

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, March 9, 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, Tom Shroyer, and Lee Ann Armstrong. Absent was none. Also in attendance were City Attorney William Brammell, City Clerk Sandra Doane, Wastewater Plant Operator Matt McAllister, Police Chief Kevin Kemper, Citizen Tommy Paul, Field Representative Stacie Rockaway for Representative Thomas Massie, 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 reported that Magistrate Bates did contact the state and Shelby County’s magistrate about putting a sign on Narrow Gage Road warning semi-truck drivers that a right turn cannot be made off of Clear Creek Road to get to our factories should they proceed. The sign installation has been approved, but it is unknown whether it has been installed yet.

Subject: Alcohol Ordinance – Citizen Tommy Paul who owns the Saloon on North Main Street was present to discuss the City’s alcohol ordinance. Mr. Paul stated he received a citation on violation of the City’s ordinance which was dismissed today after three trips to court. He was cited for his business being open after 12:30 a.m. He stated he was not open and was there cleaning and waiting on the band to tear down and leave. He feels the ordinance does not allow for time to get the bands torn down and the bar cleaned up. Mayor Stephens stated he feels Tommy is trying to comply with all our requirements. Discussion held and ordinance reviewed. Council believes his concern is addressed under Section 111.62(F) of our ordinance which allows the licensee and employees thereof to be present on the property after closing time and that for the purpose of employees, any band hired to perform would be considered an employee. Tommy was instructed to keep a list of the band members and their guests each night as well, so if questioned by the Police as to who should be on the premises he can provide said list.

Subject: Demolition of Building - In another matter, Mr. Paul stated the structural engineer is due this week to approve taking down the next building that was connected to the South Main Street commercial fire. The debris left from the previous building demolished is to have a base for the equipment to use in taking the next building down. Member Shroyer asked if someone would take some pictures of this building prior to demolition.

Mayor Stephens stated he is going to ask the structural engineer while he is in town to take a look at our Police/Fire building to get recommendations on shoring it up in the back.

OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Minutes – The minutes of the previous regular session held on February 9, 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 – Mayor Stephens welcomed newly appointed Chief Kevin Kemper. Chief Kemper reviewed the monthly activity report with council. Chief Kemper reported they had 229 total contacts for the month. Twenty-seven tickets were written on forty-seven charges. Fourteen individuals were arrested with one ordinance violation.

Chief Kemper reported that Officer Wilson did a great job on an arrest by staying over to do a report and entering the serial numbers of guns into the database which helped Louisville Police with their case that resulted in four of five guns being recovered.

Chief Kemper reported that the department has been involved in incidents with armed subjects on three different occasions. Chief Kemper reported that several break-ins have been occurring in the Elm Street area.

Member Shroyer stated he likes the new report format and especially the comment section.

Subject: Public Works Department Report – Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Matt McAllister reviewed the monthly activity report with council. Mr. McAllister reported they had two water main breaks this past month. Mr. McAllister stated that Jay Hoffman has put the bid for our water tower rehab project in the paper with a March 25th due date.

Mr. McAllister reported that the WWTP expansion project has had virtually no activity this past month due mostly to the inclement weather. Mayor and Council commended the public works department for the great job they did on snow and ice removal. Mayor Stephens stated we will be going ahead and getting another load of salt.

Mayor Stephens reported that Bill Smith has moved his retirement date up to July 31, 2015 instead of June 30, 2015.

Subject: Administrative Office Report – City Clerk Sandra Doane reviewed the monthly administrative office report with council, reporting that approximately 95% of the 2014 tax bills have been collected as of March 5, 2015. The total outstanding 2014 base tax bills is \$18,005.02.

Clerk Doane reported we have ordered a counter receipts program for the office and a replacement computer for the Public Works Department, both of which are in the current budget.

Clerk Doane reported that the budget for the new fiscal year of 7-1-15/6-30-16 is being worked on so if anyone has any input to let her know. Mayor Stephens stated he will call a budget committee meeting toward the end of the month or first of April. Committee includes Members Meadows, Troxell, and Shroyer.

Subject: Thomas Massie Representative – Mayor Stephens introduced Stacie Rockaway to the council; and specifically to new member Joey Bell and new Police Chief Kemper. Ms. Rockaway is with Congressman Thomas Massie’s office. She reported that any issues on the federal level that her office could help with they would be glad to. They can support federal grant applications, help with senior Medicare concerns, military academy entrance, and appreciate calls supporting or opposing bills, among other things. Congressman Massie will be holding military academies on April 15, 2015 in Northern Kentucky and will hold a session on senior questions in the fall. Member Meadows stated Congressman Massie is scheduled to be at Eminence Speaker tomorrow. Mayor Stephens asked if Congressman Massie could assist us in any way on the land and water grant which was awarded to us two years ago. Ms. Rockaway stated if we would send her some information that they could contact the federal department responsible for the grant to check on its status.

Subject: Fire Department Report – Member Meadows reviewed the Fire Department report with council which showed six total runs and special details in February for total man-hours of approximately thirty-one. Member Meadows reported the Fire Board did not meet this month due to the snow.

Subject: Festivals Update – Member Troxell suggested a committee meeting next Wednesday or Thursday. Discussion held with a meeting set for this Thursday, March 12th at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Notice will be put up by Clerk Doane.

Subject: Parks Update – Mayor Stephens stated that he did contact Security Pros who would like to meet with us concerning other options available for our security system at the Park. Member Armstrong has been asked to coordinate this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subject: Resolution Approving Wastewater Treatment Project Expenses – Clerk Doane reported there were no invoices submitted for approval this month.

Subject: WWTP Change Order – Mayor Shroyer reviewed another change order request from Pace Contracting on the WWTP project requesting a 30 or 35 day extension for completing the project which involves no monetary changes. Motion made by Member Shroyer and seconded by Member Mason to approve the change order requesting an extension for completion of the WWTP project with correction on the number of days. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Ordinance Updating Pay/Compensation Plan – Attorney Brammell held the first reading of an ordinance updating our pay/compensation plan which is done annually to remain current on our salary scales.

Subject: Noise Ordinance – Nothing to report.

Subject: Open Citizen Comments - Mayor Stephens asked if anyone was present who wished to address Council. No one was.

Subject: Rails to Trails Grant – Mayor Stephens reported that the application for a rails to trails grant is due the end of the month and he felt we could apply for repaving our walking trail but if not received we could budget for repairs. He has asked Member Shroyer to take this project on since he wrote the original application several years ago. The estimate to repave the trail is \$25,000.00. Member Shroyer stated it is a 50/50 grant with the maximum allowed being \$100,000.00. He would also like to include signage for bicyclers to be aware of walkers on the trail. The trail has lots of cracks and several trip hazards. Grading will be necessary on the sides of the trail as well. Member Bell suggested using prisoners to help with this part. This is a good idea as we can use in-kind service as part of our match. Mayor Stephens stated he is also getting a repair estimate as well. We will also have several areas which will require cutting out tree roots and patching of large areas. Motion made by Member Troxell and seconded by member Meadows to approve the application for the rails to trails grant and to authorize Mayor Stephens to sign any and all paperwork necessary for this grant. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Mayor’s Update – Mayor Stephens stated that grading is underway at the old Brunswick location on Ballardsville Road. Member Meadows asked if there is a drawing of the finished product for this property. Mayor Stephens stated all he has is an aerial view and brochures which show other locations. Member Bell suggested that planning and zoning might have something.

Mayor Stephens reported that George Saliba with McDonalds has just returned from an annual meeting for McDonalds’ owners and that out of 750 owners in his region George received the award given to only 1% nationally for the best McDonalds.

Mayor Stephens reported that the new car wash is progressing well.

Subject: Council New Business – None.

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

Member Meadows asked when the portable restrooms would be removed from the Park to eliminate this bill. Mayor Stephens stated by the end of the month as we plan to open the park April 1st.

Subject: Closed Session – None needed.

With no further business to be discussed, motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Troxell to adjourn. All members present voted “Yea”. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

DRANE STEPHENS, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

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