

LUDLOW COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

December 8, 2022

Mayor Josh Boone called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. City Clerk Laurie Sparks called the roll, which showed the following council members present: Steve Chapman, Brie Banks, Chris Wright, and Julie Terry Navarre. Tiffany Grider and Vanetta Davis were absent.

ALSO ATTENDING: City Attorney Todd McMurtry, City Administrative Officer/Police Chief Scott Smith, City Clerk Laurie Sparks, Fire Chief Mike Steward, Public Works Director Shane Hamant, Code Enforcement Officer Jamie West

Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Ms. Banks, to approve the minutes from the council meeting on November 10, 2022. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Department

Chief Steward discussed his monthly report and advised business inspections would begin soon.

Public Works

Mr. Hamant advised that he is looking into the cost of purchasing a new utility truck for Public Works. Discussion on the status of replacing the streetlights that were damaged. Discussion on the status of work in Ludlow Park and vehicle repairs.

Code Enforcement

Mr. West discussed the status of open and closed cases. A certificate of appropriateness application for the replacement of the entry door at 28 Euclid Street was approved by the Urban Design Review Board. Mr. West advised that this month he is highlighting Ludlow Code §50.04 “Storage of Refuse and Garbage” and discussed recent violations he has seen, including garbage cans left in the right-of-way and unencapsulated items set out at the curb and in alleys.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Boone thanked Paula Graszus and the Parade Committee for organizing the Christmas Parade. Kenton County and Ludlow Schools approved the Industrial Revenue Bonds for the Fischer project. Mayor Boone thanked the City staff and Council and thanked the community for electing him as mayor for four years and as a councilmember for eight years. Mayor Boone advised that his goal when he was elected mayor was to calm things down and he asked that everyone continue that going forward. The City is in a much better place than it was twelve years ago. The city now has a business district and people are fixing things up. Mayor Boone thanked everyone and advised that it was a pleasure to work with council over the last four years.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – Mr. Chapman advised that the Committee would meet on Monday, December 12, 2022.

Public Works – Ms. Terry Navarre advised that the Committee met last week and discussed the items that were in Mr. Hamant’s report.

Safety – No report.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Chief Smith advised that he is still trying to get a development on the west end of the city. There is a developer still looking at constructing townhomes on Elm Street. Chief Smith recently attended a meeting at Planning and Development Services of Kenton County on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, where the plans for the access road to the Fischer development project were approved. The approved road will require less cutting into the hillside. A committee will be set up with residents of River's Breeze and others to work with the engineers to oversee the project. Discussion on looking for bids soon to construct an amphitheater in Ludlow Park. The City still needs to confirm that a resident who offered to donate the funds for the project still plans to do so. Discussion on the recent filming of the movie "The Bikeriders". The feedback from the production crew was that they loved Ludlow. Chief Smith discussed a recent incident of a shooting involving someone who was breaking into the vehicle belonging to a resident on Elm Street. The case is being reviewed by the prosecutor's office. Discussion on a recent report from Kenton County of the number of monthly police calls across all agencies. Ludlow Police had fewer calls and less crime than any other city in Kenton County. Ludlow Police have averaged under 400 calls per month for the last five years. Chief Smith advised that when he came to Ludlow as police chief, the police were averaging 1,500 calls per month. The police officers are very proactive and their goal is to keep people safe. Anyone interested in donating to the Toy Drive can drop off their unwrapped gifts at the police department. Chief Smith advised that he would post information on the police Facebook page if anyone is interested in helping to wrap the gifts, which will go to about thirty families.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Derek Gaiser, 304 Poplar Street, expressed concern that the Fischer development will price people out of the community, especially those families who have been here for generations.

Joseph Baer, Captain of Celebrations Riverboats, discussed documents he received from the City in a recent records request. Mr. Baer discussed issues with a recent fire inspection, Chief Steward, and Chief Smith. Mr. McMurtry advised Mr. Baer that he was close to crossing the line of what is considered slander. Mr. Baer continued to speak past the allotted five-minute time allowed. Mayor Boone advised Mr. Baer that he still owed the City \$15.50 for the documents in his records request.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance 2022-10

Mr. McMurtry completed the second reading of Ordinance 2022-10 *An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Amending Ludlow's Zoning Ordinance to Include Museums as a Conditional Use in All I-1 (Industrial-One) Zones.* **Motion by Mr. Chapman, second by Mr. Wright, to adopt Ordinance 2022-10. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2022-9

Mr. McMurtry read Resolution 2022-9 *A Resolution of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky to Enter and Adopt the Joinder Agreement with Kentucky Deferred Compensation (KDC) for Participation in the 457 Plan and*

the 401(k) Plan for the Benefit of its Eligible Employees. **Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Mr. Wright, to approve Resolution 2022-9. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Terry Navarre thanked Mayor Boone for a great four years and wished him good luck. Ms. Terry Navarre also thanked the people who came out to the Christmas Parade and to the Plaza. Mr. Wright seconded Mr. Terry Navarre’s comments and wished everyone a happy holiday. Ms. Banks thanked Mayor Boone for all he has done and thanked everyone who participated in the Christmas Parade, including Paula and John Graszus and the athletic organizations.

Chief Smith advised that he probably wouldn’t have taken the job of City Administrative Officer if he didn’t think he could work so well with the mayor. Chief Smith advised that he took great pride in presenting a plaque to Mayor Boone for his eight years of dedicated service on council and four years of dedicated service to the city as Mayor. Mayor Boone thanked everyone and advised that he really enjoyed his time as mayor and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Motion by Ms. Banks, second by Mr. Wright, to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Following a voice vote, motion carried, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: _____
Chris Wright, Mayor