

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, September 12, 2016 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, Public Works Director Matt McAllister, Police Officer Phillip Parham, Henry County Local Representative Chris Brooke, and Citizen Karen Phillips.

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

Pledge of allegiance held.

**Subject: County Business** – Magistrate Scott Bates was absent so no report available. Mayor Stephens asked if there was anything to take back to Magistrate Bates. Council inquired about the post on Clear Creek Road getting hit again by the big trucks and also the status of the North Main expansion project. Mayor Stephens will address these questions with Mr. Bates.

**Subject: Snakes** – Karen Phillips who lives at 6045 South Main Street was present to discuss the many snakes that she is having in her yard and home. She does have small grandchildren who play in the yard which creates a dangerous situation for them. She stated they are coming from the wooded lot behind her house that the City owns. She also commented that for 8-9 years she had been mowing our lot along the side of her house, but is not doing that anymore and that she doesn't think we are mowing it enough.

Attorney Brammell stated we have no liability for wild creatures and their actions. Attorney Brammell stated as pertains to her complaint on the mowing, we do need to keep our property in compliance with our own ordinance if we are not doing so. Member Meadows stated that putting moth balls and ammonia out will help with the snakes. Discussion held. Consensus of council to inquire with the County Extension Agent and others to see if they can offer any solutions and if feasible and not too expensive to proceed with trying to eliminate them. Ms. Phillips stated she wants us to bulldoze off the wooded lot.

**Subject: Water Ordinance** – David Fortner, who had requested to speak about our water ordinance was not present.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Subject: Minutes** – The minutes of the previous regular session held on August 8, 2016 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: Ad Valorem Property Tax Ordinance** - Attorney Brammell held the second reading of the ad valorem property tax rate ordinance setting the rate for 2016/2017 at .316 per \$100.00 assessment for real property, .316 per \$100.00 assessment for personal property and .266 per

\$100.00 assessment for motor vehicles and watercrafts. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Armstrong to adopt the ordinance as read. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

## **REPORTS:**

**Subject: Police Department Report** – Police Officer Phillip Parham reviewed the monthly activity report with council. Officer Parham reported they had 305 total contacts for the month. Thirty-six citations were issued on fifty-eight charges. Eleven individuals were arrested on twenty-five charges.

Officer Parham reported we were audited by the Department of Juvenile Justice with no issues noted. Reported that Shelby County had a high speed pursuit that came into Eminence with the driver being arrested after he hit a building on North Main. Officer Bailey followed up with an investigation and criminal charges. Reported Eminence Day went without any serious issues and that they assisted the Sheriff’s office with traffic control during the Odd-Fellows parade in New Castle as well as participating in the parade. Officer Parham reported that he and Sergeant Wells signed up for accreditation manager training and have started on our new policy manual.

Officer Parham reported the department participated in the “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” campaign. Reported we are still waiting to hear on the School Resource Officer grant as well as a firearms grant.

Council inquired about the former Young property on Maple Avenue which is not being maintained. Mayor Stephens reported that the 14 day limit will be up on Wednesday and if they have not complied he will have the police department cite them. It was suggested by Attorney Brammell that both the owner and tenant names go on all ordinance violation letters in the future.

**Subject: Public Works Department Report** – Public Works Director Matt McAllister reviewed the monthly activity report with council.

Mr. McAllister reported the Mayor has hired Shawn Golden temporarily to assist with mowing in the absence of employee, Troy Popp.

Mr. McAllister reported that the hydrant on Blackaby Lane was flow tested for the Tristan Ridge Development. Reported that we had several pump and transducer issues around town which have been resolved. An 8” gravity sewer line on Maple Avenue was cleared with the assistance of the Fire Department. The budgeted new truck has arrived and is in service. Some areas in town were blacktopped by BJ’s Paving.

Mr. McAllister stated we need to declare the 2006 Colorado as surplus property as it is no longer needed. Motion made by Member Meadows to declare the 2006 Colorado as surplus property as it was originally purchased to serve as a Public Works vehicle and is no longer needed and to authorize it for sale under sealed bid with a \$2,000.00 minimum bid required with bid due by noon on October 10, 2016 with opening that night. Motion seconded by Member Troxell. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

Mr. McAllister stated we also have an estimated 200 old water meters which are taking up a lot of space which we no longer need. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Shroyer to declare these meters as surplus property and to authorize them for sale under sealed bid as they were originally purchased for metering of water usage and are no longer needed due to the change-over to auto read meters. On a call for vote, all members present voted "Yea". It was suggested to advertise the truck and the meters together in one ad. It was discussed that we have an estimated 550 left to switch to auto read and are purchasing them from City of Bardstown again this year due to their mistaken over ordering.

**Subject: Administrative Office Report** – City Clerk Sandra Doane reviewed the monthly administrative office report with council reporting that the 2015 tax bill collection is at 98.4% at September 8, 2016. Total 2015 unpaid as of same date is \$5,060.29 and total 2014 unpaid is \$5,096.84. The 2016 tax bills will be mailed later this month.

Clerk Doane reported receipt of \$480.00 for Eminence Day pageant entry fees and an additional \$400.00 for booth rental. Reported we have received \$3,161.12 for health insurance subsidy from the state even though we were told this would not be awarded this year so we did not budget to receive this money. We also received the Kentucky Utilities franchise fees for 4-1-16/6-30-16.

Clerk Doane reported that the audit work is scheduled for September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Subject: Fiscal Year End Financial Report** – Mayor Stephens and Clerk Doane reviewed the fiscal year ending 6-30-16 financial information and budget comparison. Council had no questions at this time.

**Subject: Fire Department Report** – Member Meadows reviewed the August statistics for the department which shows eleven runs, meetings and special details with only one fire run for a total of 37 man hours. Member Meadows reported everything is going well at the fire department. Member Meadows reported that the concern over the contractual fee has been taken care of.

**Subject: Festivals Update** – Members Troxell, Mason and Bell reported that Eminence Day was a success even though attendance was a little low which may have had to do with the impending bad weather possibility; however the rain held off for everything to be done. Mayor Stephens thanked the committee for all their hard work.

Member Armstrong reported she has meet with Holly at the Renaissance Fair and they have decided on October 29, 2106 as the date for the Halloween Fest which is held at the Fair. The County is having their trail or treat on the 21<sup>st</sup> and we will keep traditional Halloween trick or treat on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Subject: Parks Update** – Mayor Stephens stated that the sod is doing well at the park and that everyone's hoses and sprinklers are in the back for pickup. It was discussed to leave the fence up as long as possible to protect the sod and to wait until the park is closed to mow the sod. It was discussed to install a temporary fence around the splash pad when we have the blue put on as it needs several days of non-use to dry successfully. Weather permitting the splash pad will remain open through September. Council requested that "closed for the season" signs be put up at the

appropriate time. Council thanked Mayor Stephens and the Police Department for running the sprinklers. It was decided to keep the splash pad open thru October 2, 2016 and close on October 3, 2016, weather permitting. It was discussed that we need a cover for the pressure lines coming out of the building. Mayor Stephens reported that Aaron Bruce, a welder, has been contacted on building us something and to assist with the winterization too.

Member Armstrong stated she would like for us to be sure and include the canopy for the other play structure in the budget for next year. Mayor Stephens stated he would get a price. Public Works was instructed to spray clean the climbing structures this fall with bleach to stop the mold. Some drainage concerns and possible corrections at the park were also discussed.

It was discussed that we probably under-estimated the water usage at the splash pad which will cause us a budget concern. We are installing a meter for the splash pad only so we can get a better feel for the real usage. We may need to decrease the hours or something to stay within the budget. Mayor Stephens has already been asked if it will be open on May 24<sup>th</sup> next year. We have also been asked about reserving it; but we do not plan to do this.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Subject: Open Citizen Comments** – None.

**Subject: Mayor's Update** – Mayor Stephens reported he has had a request for a “deer crossing” sign on Henry Street. No one had a problem with putting one up.

Mayor Stephens reported he has been approached by an individual wanting to open a tattoo shop in front of the repair shop behind City Hall. He could not think of any reason why this could not happen as long as all City permits were obtained. Attorney Brammell stated they need to check with zoning and the health department to confirm all requirements are met with both and that the zone is appropriate for this type of business. Question asked about the lawn mowing business next to this and if anything has been done to clean this up. Officer Parham reported he has told him to clean it up. Question on whether this was zoned business or not was asked.

Mayor Stephens showed council a plaque he has purchased to present to Eminence Speaker on behalf of their 50 years in our community which he will be presenting as soon as they can work out a mutually agreeable time.

**Subject: Council – New Business** – Member Meadows asked about the Tristan Ridge Development and the confusion over the allowed tenants. Mayor Stephens stated he would like to get all the facts straight prior to answering and that he is meeting with them on Wednesday.

**Subject: Warrants** - The warrants for payment were presented and reviewed. Motion made by Member Troxell and seconded by Member Mason 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 Meadows and seconded by Member Mason to adjourn. All members present voted "Yea". Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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DRANE STEPHENS, MAYOR  
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

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