

LUDLOW COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

June 13, 2019

Mayor Josh Boone 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: Steve Chapman, Tiffany Grider, Bill Whiteley, Chris Wright, Tom Amann and Julie Terry Navarre.

ALSO ATTENDING: City Attorney Justin Whittaker, Police Chief/City Administrator Scott Smith, City Clerk Laurie Sparks, Fire Chief Mike Steward, and Public Works Foreman Rob Begnoche

At Mayor Boone's request, motion by Mr. Amann, second by Ms. Terry Navarre, to amend the agenda to add a voice resolution to revoke the rental license for the property at 203 Kenner Street. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Motion by Ms. Grider, second by Mr. Whiteley, to approve the minutes from the council meeting on May 9, 2019. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Department

Chief Steward discussed the monthly Fire Department report. The Fire Department will be testing fire hydrants in June and will post signs in the areas where the testing will occur.

Public Works

Mr. Begnoche submitted his monthly report to council. Discussion on the bid from the Glass Act of Kentucky to repair the stained glass windows in the council chambers.

Code Enforcement

Chief Smith advised that a report was included in the council packet. Discussion on the status of open and closed cases. Chief Smith thanked everyone who notifies the City of nuisance property issues.

Police Department

Chief Smith advised that police clerk Bob Epperson will return to work on Monday, June 17, 2019. Discussion on the number and type of police calls received in the past month. Mr. Chapman requested more police patrols in Ludlow Park.

City Administrative Officer's Report

Chief Smith advised that he has been working diligently with Council and Mayor on the City's finances. Chief Smith thanked everyone who was involved with the Memorial Day Parade. Discussion on the recent meeting at Planning and Development Services of Kenton County (PDS) regarding the Historic Preservation Overlay Zone. The Historic Overlay Zone issue has been tabled until the City has an opportunity to review the guidelines and make sure

everything is right. The Ludlow Heritage Museum will be moving into the Public Works building offices and the current building [227 Elm St.] will be sold in the near future. Discussion on the status of the demolition process in the Ernie's building [333-335 Elm St.], which should begin soon once all of the permits have been obtained. The City is working on developing ideas for the Ludlow Yards project and will open it up for public input at a future meeting. Dr. Borowski purchased the property at 800 Elm Street and will renovate it for use as a dentist office; no plans have been finalized for how the adjacent property will be developed. Discussion on the status of paving Adela Avenue, which should be completed in March 2020. Discussion on the status of uncollected delinquent taxes and franchise fees. All of the franchise fees, covering a period of five years and totaling \$600,000.00, have been collected. The City has collected \$77,697.00 in delinquent taxes, fees, and fines to date; approximately \$188,000.00 in delinquent taxes is still due. Ludlow Fire Department will provide service to Bromley and will take over Advanced Life Support (ALS) service in January 2020, when Bromley's contract with Crescent Springs Fire ends. The City's goal is to work together to provide services to Bromley while collecting enough money to cover the cost of the services.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Boone discussed the budget proposal and advised that he would like the City to pay off existing debt and find new revenue streams. With cuts and debt collection, the City's revenues should exceed expenditures by almost \$500,000.00 next year. Discussion on concerns about the increasing cost of health care and the pension system. Mayor Boone advised that he will be attending the Mayor's Group Meeting where J.D. Chaney of Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) will be discussing legislative updates and pension updates. Mayor Boone thanked everyone who helped with the Memorial Day Parade, including John and Paula Graszus, Tony Meier of the Ludlow Vets, the Fire Department, Police Department, and the volunteers. The City is planning to bring back the Christmas Parade this year. Mayor Boone advised that he would look into a letter that he and council members received from KLC regarding water lines.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL

John Graszus inquired whether Bromley Fire Department had any equipment the City could purchase. Chief Smith advised that he was told that the equipment was given to the Crescent Springs Fire Department. Paula Graszus advised that Ludlow Youth Football obtained a large tent from the Bromley Fire Department that could be used in the park on Memorial Day.

Ruth Bamberger of 596 Riversbreeze Drive discussed the Ludlow Historic Society and advised that the Historic Preservation Overlay Zone has been a longtime goal for the organization. Ms. Bamberger thanked everyone involved in the process of developing the Zone and thanked those who attended the recent meeting at PDS where the issue was discussed.

Randall Born of 3 Euclid Avenue advised that he attended the meeting at PDS regarding the Historic Preservation Overlay Zone and sent Mayor and Council an email expressing concerns about the Overlay Zone guidelines. Mr. Born advised that he appreciates historic preservation but doesn't believe the proposed guidelines are ready. Mr. Born expressed concern that strict guidelines could have an adverse effect by keeping an owner from making any improvements at all if they couldn't afford the cost of repairs required in the guidelines.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance 2019-4

Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Whiteley, to call up Ordinance 2019-4 An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances for the City of Ludlow, Kentucky for a second reading. Following a second reading by Mr. Whittaker and a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance—Mr. Amann and Mr. Chapman are meeting every Tuesday looking for ways to save money and increase revenue. The City's financial position is much better than it was three months ago and should be fine as long as the City stays on the current path. Mr. Chapman advised that they removed unnecessary City spending.

Public Works—Ms. Terry Navarre advised that the committee will schedule a meeting in the next few weeks.

Safety—Mr. Wright advised that the committee met with Chief Smith and discussed the issue of households that have had recurring problems.

NEW BUSINESS

First Reading of Ordinance 2019-5

Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Chapman, to introduce Ordinance 2019-5 An Ordinance Setting the Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 Through June 30, 2020 for the City of Ludlow Calling for Revenue of \$4,163,596.00 and Expenditures of \$3,664,504.00 for a first reading. Mr. Whittaker completed the first reading of Ordinance 2019-5. Mayor Boone advised that the second reading will be held at a special meeting on July 27, 2019, at 6:45 p.m. prior to the caucus meeting.

First Reading of Ordinance 2019-6

Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Wright, to introduce Ordinance 2019-6 An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Amending Certain Sections of Chapter 72 of the Ludlow, Kentucky Code of Ordinances Regarding Parking Regulations for a first reading. Mr. Whittaker completed the first reading of Ordinance 2019-6, which establishes the Police Chief as the Hearing Board and increases the parking permit fees for dumpsters from \$5.00 to \$25.00.

First Reading of Ordinance 2019-7

Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Ms. Terry Navarre, to introduce Ordinance 2019-7 An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Amending the Ludlow Zoning Ordinance to Add Outdoor Dining in Connection with a Restaurant a Conditional Use in the NC (Neighborhood Commercial) Zone, Subject to Certain Minimum Requirements for a first reading. Mr. Whittaker completed the first reading of Ordinance 2019-7.

Vote to Revoke Rental License at 203 Kenner Street

Chief Smith discussed the multiple issues with the property at 203 Kenner Street over the past several months, including assaults, thefts, and fights. The City gave the landlord forty days to correct the issue, but nothing has changed. Chief Smith advised that the property is a danger to the community and would like to revoke the owner's rental license under City Code §110.05. Discussion on the eviction process. The owner owns nine properties in the city and would need to reapply for the rental license at 203 Kenner Street once the issues are resolved, following a

reinspection of the property. **Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Ms. Grider, to revoke the rental license for the property at 203 Kenner Street. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.** Mr. Amann requested that Chief Smith's report of issues at the property be part of the minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Wright thanked everyone who was involved in the Memorial Day Parade and thought the community did a great job honoring veterans. Ms. Grider advised that local businesses are needed to sponsor five or six bourbon barrels that will be painted by local artists and displayed in front of their businesses on October 4-5, 2019. Ms. Grider advised that the Catalytic Fund donated several benches that will be painted by children at Ludlow Schools and placed in the park. Mr. Chapman reminded everyone that local businesses are accepting donations for the VFW Fund to put veteran's names on the Veteran's Memorial. Mayor Boone advised that copies of the budget proposal are available at the City Building and on the City's website.

Motion by Mr. Wright, second by Mr. Chapman, to enter into executive session, pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1)(b) deliberations on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency and KRS 61.810 (1)(c) discussions of proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the public agency. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

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Motion by Ms. Grider, second by Ms. Terry Navarre, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: _____
Joshua A. Boone, Mayor