

LUDLOW COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

August 13, 2020

Mayor Josh Boone called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. City Clerk Laurie Sparks called the roll which showed the following council members present: Steve Chapman, Bill Whiteley, Chris Wright, Vanetta Davis, and Julie Terry Navarre. Tiffany Grider was absent.

ALSO ATTENDING: City Attorney Justin Whittaker, City Administrator/Police Chief Scott Smith, City Clerk Laurie Sparks, and Code Enforcement Officer Tom Garner

Mayor Boone presented a flag in an engraved case to Lt. Bart Beck honoring the memory of Police K-9 Oakley who passed away the previous weekend. Chief Smith read a list of Oakley's accomplishments during his years of service with the Ludlow Police Department.

Motion by Mr. Wright, second by Ms. Terry Navarre, to approve the minutes from the council meeting on July 9, 2020. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Department

Chief Steward was not in attendance at the meeting; his monthly report was included in the council packet.

Public Works

Mr. Hamant was not in attendance at the meeting; his monthly report was included in the council packet. Ms. Terry Navarre advised that she has received compliments about how nice the flower pots look throughout the city and thanked Public Works for doing a great job maintaining them.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Garner discussed his monthly report and the status of the rental license applications. No Certificates of Appropriateness were submitted. Andy Corn of the Urban Design Review Board (UDRB) met with Mayor Boone, Chief Smith, and Mr. Garner to discuss possible changes to the UDRB guidelines. Mr. Garner advised that he is still waiting on Council's decision on the handicap parking application for the resident at 233 Lake Street. Ms. Terry Navarre advised that Ms. Grider had agreed to contact the applicant and Ms. Terry Navarre would be happy to follow up with her.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Ludlow Parlor ice cream shop should open at the end of August or early September. Mayor Boone advised that he would invite Mr. Corn to attend the caucus meeting to discuss proposed changes to the UDRB guidelines. Mayor Boone and Chief Smith met with Sharmili Reddy, the new director of Planning and Development Services of Kenton County (PDS), to discuss the services they provide to the City and a possible change in the fee structure to make sure the City is paying a fair price. Mr. Garner has been sending out notices of violation instead of citations,

due to the restrictions imposed by Senate Bill 150. Mr. Garner can't issue a fine because there is no appeals board to review an appeal.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

Discussion on the status of the Yards project. The City is still waiting to hear from the State on the status of the Adela Avenue Paving Project. Mr. Chapman advised that he contacted Representative Buddy Wheatley for assistance with the project. Chief Smith advised that Ernie's [333 Elm Street] will be demolished on August 18th. The new owner plans to construct a building with a restaurant on the first floor and a residence on the second floor within the next 12-18 months, but the project may be delayed due to COVID-19. Interviews for the treasurer position are scheduled for the week of August 17th. The City has hired someone for the School Resource Officer position and he will begin once the Kentucky Retirement System signs off. The Citywide Yard Sale will be held on September 5, 2020; all participants must adhere to the Health at Work Guidelines for Retail Establishments set by the State. Chief Smith and Mr. Chapman recently met with representatives from Step CG to discuss options for providing wireless service throughout the city. Regarding the Police Department, Chief Smith advised that he appreciates input from the citizens that helps officers often rectify issues more quickly. The Motorola radios are up and functioning after three years of planning.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance—Mr. Chapman and Ms. Davis met with Chief Smith and reviewed the June bank statements and everything was in order.

Public Works—The Committee did not meet.

Safety—The Committee did not meet.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance 2020-5

Mr. Whitaker competed the second reading of Ordinance 2020-5 *An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky*. **Motion by Mr. Wright, second by Mr. Chapman, to adopt Ordinance 2020-5. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2020-7

Chief Smith advised that the police officers traditionally worked four, ten-hour shifts per week, but switched to twelve-hour shifts to spread out coverage when the coronavirus pandemic began. Twelve-hour shifts are common in many local departments. In order to keep the schedule and be in compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act, the City must adopt a 14-day work schedule for police officers. Discussion on how the change affects overtime. Mr. Whittaker read Resolution 2020-7 *A Resolution of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky Declaring a 14-Day Work Period for Covered Law Enforcement Employees for Purposes of the Fair Labor Standards Act*. **Following a voice vote, motion to pass Resolution 2020-7 carried: all ayes.**

Discussion on Sober Living Facilities Within the City

Mr. Chapman advised that he is not opposed to sober living facilities, but expressed concern with them being located within residential areas and with potential safety issues. Attorney Todd McMurtry is looking into the zoning issue that allows the sober living houses in residential areas. **Following discussion, motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Mr. Chapman, to table the discussion on sober living houses until next month.**

Discussion on Proposed Text Amendment to Include "Event Center" as an Additional Conditional Use for Industrial 1 Zones

Olivia, an attorney representing TA-DA Enterprises, the owner of 2 Highway Avenue, addressed Council and requested that Council apply for a text amendment from PDS that would allow them to have events on the property. Discussion about details of the text amendment, including a requirement for three access points to the property. Mr. Chapman stated that he would like all neighbors near the property to be contacted about the proposed event center. Discussion on concerns about off-street parking and the maximum capacity at the facility. The City would need to determine the guidelines of the text amendment before submitting them to PDS. Once PDS issues its recommendation, Council can still choose to accept or amend it. Discussion on when Council would see the site plan for the event center that would address all the issues. The attorney advised that they property is considered an opportunity zone and the owner will likely attract investors once the text amendment is in place. Mayor Boone advised that the City will draw up a formal request for a text amendment for Council's discussion and vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Whiteley announced that Buck's BBQ has moved to the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Chapman discussed concerns over the proposed styrene storage facility on Route 8 in Villa Hills. Styrene is a cancer-causing agent that is a highly flammable low-lying gas that could cause health problems for residents if there is a leak. Mr. Chapman requested that everyone visit the website stopstyrene.com for more information about styrene and an opportunity to sign a petition to stop the facility. Mr. Wright encouraged everyone to keep shopping local.

Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Mr. Wright, to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: _____
Josh Boone, Mayor