

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

**January 11, 2018**

Mayor Kenneth Wynn 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: Jordan Scheid, Matt Williams, Tom Amann, and John Gaiser. (Bill Whiteley and Josh Boone were absent.)

*ALSO ATTENDING:* Attorney Fred Johnson, City Administrator Elishia Chamberlain, City Clerk Laurie Sparks, Fire Chief Rob Dreyer, Public Works Project Manager Patrick Walkenhorst, Code Enforcement Officer Tom Garner, and Police Chief Scott Smith

**Presentation of the Audit for Fiscal Year 2016-2017**

John Chamberlin of Van Gorder, Walker & Co., Inc. presented an overview of the City's Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 and advised that the City's accounting is leaps and bounds ahead of where it was several years ago. David Baker, a CPA who assists with the City's accounts, discussed the improvements made and future goals, such as creating a capital improvement plan. Mr. Baker advised that the goal is to have the City's financial information on OpenGov by April 1, 2018.

**Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Scheid, to approve the minutes from the meeting on December 14, 2017. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

**STAFF REPORTS**

**Fire Department**

Chief Dreyer advised that he has been in communication with Mr. Walters on Lake Street, who is pleased with the progress on the issue with the odor from U.S. Nonwovens. The CEO of U.S. Nonwovens will be coming in within the next two weeks to look at several possible solutions to the chemical disposal issue. Mr. Amann thanked Chief Dreyer for his assistance with the issue.

**Public Works**

Mr. Walkenhorst discussed his report. Mr. Amann thanked Public Works for doing a great job keeping the streets and alleys clear when it snows. Mr. Amann advised that five street lights were out in front of the Municipal Center. The new entryway signs will be installed in February or March. Mr. Walkenhorst requested that residents park as close to their property as possible in the alleys to give the snow plows more room. A new fence was installed along Lemker Field. Mr. Gaiser requested that the walkway from Riverfront Commons behind Lemker Field be extended up to Elm Street. Ms. Chamberlain advised that the issue would need to be addressed in the second phase of the project. Mr. Amann suggested the idea that the Garden Club could assist in landscaping the walkway with different theme gardens, similar to Ault Park.

### **Code Enforcement**

Mr. Garner discussed his report and the issue of shopping carts from Riverside Marketplace being left all over the city. The owners have been notified to install a sign advising that the carts must remain on the premises. If an officer sees someone with a cart that's been removed from the Marketplace, the person could be cited. Discussion on the status of 216 Adela Avenue.

### **Police Department**

Chief Smith discussed his report. Mr. Amann thanked the Police Department for being professional and dedicated to their jobs and cracking down on drugs.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Wynn recently met with Tim Broering of TBNK and with the Catalytic Fund to discuss the Ludlow Yards project.

### **COUNCIL WORK GROUP REPORTS**

*Finance*—Mr. Amann and Mr. Boone met on December 19, 2017, to review the November bank statements and everything appeared to be in order. Discussion on the review process.

*Public Works*—Mr. Scheid advised that he and Mr. Williams met with Mr. Walkenhorst. New entryway signage will be installed soon, weather permitting, at the Underpass. The other two signs will be near the Ludlow Bromley Yacht Club and at Sleepy Hollow. Three trees were removed in the park and they are evaluating the best type of tree to replace them. Discussion on the need to replace the Public Works utility truck in the near future. Mr. Walkenhorst estimated the cost of a new truck could be up to \$60,000.00. Mr. Williams advised that the security cameras are up and running at Ludlow Park.

*Safety*—No report.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Ms. Chamberlain thanked Southbank Partners and the Winkle brothers for the new entryway signs, which are part of the City's branding process. The audit report showed the City has \$244,000.00 in reserves, which exceeds the goal of \$240,000.00. Ms. Chamberlain thanked Alice Margolen for managing the City's funds with the accounting practices that have been in place and thanked David Baker for helping the City move ahead. Discussion on recent Supreme Court changes that will bring in more revenue through franchise fees. Ms. Chamberlain received a request for another meeting at Riversbreeze to discuss the City's property tax rates; however, she advised the residents to attend the next caucus meeting where she will give a presentation about the taxes. There have been six requests for information about 333 Elm Street (Ernie's Bar) and she expects to receive proposals soon. Discussion on a recent situation of dirt spilling onto the streets from dump trucks bringing in dirt to the lagoon property. Ms. Chamberlain thanked Public Works for keeping the streets clear. Discussion on the status of repairs at the Ludlow Senior Center. Discussion on the status of the Ludlow Plaza project, which is on schedule and on budget.

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

John Grazsus advised that Ludlow A.C. schedules baseball games, not the league. Ms. Chamberlain advised Mr. Grazsus to submit field permit applications for the game dates requested and Mr. Walkenhorst will review them. The only field usage fees that will be charged at this time are for adult leagues. Discussion on the field scheduling process, which is a lottery system.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

***Vote to Approve the Ludlow PTO's Request for the May Festival***

**Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Williams, to approve the Ludlow PTO's request to block off the 500 block of Oak Street and the 100 block of Adela from 5:00 p.m. on May 3, 2018, through the end of the festival on May 5, 2018. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

***Resolution 2018-1***

**Motion by Mr. Williams, second by Mr. Scheid, to approve Resolution 2018-1 A Resolution Appointing Karen Collins to Serve on the City of Ludlow Park Commissioners Board. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Amann wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that good things are coming to Ludlow in 2018. Mr. Williams thanked Chief Dreyer and the Fire Department for all they do. Mayor Wynn encouraged everyone to shop downtown on Saturday, January 13, 2018, for Shop Ludlow Day. Beginning this year, Shop Ludlow Day will be on the second Saturday of every month. Once a quarter, the Civic Club will add something special to the event. Mr. Scheid encouraged Council and staff to review the new pension bill that will be released next week. Mr. Scheid announced that UnanKored Dance Studio, recently opened at 869 Oak Street and is owned by Kristen Brewer, a Cincinnati Bengals cheerleader.

**Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Scheid, to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.  
Motion carried, all ayes.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth Wynn, Mayor