

## SPECIAL/REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL

February 13, 2017

The special meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor, John Mohr, in the City Council Chambers at Lexington City Hall.

**Business Builders Ongoing City Advertising Discussions:** The testimonial video has been shot and Mayor asked that the video be circulated to all council members for review. The contract with Screenvision, the movie theatre promo, has ended. Mayor's recommendation is to wait for the new budget to be in place before any decision to renew goes forward. Contract with Business Builders ends February 28<sup>th</sup>. Jennifer brought a contract extension to get the city thru the end of the fiscal year. Otherwise she noted that she can bundle everything up that Business Builders has done to hand off to Star for use going forward. The contract extension would cost \$1,500 per month. Council's preference is to hold off on any kind of contract or contract extension until the new budget is in place. Council's preference was also to skip the home show this year and possibly revisit in the future. The home show is March 5-8<sup>th</sup>. Jennifer noted to keep in mind for the future that the home show started taking applications for booths in August. Mayor asked that they get some information regarding other home shows in the state. Mayor also asked the council to discuss a preference for either moving forward with Business Builders in April or to have them bundle up the work that has been done and the city would handle things going forward. Mayor's preference would be to change the scope of the contract to have Business Builders focus more on boosting the current information and focusing more on radio, etc. Council's preference is to wrap everything up at this point until it can be discussed during budgeting. Jennifer noted that they will put all the artwork and photography in a DropBox format. She will also make sure that Star has an understanding on how to utilize the video links provided. She recommends in the future that the city look at hiring them to manage the city's social media promotion which would run about \$850/month. Meeting concluded around 7:00 pm.

The regular Council Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Alderman Miller, Alderman Johansen, Alderman Meyer, Alderman Richard, Alderman Cole and Alderman Stover. Members of the staff and public present were: Melanie Kunkel, John Colclasure, David Belvery and Brad Poppe.

It was moved by Alderman Johansen and seconded by Alderman Miller to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2017 council meeting. Motion carries unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderman Meyer to approve the treasurer's report and pay bills in the amount of \$27,627.48. Payment for Show Bus was withheld pending approval at the next council meeting. Motion carries unanimously.

**Public Input:** Brad Poppe was in attendance observing the meeting as part of the Leadership McLean County Program.

### **Old Business:**

**Employee Health Insurance:** Alderman Richard noted that the city's ProCare Plus prescription program needs to be cancelled which will save the city at least \$50 month. Motion by Alderman Richard and second by Alderman Meyer to cancel the ProCare Plus Prescription plan program. Motion carries unanimously.

**TIF Grant Application Revisions:** Alderman Stover circulated some changes to the current grant application programs. The two types of applications need to be more clearly defined for new businesses coming to town verses already established businesses asking for money. The changes proposed would require the council to

provide a definitive answer either way to applicants. Council members provided feedback on the changes. Alderman Stover will type up clean copies for distribution and review.

### **New Business:**

None

### **Committee Reports:**

**Mayor:** There is an interested party in purchasing the mobile home park. Star is calculating the TIF incentive programs for Kemp's Upper Tap, the new apartments, etc so the reimbursements can be distributed in February. Mayor contacted Wirtz again about their list of TIF eligible expenses. They are working on getting the list together. Mayor spoke with Fred Morrissette regarding his progress on the brewery. He continues to make improvements on the building and has some of the equipment necessary for brewing. He is still waiting on some Federal licensing paperwork to be able to be up and running. Alderman Cole asked if it can be required of the new buyer of the trailer park to connect to the city sewer and do away with the septic system they have out there. Mayor noted that the health department has extended them an agreement to keep their septic tanks as long as there are no operating issues. Mayor is issuing a letter to the current owner that states that the agreement with the Health Department has to go forward to the new owner.

**Police:** Alderman Meyer noted that the monthly report has been circulated. He noted that the Crown Victoria has had a lot of service and is limping along towards replacement. A new camera has been secured. The use of e-ticketing is underway. Mayor asked Alderman Meyer to do an informal pole about verbal warnings verse tickets written by the police department. In the last 12 months the police have issued two warnings for every one ticket written. Mayor complimented the Chief and the Police Committee on a great job community policing with their efforts in taking the time to speak with residents instead of just writing tickets. Alderman Cole asked why the police officers are always sitting on Old 66 out by Orange Street. He feels their time is better served within city limits and any issues out there should be handled by County or State police. He noted that no police officers are out writing tickets for the stop sign runners near his home off Vermillion.

**Building/Insurance:** Alderman Richard noted that things are going well with the city's health insurance program and he is working with the city employees towards getting things done with the buildings to satisfy the liability insurance.

**Finance/TIF:** Alderman Stover noted that he would also like to add to the TIF grant applications that applicants provide proof of insurance.

**Water:** Alderman Cole noted that everything is going well with the water treatment plant construction. He also asked if there is anything the city can do to help the financial burden of the community center. Mayor noted that an easy way would be for them to work with one of the current taxing bodies to establish an Intergovernmental Agreement. Alderman Stover noted that they have been relying heavily on endowments as their source of income and those are drying up so they have to come up with another revenue source.

**Sanitation:** Alderman Johansen noted that the lender accepted the Phase 1 report on the old Filling Station. The new owner is scheduled to close in March. They will serve pizza and dinners. There will be no tenants living on the property. Alderman Johansen also did some investigating on the city's street light invoices. Back in July a 60% franchise discount with Homefield was mistakenly discontinued. Homefield will correct the error and will be refunding the city about \$3,000. February 22<sup>nd</sup> is the first Chamber of Commerce meeting.

**Streets/Alleys:** Alderman Miller noted that Bill Elias took some of the training courses through the city's insurance company. Alderman Miller has encouraged all city employees to take some of the training. Alderman Miller noted that he spoke with Katie and Star who feel they can handle the social media publicity and feels that the city is not getting their money's worth from Business Builders at this point as they feel they can handle all of the city's publicity themselves.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Richard and seconded by Alderman Meyer to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Kunkel, City Clerk

Approved: 2/27/2017