

LUDLOW CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING & WORK SESSION
MINUTES

January 18, 2017

Mayor Kenneth Wynn called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Laurie Sparks called the roll, which showed the following council members present: Tom Amann, John Gaiser, Jordan Scheid, Bill Whiteley, Matt Williams. (Josh Boone arrived at 4:45 p.m.)

ALSO ATTENDING: City Attorney Jeff Otis, City Administrative Officer Elishia Chamberlain, City Clerk Laurie Sparks, Police Chief Scott Smith, Fire Chief Rob Dreyer, Deputy Fire Chief Mike Steward, Paramedic and EMS Coordinator Heather Ladanyi, Public Works Project Manager Patrick Walkenhorst

COUNCIL WORK GROUPS

1. Finance – Tom Amann, Josh Boone
2. Public Works – Jordan Scheid, Matt Williams
3. Safety Committee – John Gaiser, Bill Whiteley

Introductions were made by each Department Head, Ms. Chamberlain, Ms. Sparks, and Mr. Otis. (The Department Heads and Fire Department Staff left the meeting at 4:45 p.m.)

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wynn advised that if a councilmember needs to reach him, he is available by phone after work hours or through email, which he checks regularly.

BUSINESS: UPDATES, VISIONING, AND PLANNING SESSION

Roles of Officials and Procedures (Mr. Otis)

Mr. Otis distributed and discussed an Orientation Meeting Packet along with the statutes pertaining to the duties of Mayor and Council. Discussion on current litigation issues.

City Update (Ms. Chamberlain)

- **Economic Development** – Discussion on the status of various projects, including the Incinerator Site, Ludlow Municipal Parking Lot, Ludlow Yards, Rail Viewing Station, Rail Property, Riverfront Development from Ash Street to Covington. Discussion on the importance of choosing the right economic development plan.
- **Housing** – Discussion on the importance of bringing new, apartment housing to the City, similar to Covington's housing.
- **Code Enforcement** – Stricter code enforcement leads to cleaning up properties, increasing property values, and a cleaner city. Greenspace is highly valuable.
- **Historic Preservation** – The City has a variety of housing styles which appeals to many people who are looking to move to the City.

Discussion of Current Planned Activities/Goals (Mayor Wynn)

Mayor Wynn discussed plans to create a downtown historic district; the parking study by Planning and Development Services of Kenton County (PDS); the Façade Program for current business owners; plans to be on OpenGov by July 1, 2017; implement the revised rental license and new rental inspection program; clean up the City and housing stock; work on building the City's reserves to \$600,000.00.

Council's Goals/Vision

Mr. Amann—Mr. Amann supports Mayor Wynn's views for the City; hopes to extend the Southbank Shuttle into Ludlow; implement the Abandoned Property Tax Rate; look at acquiring foreclosed properties; get the Façade Program started; improve sidewalks; look into providing tax incentives for homeowners who purchase properties; stricter code enforcement and pursuit of foreclosure.

(Mr. Amann and Mr. Gaiser left the meeting at 6:40 p.m.)

Mr. Williams—Mr. Williams advised that he supports everything that was discussed and would like to see public restrooms installed in Ludlow Park; a sidewalk improvement program; organize a fundraiser to bring the businesses, citizens, and the City together. Mr. Boone and Mr. Williams agreed to serve on a Local Business Committee.

Mr. Scheid—Mr. Scheid inquired about the status of Riverfront Commons and the connector trail to Carlisle Field; discussion on the increase in biking activity in the City.

Mr. Boone—Mr. Boone advised that he would like to continue to focus on downtown businesses, especially the Façade Program; look into acquiring Ernie's Bar for development; focus on cleaning up properties and improving housing through historic preservation.

Mr. Whiteley—Mr. Whiteley advised that he also has the same goals that have been discussed.

**Motion by Mr. Whiteley, second by Mr. Boone, to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Motion carried, all ayes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: _____
Kenneth Wynn, Mayor