

LUDLOW COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

November 14, 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, Chris Wright, Tom Amann, and Julie Terry Navarre. (Mr. Whiteley was absent.)

ALSO ATTENDING: City Attorney Kyle Winslow, City Administrator/Police Chief Scott Smith, City Clerk Laurie Sparks, Public Works Director Shane Hamant, and Code Enforcement Officer Tom Garner

Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Ms. Grider, to approve the minutes from the council meeting on October 10, 2019. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Department

Chief Smith advised that Heather Ladanyi's last day is December 9, 2019. Heather is taking a job at Ft. Mitchell and the City will be looking for a full-time paramedic as a replacement.

Public Works

Mr. Hamant discussed his monthly report and his recent training for "Call Before You Dig". Discussion on the status of the renovations of the Community Center. Mr. Hamant requested that people leave their name and phone number when they call in to report a pothole so he can call them back and discuss it with them. Discussion on the possibility of purchasing a vacuum to pick up the leaves at the curbs, which Mr. Hamant estimated would cost between \$3,000.00 and \$15,000.00. Chief Smith advised that the City has received complaints about potholes on Adela Avenue and the street will be repaved in March.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Garner discussed his monthly report. There are only two outstanding rental license violations and Mr. Garner is working on vacating the buildings. Discussion on the list of vacant properties in in the city.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Boone advised that he recently attended the Mayor's Group Meeting and toured the new Kenton County building. Discussion on a recent meeting with Southbank where he and Chief Smith discussed increased transportation options to the City. The Christmas Parade will be held on December 7, 2019. Luminary kits to use during the evening of the parade are available for purchase in local businesses at a cost of 10 for \$5.00; proceeds benefit the parade fund.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – The Committee met on November 5, 2019 to review the September bank statements and everything appeared to be in order. The Committee submitted questions to Chief Smith for ways to save on the phone bill. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 19, 2019.

Public Works—The Committee hasn't met recently, but Ms. Terry Navarre and Ms. Grider are working with the Park Board and Mr. Hamant on plans for the park.

Safety—The Committee met with Chief Smith and discussed the needs at the Fire Department, including a full-time replacement for Ms. Ladanyi and improving Fire Department employee retention.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

City Administrator—The Open House at the Ludlow Community Center was well attended and the Center is available for event rentals. The City is still looking for a developer for the property at 38 Elm Street and hope to discuss more about the development at the next caucus meeting. Chief Smith advised that there is one individual who is interested in investing in Ernie's (333-335 Elm Street). Bromley Fire Department signed over its commission to the City and it should take effect in January. Discussion on the possibility of getting the Southbank Shuttle to come into the City. Chief Smith advised that Ms. Sparks, Alice Margolen, and Sharon Whiteley are working non-stop and if someone has a request for them, it should go through him.

Police—Chief Smith advised that activity in the police department has dropped from 1,100 calls per month five years ago to between 550-580 calls per month now due to proactive, self-initiated checks on behalf of the police officers. Anyone interested in donating to the Toy Drive should contact Sgt. Greg Eastham to find out the types of toys that are needed.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Colleen Epperson advised that her family would like to build a duplex on Poplar Street as a retirement home for her father to live in one half and possibly a caregiver in the other half. Ms. Epperson advised that the area is currently zoned R-1J for single family homes and the permit to build the duplex would not be approved by Planning and Development Services of Kenton County. Ms. Epperson requested that the City consider a text amendment to allow the two-family home to be built in the area. Mr. Winslow advised that the City couldn't change the zoning on just one parcel of property, but Ms. Epperson may be able to go before the Board of Adjustment for a variance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance 2019-15

Motion by Mr. Wright, second by Mr. Chapman, to adopt Ordinance 2019-15 *An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Amending the Ludlow Code of Ordinances Title III, Chapter 33, Section 33.62 to Provide for the Payment of Attorneys' Fees Incurred by the City in Collecting Delinquent City Taxes.* Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Resolution 2019-19

Mayor Boone advised that he would like to table Resolution 2019-19 *A Resolution Approving a Telecommunications Franchise Agreement.* Mr. Winslow advised that they are still negotiating with the companies on the terms of the franchise agreement and the resolution should be ready by the next business meeting. **Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Ms. Terry Navarre, to table Resolution 2019-19. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2019-20

Motion by Ms. Grider, second by Mr. Chapman, to approve Resolution 2019-20 A Resolution Appointing Members to Serve on City of Ludlow, Kentucky Boards. Following a voice vote, motion carried: four ayes, 1 absent, 1 abstention from Mr. Amann whose wife, Joy, is being appointed to the Urban Design Review Board.

Resolution 2019-21

Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Wright, to approve Resolution 2019-21 A Resolution of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky, Declaring Property as Surplus and Authorizing the Sale or Disposition of Such Surplus Property. The surplus property is fire turnout gear from the Fire Department that has expired. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Resolution 2019-22

Mr. Amann advised that he would like to table the vote on Resolution 2019-22 A Resolution of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky, Authorizing the Commencement of a Mass Foreclosure Action Against Tax-Delinquent Properties Within the City Limits until Council receives an exact amount of the property liens the City has filed and determines the likelihood that the City would recover or collect the amount due on the liens. Discussion on the foreclosure process and the potential amount of money the City would receive once attorney fees and court costs are deducted. Mr. Winslow advised that if Council passes Resolution 2019-22, the City does not have to proceed with mass foreclosure actions, but the Resolution gives the City the ability to proceed if it chooses to do so even with select properties. Mr. Amann requested a list of the properties the City has filed a lien on so he and Mr. Chapman could review it. **Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Chapman, to pass Resolution 2019-22. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

Mr. Winslow advised that Attorney Todd McMurtry has been working on the Ludlow Youth Football (LYF) case. The City was ordered to pay \$25,000.00 to LYF. Originally, the City would have been responsible for paying the \$10,000.00 deductible and the insurance company would pay the remaining amount; however, the insurance company was able to process the claim in a way that allows them to pay the claim without any cost to the City. The LYF issue is now closed.

Mr. Chapman inquired whether the City would need to set up a land bank. Mr. Winslow advised that the City does not need to set up a land bank at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Grider reminded everyone about the Holiday Trains display at Behringer-Crawford Museum that is free to all Ludlow residents on December 14, 2019.

Motion by Ms. Grider, second by Ms. Terry Navarre, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: _____
Joshua A. Boone, Mayor