

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 14, 2025

EMINENCE CITY MUNICIPAL BUILDING

EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in regular session on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Fred Downey and the following members present: LeeAnn Armstrong, Phillip Smith, Karen Paris, Justin Wayman, Bobbi Jo Frazier, and Connie Nation. Also, in attendance were City Attorney Chelsey Brammell, City Clerk Robin Mullins, Utility Clerk Donna Rangel, Police Chief Scott Wilcoxson, Public Works Director Troy Popp, Fire Chief Steve Lucas, Employees: Debbie Moore, Jonathan Bates, Clayton Carney, J.R. Ellis, Rita Tipton, Residents Polly Troxell, Jamie Puckett, DeAnne Downey, Mike Paris, Sylvia Wilcoxson, Henry County Local Editor Joe Durbin, Magistrate Carl Tingle, Representative Thomas Massie Field Representative Stacie Rockaway.

Mayor Downey called the Municipal Aid Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance held.

Mayor Downey asked if there were any questions or comments from the public regarding the changes to the Municipal Aid Budget. No comments were received oral or written.

Motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Paris to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting at 6:05 p.m.

**Subject: Stacie Rockaway Field Representative for Representative Thomas Massie's** office was present to introduce herself to the council and offer support in anyway. Whether it be Social Security, Medicare, Disability, Veteran Affairs, or the IRS for the citizens of Eminence or personal.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Subject: Minutes** – The minutes of the previous meeting held on March 10, 2025, were reviewed. Mayor Downey asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. Motion made by Member Nation and seconded by Member Armstrong to approve the minutes as presented. On a call for votes, all members present voted “Yea”.

**Subject: Special Meeting Minutes** – The minutes of the previous special session held on March 31, 2025, were reviewed. Mayor Downey asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. Motion made by Member Frazier and seconded by Member Nation to approve the minutes as presented. On a call for votes, all members present voted “Yea”.

## **REPORTS:**

**Subject: Police Department Report (Copy Attached Hereto)** – Police Chief Scott Wilcoxson presented the monthly activity report to council.

Member Wayman asked when the four (4) new soft body Armor Vests would be in. Chief Wilcoxson didn't know, but they had been fitted for them.

Officer Clayton Carney, the new officer hired, was present to introduce himself and give some history on his background.

Chief Wilcoxson and Mayor Downey reported they are looking at cameras that will scan license plates and will let you know if a vehicle is stolen.

**Subject: Public Works Report (Copy Attached Hereto)** – Utility Clerk Donna Rangel presented the monthly activity report.

Clerk Rangle thanked Steve and Mike Lucas for picking up the new public works truck.

Jonathan Bates, the new Assistant Public Works Director, was present to introduce himself, give some history about his background and how happy he is to be working for the City of Eminence with Public Works Director Troy Popp.

Member Frazier thanked Utility Clerk Rangel for the details she has put into her monthly report.

Member Paris thanked the Public Works Department for coming out and working on the sewer back problem her street over the weekend.

**Subject: Administrative Report (Copy Attached Hereto)** – City Clerk Mullins presented the monthly administrative report.

City Clerk Mullins Presented March 2025 Check Disbursements.

City Clerk Mullins Presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget Review.

**Subject: Fire Report (Copy Attached Hereto)** – Fire Chief Lucas presented the monthly activity report.

Fire Chief Lucas reported he had picked up the new command vehicle.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Subject: Line-Item Changes** - Clerk Mullins presented line-item changes for the Municipal Aid Fund to repair the drainage on Bell Ave.

### **Move \$6,000.00 Roads/Black Topping → Drainage Construction**

Motion made by Member Paris and seconded by Member Smith to move \$6,000 from line-item Roads/Black Topping to Drainage Construction in the Municipal Aid Fund to repair the drainage on Bell Ave. On a call for votes, all members present voted, "Yea".

### **Subject: Surplus Property 2010 Ford F35 and Finish Mower**

Motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Frazier to advertise the 2010 Ford F350 as Surplus Property that was previously used as a public works vehicle and snowplow. On a call for votes, all Members present voted, "Yea".

Motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Smith to advertise the Finish Mower as Surplus Property that was previously used to mow the sewer plant. On a call for votes, all Members present voted, "Yea".

**Subject: Employee Raises 2025/2026** – Mayor Downey suggested a 5% increase for police officers and no less than a 2.9% cost of living increase for all other employees. After discussion, the consensus was a Minimum of \$30.00 for all road officers and 6% across the board for all other employees including Police Chief, Sergeant and Detective.

**Mayor's Update:** Mayor Downey reported the city is in the process of getting a new software program called IWORQ's that will help with the code enforcement process. In the future he would also like to send JR to Home Inspection classes to help alleviate some of the problems we are having with the rentals.

Mayor Downey said the company that wants to purchase part of the sewer plant property doesn't want to widen the road as previously discussed. This is something the Mayor thinks he can negotiate. There will have to be a zone on the property, and it will need to happen before the next meeting.

Motion made by Member Nation and seconded by Member Wayan to authorize Mayor Downey to do the paperwork and apply for the zone changes for the city with 20 acres zoned I2 and 14.065 zoned I1. On a call for votes, all Members present voted, "Yea".

Mayor Downey reported a car cruise is scheduled for May 10<sup>th</sup> and they would like to close the two side streets for food trucks. Police Chief Wilcoxson has reached out, but there has been no response.

Jamie Puckett said the car cruises are starting to affect his business.

**Council - New Business** – Member Paris reported there is a Cruise, Food Truck, Face Painting, Fund Raiser on June 6 for the school.

Member Wayman reported he would like to donate to the flood victims. Mayor Downey said we couldn't donate money, but we could donate supplies, clothes, or meals.

Motion made by Member Wayman and seconded by Member Smith to authorize Mayor Downey to spend up to \$1,000.00 at his discretion for flood victims in Henry County. On a call for votes, all Members present voted, "Yea".


Member Armstrong asked is we can be protected from Pan Handlers. Police Chief Wilcoxson said Pan Handlers are protected by the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment.

Member Smith said the Beautification Committee approved windows for the Help Center.

Member Armstrong reported the Employee Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

With no further business to be discussed, the motion made was by Member Frazier and seconded by Member Nation to adjourn. All members present voted "Yea". The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

  
FRED DOWNEY, MAYOR  
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

ATTEST:   
ROBIN MULLINS, CITY CLERK  
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY