNING & ZONING

Mayor Wells explained a problem he ran across while creating the text amendment for the short term rentals. It appears R4 is missing from the current zoning book. He stated he will include the entire text of R4 as a text amendment to get to added back to the zoning book.

PARKS & RECREATION

Mayor Wells stated the fence has been installed at the park.

IT

No report was presented

ABC

Mayor Wells stated two additional applications have been submitted to the City; 10 Taft Hwy is Road Ranger, however they are rebranding as Marathon, and Larosas applied for Sunday Sales.

MAYOR

Mayor Wells presented pictures of the residence at 14 E-Z Street. Mayor Wells stated the house has no floor or stair wells.

Chief Smith stated he was there about a month and a half ago. It is boarded up but people can get in easily.

Mayor Wells stated neighbors have complained about the structure.

Mayor Wells stated a certified letter has been sent with a violation for the nuisance ordinance.

Council member Jim Hendy moved, Council member Carisa Hughett seconded to follow up with the nuisance ordinance violation. Kenny Edmondson-absent, James Hendy-yes, Fred Money-yes, Joni Pelfrey-yes, Sara Cummins-yes, Carisa Hughett-yes.

OLD BUSINESS

A. CREDIT CARD FEES

Mayor Wells asked City Clerk Amy Kenner to explain to council the current decision needed regarding passing credit card transaction fees to citizens.

City Clerk Amy Kenner explained to council the city has incurred an average cost of \$647 per month for citizens to use credit cards to pay their utility bills since the beginning of the fiscal year. At that rate the city will have an approximate annual cost of over \$7,700.

City Clerk Kenner explained the computer software being installed in the clerk's office is set up to allow the citizen to pay those fees versus the City. If the City wished to continue paying the fees, the software would need to be reconfigured to allow that to happen. There would be an approximate \$3,500 fee for programing for this to happen.

City Clerk Kenner asked council if they would wish to continue paying these fees or if they would want to start passing those fees to the citizens beginning July 01, 2016.

Council member Sara Cummins moved, Council member Carisa Hughett seconded to begin passing the credit card fees on to citizens beginning July 01, 2016. Kenny Edmondson-absent, James Hendy-yes, Fred Money-yes, Joni Pelfrey-yes, Sara Cummins-yes, Carisa Hughett-yes.

B. COVEY PROPERTY DISCUSSION

Mayor Wells presented pictures taken of the Covey Property. Mayor Wells stated the engineer's report is expected in a couple weeks.

D. STREET LIGHTS

Mayor Wells stated he has worked with Owen Electric and Duke regarding the lighting on Ferguson Blvd. Owen Electric has granted Duke permission to run lights to the last three poles. Mayor Wells stated he is waiting on Duke to get pricing, he expects it to be in the \$15,000 range.

Mayor Wells stated in 1998 land was sold for the construction of Walmart, it was finished in 1999. Mayor Wells cannot find any ordinance where Ferguson Blvd. was brought into the City. The last mention was in 2003 on a road ordinance, it has the length as 900 feet. The next mention is in the 12-2013 minutes under new business, section A. Street Ferguson Blvd Official City Street.

While investigating, records from the developers were discovered. Superintendent Little stated when the road went in the City's specs were already put in place. The City paid Kenviron Inc. to do these inspections. McCharid LLC were to pay these cost. They have only paid \$2,123.84 of this bill on 03/26/2013. The City is still owed for the remainder of this expense. Street lights are covered under the subdivision guidelines under the county ordinance.

It was stated Mr. Cahill needs to finish paying the fees owed and he needs to put the street lights in at least up to Piles.

Mayor Wells stated he cannot find any documentation where the City took the road in as-is.

Attorney Whaley stated the developer is still responsible regardless if the City took the street in unofficially.

Council member Fred Money asked if the lights are in at Brentwood and Redwood.

Superintendent Little stated there are no lights pass phase one. He stated the new subdivision, Ashley, does have lights installed.

Superintendent Little stated when the phone company was setting poles for phone service on Ferguson Blvd., Mr. Cahill had an agreement with them to put in taller poles so lights could be put on them.

Mayor Wells stated he was concerned about the outstanding expenses and the light bills.

Attorney Whaley suggested setting up a meeting with Mr. Cahill privately to discuss the situation.

Mayor Wells stated he will set up a meeting before the next council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A. GC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (aka, IDA) – DIRECTOR JAMIE BAKER-NANTZ

B. COUNCIL FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE IN GC – JACQUALYNN RILEY

No one was present to speak on the subject.

C. GC CAREER CENTER – KATRINA GREENE

Katrina Harris Greene addressed council on behalf of the Grant County Career Center. Mrs. Greene spoke about all the services offered at the Dry Ridge Center location.

Mrs. Greene asked if a flyer for the center could be added to the City's website. She stated any way we could advertise the center would be appreciated.

Mrs. Greene passed out a sample letter to the Judge Executive and asked the City to support the center by sending a letter to the Judge.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Fred Money moved, Council member Jim Hendy seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. Kenny Edmondson-absent, James Hendy-yes, Fred Money-yes, Joni Pelfrey-yes, Sara Cummins-yes, Carisa Hughett-yes.

AMY KENNER, CITY CLERK/TREASURER

JAMES WELLS, MAYOR