

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL
October 27, 2014

The regular meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Mayor John Mohr in the City Council Chambers at Lexington City Hall.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Mayor Mohr, Alderman Cole, Alderman Miller, Alderman Johansen, Alderman Phelps, and Alderman Revelle. Alderman Fosen was absent. Members of the staff and public present were: Melanie Kunkel, Jason Denham and Don Cavallini.

It was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Cole to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2014 council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Revelle and second by Alderman Phelps to approve the treasurer's report and pay bills in the amount of \$23,579.39. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: Jason Denham addressed the council and noted that he has settled with Stark's insurance company and repaid the full loan the city provided to him a month or so ago. He thanked the council for helping him and his family with the sewage backup in their home. Don Cavallini noted that he is running for the McLean County Board again and would appreciate the council's vote.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Noteworthy: Alderman Cole noted that he has been approached by a couple residents regarding the smoke nuisance brought on by leaf burning at this time of year. Mayor asked council members to do some research on obtaining a leaf vacuum and working with city employees to find options other than burning. Alderman Johansen asked about the Fireside patio fencing as it was determined at the last meeting that the fencing needs to be set back further from the curb. Mayor noted that he was supposed to contact Brandon Fried after the last meeting with instructions on what to do. At this point the Mayor is going to contact Brandon and ask that the fencing be taken down, the fixtures drilled into the sidewalk removed and the holes in the sidewalk repaired. An alternate non-permanent structure with proper spacing between it and the curb can be addressed in the spring.

Committee Reports:

Mayor: Mayor noted that the closing transferring the lot on the corner of Main and Morris happened between Commerce Bank and the city and then from the city to Stinde Electric simultaneously and is now complete. Mayor asked the council to consider what their opinions are on a property tax levy as a levy has to be passed in December. Currently, the city has not increased the levy in seven years.

Police: Alderman Phelps indicated that he and the Chief interviewed an individual for a part-time job as well as some individuals for the full time job. An offer was extended to Dustin Carter for the part time position. Background checks have to be done for the officers being

considered for the full time position before any offers can be extended. Council was unhappy with the method used to find full time candidates and asked Alderman Phelps to have the Chief start the application process from scratch. They asked that a proper job description be written up and advertised. Alderman Phelps noted that Chief is having knee surgery and the county is aware and will provide backup coverage. Alderman Phelps relayed the council's concern to the Chief that he needs to increase his visible presence in the community. Mayor noted that he feels the Chief has done an excellent job since taking over and has had a significant amount of clean up and administrative work that has bogged him down in the office. Mayor assured the council that once the administrative work gets on track, he is sure the Chief's presence in the community will increase.

Building/Insurance: Mike Beard contacted Alderman Miller regarding the fact that he has had to change out lighting ballasts in the old Wooden Hair building and asked about possibly replacing the existing lights. An estimate from Stinde revealed that it would cost \$1,500 to replace them. Council was not interested in spending the money to replace the light fixtures at this time and feel the cost of ballast replacement is minimal. Alderman Miller had another meeting with Bruce Johnson regarding the city's health insurance. He will be scheduling a meeting with his committee and city employees to discuss same. Alderman Miller noted that currently the employees have no deductible and with the increase on the horizon, he asked the council to consider instituting a deductible for each employee.

Finance/TIF: None

Water: Alderman Cole noted that the repair company came up to redo the fourth filter at the water treatment plant. Upon inspection there is a more serious problem with water disbursement in the filter that requires more investigation.

Sanitation: None

Streets/Alleys: Alderman Revelle noted that Bill Elias and the crew are just about finished cutting down the dead trees in town.

Mayor thanked the council members for volunteering at the city wide Halloween Party over the past weekend.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Phelps to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Kunkel, City Clerk

Approved: 11/10/2014