

LUDLOW COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

September 9, 2004

Mayor Schroeder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Laurie Sparks called the roll which showed the following council members present: Cindy Schachere, Joyce McMullin, Charlie Manning, Karen Gaiser and Gary Rolfsen. (Bill Froehle was absent due to a prior commitment.)

ALSO ATTENDING: City Attorney Chris Mehling, Building/Zoning Inspector Joe Schutzman, Clerk/Treasurer Paul Weekley, Police Chief Ray Murphy and Fire Chief Terry Bandy

Mr. Rolfsen motioned to approve the minutes from the meeting on August 26, 2004. Motion seconded by Ms. Gaiser. Motion carried all ayes (1 absent).

MAYOR'S REPORT

Ms. Schachere—Parks

- The installation of the shelter house roofs is scheduled to begin on Friday.
- **Ms. Schachere motioned to set the Halloween trick-or-treating hours for Sunday, October 31st, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Motion seconded by Ms. McMullin. Motion carried all ayes (1 absent).**
- The Light-up Ludlow house decorating contest will be on December 12th.

Ms. McMullin—Riverfront Development

- In response to Ms. McMullin's question, Mr. Schutzman stated that he would meet with the insurance adjuster regarding the houses that recently burned on Carneal Street. The owners will not be allowed to rebuild a home on the lot. J.P. Hauling will begin taking down the houses at 312 and 314 Poplar Street next Tuesday. The owner of 316 Poplar Street will tear down the home himself.
- Ms. McMullin asked about the status of the old trailer park property. Mr. Schutzman stated that he met with Mr. Wiesner to discuss uses for the property. The Wiesners would like to divide the property in half to build multi-family housing on the front portion of the property and use the riverfront portion for their business.
- The First Baptist Church of Ludlow would like to invite Council to be cake and pie tasters during a fundraiser for AWANA following the morning worship service on September 19th.

Mr. Manning—Finance

In response to Mr. Manning's question on the status of the codification, Mr. Schutzman stated that he has not had time to finish reviewing and making all the necessary changes. Mr. Manning stated that he toured Ash Street after the last council meeting and noticed massive improvement in some areas but noted that other areas still need work. Mr. Manning thanked Chief Bandy and asked the Mayor prepare a commendation for the two firefighters that entered a burning building on Carneal Street to save a child. Mr. Manning also thanked the Red Cross for their assistance. Mr. Manning stated that he would check to verify that the Knights of Columbus hall would be available on December 5th following the Christmas Parade.

Ms. Gaiser—Community Relations

- Halloween Fest will be on Saturday, October 30th from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. The 200 block of Oak will be closed on that evening from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Residents of the block will be notified on the Monday prior to the event. Ms. Gaiser thanked Mr. Mehling for the donation for candy, and JD's Deli, Reeves' Fruit Market, Middendorf-Bullock Funeral Home, and Ronald B. Jones Funeral Home for their donations.
- The first meeting of the Christmas Parade Committee will be on September 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at Ms. Gaiser's house. The Christmas tree lighting ceremony at Elm Wood Park will be on Sunday, November 28th at 6:00 p.m. There will be cookies and hot chocolate and Ms. Gaiser is still working on getting music for the event. The school will provide ornaments for the tree. A volunteer is needed to play Santa Claus for the Christmas Parade on December 5th from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. and the Christmas Party at Highpoint on December 8th. Anyone interested should contact the City Building.

Mr. Rolfsen—Economic Development

- Mr. Rolfsen commended the Fire Department and stated that he would like to bring them in at the next meeting to recognize them for their bravery.
- Mr. Rolfsen requested that Mr. Schroeder carry out each of the recommendations from Brandstetter Carroll for the riverfront. Mr. Rolfsen stated that he would be willing to continue to work with the Economic Development Committee. Discussion on the status of the City's riverfront property that is currently leased to McGinnis. Ms. McMullin asked if the U.C. students' projects and the NKU students' survey are at the city building. Mr. Rolfsen stated that the U.C. projects and information are at the city building and recommended that Ms. McMullin contact Andy Corn regarding the NKU survey.

Building/Zoning Report

Fischer is in the process of submitting Stage I plans for land that they recently acquired that will increase the development by 60 units. The Route 8 project has been temporarily halted until the issue of utilities and the embankment in front of Barker is resolved. The sunken manhole in the middle of Louise Court can't be fixed until construction is complete. The Code Enforcement Board will meet on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the City Building. Fischer purchased a pie shaped piece of land at the end of Hazen Street. Council would have to approve any plans before anything is built in that area. Mr. Schutzman and the engineer will meet on Monday to review the stop sign issue on Hazen Street.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report

Mr. Weekley had no report.

Fire Chief's Report

A child was rescued from the fire on Carneal Street that sent four firefighters to the hospital with minor injuries. Chief Bandy thanked J.D.'s Deli for the Gatorade and pizza for the firefighters. Chief Bandy thanked Chief Murphy and his crew and the Kenton County Multi-Task Force for identifying the cause of the fire, which was determined as accidental. Ft. Wright, Park Hills and Bromley assisted in fighting the blaze. Mr. Schroeder stated that Ms. Sparks could send thank you notes to all who assisted. Mr. Bandy stated that he would block off one end of the 200 block of Oak Street with the fire trucks during the Halloween Fest and a barricade would be needed to block it off at Carneal Street.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Murphy had no report. Mr. Schroeder thanked Chief Murphy for the detailed report of each officer's activity during the past month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance 2004-9

Mr. Mehling completed the second reading of Ordinance 2004-9 *An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances 150.17 to Include the Requirement that Numbers Be Placed on Houses and Buildings that are Adjacent to Alleys and Amending the Number Size and Width to Comply with the Current BOCA Code*. **Ms. Schachere motioned to adopt Ordinance 2004-9. Motion seconded by Ms. Gaiser. Motion carried: 5 ayes, 1 absent.**

NEW BUSINESS

Authorize Mayor Schroeder to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding for ALS

Mr. Mehling read the Memorandum of Understanding that stated that Council would need to pass a resolution to authorize Mayor Schroeder to sign the Memorandum on behalf of the City to provide ALS service to the city at rate of \$20,184.00. The money for ALS will come out of the special Fire and EMS Fund. Mr. Mehling stated that the ALS committee is looking at future options for providing ALS to citizens after the agreement with TransCare ends on July 1, 2005.

Administer Oath to Officer David Hampton

Chief Murphy introduced Officer David Hampton who recently retired from the Covington Police Department after 20 years of service. Chief Murphy stated that Officer Hampton is a dedicated officer with experience in investigations. Mayor Schroeder administered the Oath to Office to Officer Hampton, who will begin working on Monday.

First Reading of Ordinance 2004-10 Amending the Animal Ordinance to Ban Pit Bulls

Mr. Mehling prepared two versions of an amendment to the animal ordinance—the first would ban pit bulls in the city, the second would require owners to annually register pit bulls with the city clerk. Ms. McMullin stated that she is favor of banning pit bulls because of their vicious history and the harm they can do to children. Ms. Gaiser expressed concern for residents who currently have a pit bull and would have to have it taken away if the dogs are banned. Discussion on the problem of enforcing restrictions on pit bulls as opposed to banning them. Mr. Mehling completed the first reading of Ordinance 2004-10 *An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 90: Animals to Provide that Pit Bull Terriers Shall be Banned in the City of Ludlow*. After discussion, Mr. Mehling suggested that the second reading of the Ordinance be placed on the agenda for the first council meeting in October. A public hearing will be scheduled prior to that council meeting to allow public comment on pit bull restrictions. Ms. Schachere requested that Mr. Mehling write an article about the issue of banning or restricting pit bulls in the city for the next *Ludlow Community Connection*.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Ray Graven of 705 Elm Street asked about the status of the property at 639 Elm Street. Mr. Mehling requested that Mr. Graven contact him at his office to get an update on the status.

Fred Brooks of 346 Hazen Street inquired about the status of the stop sign at Hazen Street and River's Breeze Drive. Mr. Schroeder stated that Mr. Schutzman and Mr. Brandstetter will meet

with the property owner [220 River's Breeze] on Monday to discuss the issue of trimming the trees to improve the sight distance problem on Hazen Street. Fred Caldwell of 343 Hazen Street demanded that the stop sign on southbound River's Breeze at Hazen Street be put back up and stated that he and his wife have almost gotten hit since it was removed. Mr. Caldwell stated that the stop sign was there when he bought his house and he wants it put back up because he's afraid that someone is going to get killed by the cars speeding up the hill. Jenny Zimmerman of 339 Hazen Street stated that her husband was told by Chief Murphy that if she was hit by a car when she is pulling out of Hazen onto River's Breeze, it would be her fault. Mr. Schutzman stated that Council agreed to let the new city engineer review the situation and consider his recommendations for resolving the safety issue of the sight distance problem. Ms. McMullin stated that she was not on council when the stop sign was removed, but she observed traffic flow at the intersection and agrees that there is a sight distance problem. Mr. Brooks stated that if trimming the trees near the intersection allows you to see the cars, it might solve the problem. Mr. Mehling stated that if the City erects a stop sign on River's Breeze against the advice of the engineer, the City could be liable. Mr. Schutzman stated that the problem may be resolved by trimming the trees near the intersection. Discussion on what would be required to erect a stop sign on River's Breeze. Discussion on the problem of the alignment of the street, which is not a valid 4-way intersection at Hazen and River's Breeze. Mr. Mehling stated that he could have an emergency ordinance prepared for the next meeting to erect the stop sign on River's Breeze if trimming the trees does not correct the problem. Further discussion on the issue of putting the stop sign back up on River's Breeze.

Motion made by Mr. Manning to adjourn to executive session at 8:50 p.m. Motion seconded by Ms. McMullin. Motion carried all ayes (1 absent).

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Motion made by Mr. Rolfsen to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Ms. Schachere. Motion carried all ayes (1 absent).

Ed F. Schroeder, Mayor

Laurie Sparks, Admin. Asst.