

**LUDLOW COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

**July 31, 2025**

Mayor Chris Wright 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, Paula Graszus, David Ziegler, Sarah Thompson, Julie Terry Navarre, and Abigail Miller.

*ALSO ATTENDING:* City Attorney Patrick Grote, City Administrative Officer Scott Smith, City Clerk Laurie Sparks, Police Chief Bart Beck

**Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Ms. Thompson, to approve the minutes from the council meetings on June 12, 2025, and June 26, 2025. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2025-9**

Mr. Grote read Resolution 2025-9 *A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky, Authorizing the Mayor to Enter Into an Interlocal Agreement with Southbank Partners, Inc. to Serve as an Instrumentality of the City and the Other Southbank Cities to Pursue Regional, Collaborative Strategies to Promote Economic Growth in Ludlow and Other Cities.* The City has been working with Southbank Partners for many years and has partnered with them on the Riverfront Commons Project. Southbank Partners recently painted the concession stand building at basketball court at Ludlow Memorial Park. Will Weber, President of Southbank Partners, advised that the interlocal agreement will allow the Attorney General and Department for Local Government to legally recognize the partnership between Southbank and the river cities. Discussion on the next phase of Riverfront Commons, which will hopefully begin by 2026. **Motion by Mr. Chapman, second by Mr. Ziegler, to approve Resolution 2025-9. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

**Resolution 2025-10**

Mr. Grote read Resolution 2025-10 *A Resolution Appointing Guilford Guthrie as the Representative for the City of Ludlow on the Kenton County Joint Board of Adjustment.* **Motion by Ms. Thompson, second by Ms. Terry Navarre, to approve Resolution 2025-10. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: five ayes, one abstention (Ms. Miller).**

**First Reading of Ordinance 2025-8**

Mr. Grote completed the first reading of Ordinance 2025-8 *An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Adopting an Amended Comprehensive Pay Plan for the Non-Elected City Officers and Employees of the City of Ludlow, In Accordance with KRS 83A.070(2).* Mr. Smith advised

that almost every position in the City is paid \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00 less than in comparable cities. The City needs to stay in compliance and must update the pay plan every three to five years. Ms. Miller stated that the City cannot afford to be compatible with other cities and suggested looking into merging with another police department. Mr. Smith advised that another city would not provide police coverage for free and the costs would be similar to the current costs. Discussion on the concern of longer wait times for police calls because the City would always be second priority to the city providing the service. Ms. Thompson stated that the City owes it to the residents to provide police and fire services. Mr. Chapman advised that City salaries make up 31% of the total budget, which is the average for most cities. Ms. Miller inquired whether Bromley is satisfied with the police service provided by Park Hills. Mayor Wright advised that Bromley only has 17% of Ludlow's population. Mr. Ziegler suggested that the City have a public forum to get input on whether residents would like to retain the police department or receive coverage from another agency. Mr. Chapman advised that in the early 1980s, council tried to get rid of the police department and the public did not want that. Mr. Smith advised that the City is in a good financial position to continue to make improvements throughout the city and maintain public services and does not see a reason to consider eliminating the police department. Discussion on the importance of maintaining competitive wages for the City employees.

**First Reading of Ordinance 2025-9**

Mr. Grote completed the first reading of Ordinance 2025-9 *An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Amending "Chapter 90: Streets and Sidewalks" of the City's Code of Ordinances*. The ordinance cleans up existing language and adds portions to the current sidewalk ordinance. Ms. Terry Navarre advised that the proposed changes clarify the conditions that need to be repaired and increase the sidewalk rebate from 20% of the total cost, up to \$200.00 to 50% of the total cost, up to \$500.00.

**Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Ms. Thompson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Following a voice vote, motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Wright, Mayor