

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, January 8, 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, and Fred Downey. Absent was Member Lee Ann Armstrong. Also in attendance were City Attorney William Brammell; City Clerk Sandra Doane; Public Works Director Matt McAllister; Police Chief Kevin Kemper; Magistrate Scott Bates; Citizens John Adcock, Kay Eldridge, Carolyn Koncsol, and Steve Koncsol; 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 – Magistrate Scott Bates reported that things are going smoothly in the County with the Sheriff and Clerk’s budgets being approved. Magistrate Bates reported that the State Road Department has cut the rebar off at the South Main grate and plan to fix it better later on, including the box. Magistrate Bates reported that various groups, including his Church, will be assisting with distribution of door hangers about Celebrate Recovery to all the homes in Henry County. This is such an important project and it is hoped that we can make a difference in the drug use in our County.

Subject: Medical Marijuana - Citizen John Adcock was present to request council consideration of adoption of a resolution to support legalizing medical marijuana. Mayor Stephens showed several legal products he sells made from hemp products and cannabis oil, all of which contain no THC in them. Member Meadows stated that Eminence Speaker makes speakers with cannabis cloth.

Mr. Adcock requested council adopt a resolution to support medical cannabis. He has done extensive investigation into the use of this for numerous medical conditions and firmly believes in its medical qualities. He is not asking for support of recreational use only medical. He has numerous articles on his Facebook page that he asked council to review. Discussion held with several questions being asked about the differences in cannabis versus marijuana.

Council in agreement that they need to read some of John’s articles and information on this before a decision can be made. Attorney Brammell also suggested that Mr. Adcock draft the resolution that he is proposing for further discussion and review next month.

OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Minutes – The minutes of the previous regular session held on December 11, 2017 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.

Subject: Planning & Zoning Ordinance Amendments – Attorney Brammell held the second reading of a zoning ordinance summary amending Section 240 which requires a permit for swimming pools and requires a demolition permit. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Mason not to approve this ordinance amendment. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”. Ordinance not adopted.

Attorney Brammell held the second reading of a zoning ordinance summary amending Sections 360, 640 & 770 of the Henry County Zoning Ordinance with Sections titled as 360 Action by City Commission or Fiscal Court on Zoning Map Amendments; Section 640 Agricultural Districts; and Section 770 Division of Property. Section 360 relates to proposed amendments becoming final and map amendments automatically implemented if the appropriate legislative body or aggrieved person does not file a written request within 21 days after the final action by the Planning commission that the legislative body wants to decide the map amendment. Other requirements concerning voting are also included in this section. Section 640 relates to conditional uses in A-1 districts and requires at least 50 acres for the Board of Adjustments to consider certain uses. Section 770 relates to division of property and the loss of the conditional uses under 640(I)(C). Motion made by Member Troxell and seconded by Member Meadows to adopt the ordinance as read. On a call for vote by Clerk Doane, all members present voted “Yea”.

REPORTS:

Subject: Police Department Report (Copy Attached Hereto) – Police Chief Kevin Kemper presented the monthly activity report to council. They had 174 total contacts for the month. Twenty-Three citations were issued on forty-seven charges. Five individuals were arrested on seven charges.

Chief Kemper reported they have one officer out for several weeks on medical leave and other officer illnesses have kept them short on staff this past month.

Reported that a skimmer was found by a citizen on one of the banks’ ATM machines. The U.S. Secret Service has been contacted. Warrants for two of the three people involved has been issued.

Chief Kemper reported they are still working on the pharmacy burglaries and do have fingerprint DNA; however, getting the results on this will take a while.

Chief Kemper reported they investigated a robbery on the walking trail involving two juveniles armed with baseball bats using the threat of physical assault to coerce other juveniles out of their possessions.

Chief Kemper reported the KY Association of Chiefs of Police approved our accreditation manuals with the department now doing the yearly review of the policies.

Chief Kemper reported on an Eminence student who brought brass knuckles to school. The student was arrested and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and unlawful possession of a weapon on school property.

Chief Kemper reported they have had one drug overdose this year which was a result of stolen medication being taken. The individual has been charged.

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 on a booster pump station at Jackson Road that had an electrical issue and was repaired in house.

Reported that drinking water flow data has been compiled and submitted to the engineers for the new library.

Mr. McAllister reported they have inspected the out of sight manhole rings and lids to ensure they are still secured and functioning properly. They also exercised the sewer lift station discharge valves to make sure that everything functions as it should if and when needed.

Reported that the new 2018 industrial user permits were renewed for Libertas Copper and Eminence Speaker.

Mr. McAllister reported that a series of drinking water samples have been gathered and sent to the lab at the request of Tristan Ridge to ensure that the drinking water inside the finished building is clean and sanitary. Everything passed.

Mayor Stephens reported the department was out on a leak on Penn Avenue starting at 12:20 a.m. on last Friday morning. The break took until 10:00 a.m. to fix mostly due to waiting on getting other lines marked. USIC came at 12:50 a.m. to mark what they could but no longer have the contract for the gas lines. Olameter was called to mark the gas lines, but did not show up until 6:00 a.m. One car was in the way and had to be moved.

Mr. McAllister reported on another leak involving a broken meter which happened on a Wednesday night with no call from the resident until Thursday night. The resident is the one who broke the meter.

Member Meadows asked if anyone has been hired yet to replace Tim Fitzgerald. Mayor Stephens reported they have held some interviews and are down to two who are both local.

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 93.3% of the total 2017 billed taxes with only \$25,607.86 remaining unpaid at January 4, 2018. The 2% penalty is now on the unpaid bills with it going to 10% on February 1st.

Clerk Doane reported on other receipts for the month.

Clerk Doane reported that our auditor has indicated he will present the final audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 at our February meeting.

Member Bell inquired if we could do some type of amnesty for old unpaid taxes. Attorney Brammell stated he did not think we should.

Member Meadows asked about the amnesty letters for getting water bills in the proper name. Clerk Doane stated this is being worked on along with getting new contact information for all customers. Debbie calls customers prior to cut-off if she has good contact information.

Question asked if people could opt out of having a bill mailed to them. Clerk Doane stated she was not sure but thought it was possible. Will check on this.

Subject: Fire Department Report – Member Meadows reported they had 103 total runs for 2017. The total runs for November were three with a total of 88.5 manhours. Reported that everyone is doing a great job and that the Chief is already working on his budget for the next year.

Subject: Festivals Update – Nothing to report.

Subject: Parks Update – Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

Subject: Mayor’s Update – Nothing new to report.

Subject: Council – New Business – No one had anything.

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 Troxell and seconded by Member Meadows to adjourn. All members present voted “Yea”. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

DRANE STEPHENS, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

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