

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

**August 8, 2024**

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, David Ziegler, Samantha Frank, Julie Terry Navarre, and Abigail Miller. Lori Davenport was absent.

*ALSO ATTENDING:* City Attorney Steven Taylor, City Clerk Laurie Sparks, Police Chief Scott Smith, Fire Chief Mike Steward, Public Works Director Shane Hamant, Code Enforcement Officer Jamie West

**Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Mr. Ziegler, to approve the minutes from the council meetings on July 11, 2024. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

**STAFF REPORTS**

**Fire Department**

Chief Steward discussed his monthly report and advised that two women from the fire department passed paramedic class with a 4.0. Chief Steward will meet with a representative from Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub regarding the possibility of placing a collection center for lithium batteries at the firehouse. Discussion on the need to hire additional paramedics. Chief Steward stated that, ideally, he would like to have five paramedics working per shift.

**Public Works**

All public works employees recently attended training at Ludlow Schools on pathogens. Mr. Hamant and Ms. Terry Navarre recently attended an orchard steward basics class. Ms. Terry Navarre advised that there are a total of six classes throughout the year. Public Works is continuing to paint the yellow curbs around the city. Discussion on the status of the tree grant.

**Code Enforcement**

Mr. West discussed the number of open and closed code enforcement cases. The City has issued 371 long-term and 31 short-term rental licenses with eight property owners still not in compliance. The Urban Design Review Board (UDRB) denied an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness to tear off the existing front porch and replace the box gutters at 114 Ash Street because the owner did not provide enough information. Mr. West reminded everyone that it is illegal to blow grass clippings into the street.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Wright advised that he could not attend the caucus meeting on August 22, 2024. Following discussion, Council agreed to reschedule the caucus meeting on August 29, 2024. Coffee with the Mayor will be at Ludlow Coffee on August 15, 2024. Mayor Wright thanked James Hall, the Ludlow Vets, and everyone who helped with Limburger Fest, which was a fundraiser for Ludlow Vets. Prior to the July caucus meeting, Mayor Wright recommended appointing Ruth Bamberger to fill the vacancy on the UDRB, with Council's permission. Mayor Wright was informed that Challis Hodge was also interested in the position, so he recommended that both candidates be interviewed by the UDRB, and he would accept their recommendation. Mayor Wright advised that he had been accused of being dishonest in the process. Mayor Wright

stated that there is no virtue more important to him than honesty and that he loves this community and does everything he can to do what is best for this town.

Mr. Ziegler expressed concern that he believes the City is not looking beyond the same group (Ludlow Historic Society) when filling a vacancy on the UDRB. Ms. Terry Navarre advised that Andy Corn is the only UDRB member who is also on the Ludlow Historic Society Board and that Challis Hodge, Mr. Ziegler's recommendation for the UDRB appointment, is also a member of the Ludlow Historic Society. Mayor Wright advised that it is difficult to find qualified people to serve on city boards and he will review the process going forward.

### **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Finance* – The Finance Committee reviewed the June statements, and everything appeared to be in order. The Committee reviewed the tax rate calculations from NKADD and discovered an error, which will need to be corrected before presenting the rates to council for review.

*Parks and Recreation* – Hot Dogs in the Park will be on August 9, 2024. The Kenton County Public Library on Wheels will be at the Ludlow Community Center on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup> from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. The Bromley Christian Church will be having their Fun Fest on Saturday, August 10, 2024, for back to school.

*Public Works/Code Enforcement* – The Committee plans to meet with public works and code enforcement next week.

### **CITY UPDATE/POLICE UPDATE**

Chief Smith recently met with Fischer Homes representatives and homeowners on Highway Avenue regarding the recent flooding. Discussion on the need to negotiate with McGinnis regarding the City's property at 1 Adela Avenue because McGinnis is allowing the City access to their property for the riverwalk. Currently, McGinnis pays the City \$46,000.00 annually to lease the property at 1 Adela Avenue. Following discussion, Mayor Wright announced that Resolution 2024-10 will be tabled until a new resolution can be drafted that will allow the mayor to enter into negotiations with McGinnis. There will be a vote on the resolution at a special meeting on August 29, 2024, prior to the caucus meeting. Southbank has secured a donor that will contribute \$700,000.00 to the riverwalk project. If an agreement is not reached with McGinnis soon, the money may be allocated to another project. Chief Smith advised that the new business at Sandbank Road is getting the sprinkler system up to code before they can open; they plan to employ 120 people. The police department numbers are running steady. Discussion on plans to begin ticketing violators who are turning left from Montrose Street onto Highway Avenue. A right turn only arrow will be painted on Montrose Street. The change was implemented to reduce the number of car accidents.

### **CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Discussion and Vote on a Disabled Parking Space Application for 309 Montclair Avenue**

Mr. West advised that the applicant could not attend the meeting and asked that the issue be tabled until the next meeting.

**Resolution 2024-7**

Following a reading by Mr. Taylor, motion by Mr. Chapman, second by Mr. Ziegler, to pass **Resolution 2024-7 A Resolution Approving the List of Roads in the City Roads System for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.** Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.

**Resolution 2024-8**

Mr. Taylor read Resolution 2024-8 A Resolution of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky, Declaring Property as Surplus and Authorizing the Sale or Disposition of Such Surplus Property. Chief Steward advised that the surplus gear is expired, and it will be donated to a vocational school. **Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Ms. Frank, to pass Resolution 2024-8.** Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.

**Resolution 2024-9**

Mayor Wright discussed the options available to the city regarding the sale of medical cannabis. The proposed resolution will allow voters to decide if they are in favor of the sale of medical cannabis at a license dispensary and the operation of other cannabis businesses in the city. **Following a reading by Mr. Taylor, motion by Ms. Frank, second by Ms. Terry Navarre, to approve Resolution 2024-9 A Resolution of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky, Directing the Question of Prohibiting Cannabis Businesses from Operating Within Its Territory Be Submitted to the Voters at the Next Regular Election.** Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.

**Resolution 2024-10**

Mayor Wright advised that a vote on Resolution 2024-10 A Resolution of the City of Ludlow, Kentucky, Declaring Real Property as Surplus and Authorizing the Sale or Other Disposition of Such Real Property will be tabled until a special meeting on August 29, 2024.

**First Reading of Ordinance 2024-5**

Discussion on concerns about approving an ordinance that will designate two parking spaces in front of Reeves' Market as 30-minute parking between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Following further discussion, Mr. Taylor completed the first reading of Ordinance 2024-5 *An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow Amending Chapter 76: Parking Schedules, Schedule II. Limited Parking Zones, Establishing Limited Parking for Two 30-Minute Parking Spaces on Helen Street.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Terry Navarre announced that Cars & Coffee will be held at Ludlow Plaza on Sunday, August 11, 2024, and the Heritage Museum will also be open from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Ms. Frank announced that the next Walk 'n Talk 'n Trash will be on Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Ludlow Plaza.

**Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, second by Mr. Ziegler, to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.** Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

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Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

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