

OFFICIAL

LUDLOW COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

August 8, 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, City Administrator/Police Chief Scott Smith, City Clerk Laurie Sparks, Fire Chief Mike Steward, Public Works Director Shane Hamant, and Code Enforcement Officer Tom Garner.

Motion by Ms. Grider, second by Mr. Whiteley, to approve the minutes from the council meeting on July 11, 2019. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Department

Chief Steward discussed the squad run report. Fire hydrant testing and maintenance was completed in July.

Public Works

Mr. Hamant advised that he's glad to be back with the City. Discussion on recent work projects, including moving the salt storage next to the Public Works building. Mr. Amann requested that the weeds around the playground equipment in the park be removed. Discussion on trimming trees on Elm Street in the downtown area and along the Riverwalk near Lemker Field. Chief Smith requested that residents keep their sidewalk areas clear of weeds to help the City look better. Mr. Hamant reminded residents to not blow grass clippings into the street.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Garner sent out follow up notices on rental licenses and has begun working in the field. Mr. Amann, Mr. Chapman, and Mr. Wright welcomed Mr. Garner back. Mr. Garner thanked Chief Smith, Ms. Sparks, Alice Margolen, and Sharon Whiteley for their support while he was out. Mr. Amann discussed several properties that are undergoing major renovation and wanted to confirm that they had the proper permits.

Police

Chief Smith discussed the police run report for July, which was down from last July. Chief Smith thanked Kenton County S.W.A.T. for their assistance during a recent standoff on Linden Street.

City Administrative Officer's Report

Chief Smith advised that the sale of the museum building (227 Elm Street) is almost complete. The grand opening of the Ludlow Heritage Museum in its new location inside the Public Works building will be on August 17, 2019. The Movie in the Park, featuring *Dumbo*, will be held on August 11, 2019, at Ludlow Park. Everyone should bring chairs or a blanket. Popcorn, sno cones, and drinks will be available for purchase. The Urban Design Review Board (UDRB) is still working on the language for the Historic Preservation Overlay Zone Guidelines. Discussion on

the status of the repairs at Sleepy Hollow Road. The Community Center is being operated by Joni Powers. Anyone interested in renting the Center should contact Ms. Powers at jpowers@ludlow.org. The City is looking into funding options for making Ludlow Park ADA accessible. Chief Smith advised that the City is going to have to spend a significant amount of money to update several computers running Windows 7 because Microsoft is ending support for the operating system. Covington is obtaining bids for demolition of the incinerator property and will split the cost of demolition with the City. Tax rates will be discussed at the next council meeting. Discussion on the status of the project at 333-335 Elm Street; the developer has most of the funding but is still looking for other funding sources. Discussion on setting up a meeting soon to discuss the developers interested in developing the Ludlow Yards property. Chief Smith discussed the status of working with Ludlow Schools about the possibility of continuing the Riverwalk behind the stadium.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Boone thanked Mark and Yolanda Mitchell and everyone who volunteered to move all of the items from the museum to the new locations. There were 21 volunteers, including several council members, who assisted. A new historic marker will be unveiled at Elmwood Hall on September 7, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. The August caucus meeting will be rescheduled and the new date for the meeting will be sent out next week. North South Baking Company recently purchased the site across from the school. Discussion on upcoming changes proposed by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to the Northbound I-75 on-ramp in Covington, which would divert traffic access from the current 4th Street ramp to Pike Street. Mayor Boone advised that the appeals court ruled against the City in the Ludlow Youth Football case and he is pleased with the decision. The City will not pursue the issue further.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance—The Committee met three weeks ago and reviewed the June bank statements; everything appeared to be in order. The Committee continues to look for revenue sources and believes things are moving in the right direction. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 13, 2019.

Public Works—The Committee hasn't met due to the transition in the Public Works department but will schedule a meeting soon. Ms. Grider advised that Paula Grazsus and Cindy Alexander would like to serve on the Park Board. The public is invited to attend a meeting on Tuesday, August 13, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers to discuss ideas for what they would like to see in the park. Theresa Harn, a representative from Midstates Recreation, will give a presentation about handicap accessible park equipment and fitness equipment. Ms. Terry Navarre advised that she would try to get a regular Park Board meeting scheduled.

Safety—The Committee did not meet. Mr. Wright thanked the Police and Fire Departments for all they do to protect everyone in the city.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Julie Wartman discussed the issue of sidewalks in disrepair throughout the city. Ms. Wartman recently tripped on a piece of sidewalk that was raised by a tree root and broke her humerus bone. Council discussed ways to get owners to fix the sidewalks in front of their properties, such as promoting the City's sidewalk rebate program and issuing a citation if a sidewalk is not repaired or replaced within 30 days of notification. Chief Smith asked Council to consider the negative financial impact a citation could have on an elderly person who would be forced to

replace their sidewalk and possibly remove a tree if it is causing the sidewalk issue. Discussion on the possibility of requiring “flippers” who purchase properties with bad sidewalks to repair or replace the sidewalks or their license and permits would be revoked until the repair is made. Discussion on the current City rebate of up to \$200.00 for a sidewalk replacement. Chief Smith suggested the possibility of one of the local businesses offering a discount on the cost of the sidewalk replacement if the concrete is purchased from them.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2019-15

Mayor Boone advised that the City initially signed a six-month contract with the attorneys and would like to renew the contract because he is very pleased with the work they have done. Discussion on clarifying the costs of the retainer fee and additional fees outlined in the contract. Mr. Whittaker advised that he would discuss Council’s concerns with Todd McMurtry. **At Mayor Boone’s request, motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Chapman, to table Resolution 2019-15 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky to Appoint City Attorney until the issues have been clarified. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

First Reading of Ordinance 2019-8

Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Ms. Grider, to introduce Ordinance 2019-8 An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, to Convert Davies Street to a Two-Way Street for a first reading. Mr. Whittaker completed the first reading of Ordinance 2019-8.

First Reading of Ordinance 2019-9

Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Chapman, to introduce Ordinance 2019-9 An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Amending Chapter 111 of the Code of Ordinances to Increase the License Fee Imposed on Employees and Persons Other Than Employees Who Engage in Any Franchise, Trade, Occupation, Profession or Other Business in the City for a first reading. Discussion on how the City can ensure that private contractors are paying the fee. The ordinance will increase the payroll tax from 1.5% to 2% and the gross receipts tax from 0.075% to .132%. Mr. Whittaker completed the first reading of Ordinance 2019-9.

First Reading of Ordinance 2019-10

The ordinance adopts a text amendment to the Ludlow Zoning Ordinance to allow for the Historic Preservation Overlay (HP-O) Zone. The UDRB can modify and adopt the guidelines for the HP-O Zone after the ordinance is passed and send them to Council for approval. **Motion by Mr. Amann, second by Mr. Whiteley, to introduce Ordinance 2019-10 An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Amending the Ludlow Zoning Ordinance to Adopt All Necessary Components for Creating a Historic Preservation Overlay for a first reading.** Patrick Snadon, a member of the UDRB, addressed Council and advised that the guidelines will likely need to be reviewed by the Board, council members, and the city attorney to customize them for Ludlow. Mr. Whittaker completed the first reading of Ordinance 2019-10.



First Reading of Ordinance 2019-11

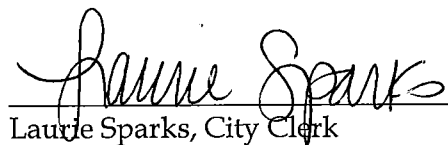
Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Mr. Wright, to introduce Ordinance 2019-11 *An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Amending the Ludlow Zoning Ordinance to Approve a Map Amendment Adding an Overlay Zone to the Existing Zoning Classifications in an Area of Approximately 89 Acres Bounded by Both Sides of Elm Street to the South, the Railroad to the East, Adela Avenue to the West, and the River to the North for a first reading.* Mr. Whittaker completed the first reading of Ordinance 2019-11.

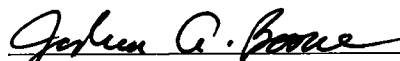
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Terry Navarre invited everyone to attend the Movie in the Park. Joni Powers purchased glow necklaces and bracelets for the Movie in the Park event and asked Council for volunteers to help hand them out to children. Several councilmembers volunteered to assist in setting up for the event. Mr. Amann asked Ruth Bamberger of the Ludlow Historical Society to provide information about the Heritage Railroad Days. Ms. Bamberger announced that the event will be held on Saturday, August 17, 2019, from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Ludlow Plaza. Activities are planned, including talks by Dave Schroder, Patrick Snadon, and Chris Mayhew. Food and drinks, including Bircus and Second Sights, will be available for purchase. There will be a Preservation Awards Ceremony because Ludlow was not included in the River Cities Preservation Awards this year. The Ludlow Heritage Museum will also have its grand opening in the new location. Mr. Wright invited everyone to attend the first lighting of the marquee at the Ludlow Theatre on Saturday, August 10, 2019, at 9:30 p.m. Mr. Chapman advised that Chief Smith has been in contact with Dave Ungrew who wants to do something to give back to the community. Mr. Chapman advised that Doug Martin contacted him about naming something in the city after his parents. Following discussion, Mr. Chapman advised that he would have Mr. Martin contact Chief Smith to discuss further options.

Motion by Mr. Wright, second by Ms. Grider, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Motion carried, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,


Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: 
Josh Boone, Mayor