

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
EMINENCE CITY MUNICIPAL BUILDING

AUGUST 12, 2024
EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, August 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Fred Downey and the following members present: LeeAnn Armstrong, Bobbi Jo Frazier, Phillip Smith, Justin Wayman, and Connie Nation. Absent was Member Karen Paris. Also, in attendance were City Attorney Chelsey Brammell, City Clerk Robin Mullins, Police Chief Mike Wells, Public Works Director Matthew McAllister, Fire Chief Steve Lucas, Henry County Local Editor Rob Hoff, Residents Polly Troxell, Steve Metcalfe, DeAnne Downey, Missy Sharpe, Rita Tipton, Shawn Bright, Henry County Animal Control Director Danielle Ashcraft, Magistrate Carl Tingle, Amy Charles, and Ricky Simmons.

Mayor Downey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of allegiance held.

Donation Henry Animal Shelter: Danielle Ashcraft, Director of the Henry County Animal Shelter, was present to ask for a donation for a fence. The fence is needed to keep dogs from escaping and people from stealing the dogs. Motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Smith to donate \$500.00 to the Henry County Animal Shelter for a fence.

OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Minutes July 8, 2024 – The minutes from July 8, 2024, were reviewed. Mayor Downey asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. Motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Frazier 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 Mike Wells presented the monthly activity report to the council.

Police Chief Wells reported the police department will be giving free haircuts Friday, August 23, 2024, for students.

Subject: Public Works Report (Copy Attached Hereto) – Public Works Director McAllister presented the monthly activity report to council.

A second leak adjustment was requested for Kyle Malone in the amount of \$1,299.82. Discussion held. Motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Wayman to approve the second leak adjustment for Kyle Malone in the amount of \$1,299.82.

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

Clerk Mullins presented the month of July 2024 expenses.

Subject: Fire Report – (Copy Attached Hereto) – Fire Chief Lucas presented the monthly activity report. They had 12 runs and 235 manpower hours.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subject: First Reading of Ordinance Establishing a Code Enforcement Board – Attorney Brammell held the first reading of an Ordinance Establishing a Code Enforcement Board.

Attorney Brammell reported an interlocal agreement will need to be approved by the Attorney General before the second reading can take place.

Property Tax Rate Discussion: Clerk Mullins presented the compensating and 4% allowed rates for the real and personal property. The compensating rate on the real property is 23.3% per one hundred dollars of assessed value and the 4% allowed rate on real property is 24.2% per one hundred dollars of assessed value. The compensating rate on personal property is 30.26% per one hundred dollars of assessed value and the 4% allowed rate on personal property is 31.43% per one hundred dollars of assessed value. Discussion held. Consensus of the council was to set the real property tax rate at 24%, take the compensating personal property tax rate of 30.26%, and 26.6% on motor vehicle and watercraft.

Subject: Property Tax Ordinance – Attorney Brammell held the first reading on an ordinance setting the real property tax rate at 24% per one hundred dollars assessed value, personal property tax rate at 30.26% per one hundred dollars assessed value, and the motor vehicle and watercraft rate at 26.6% per one hundred dollars assessed value for 2024.

Subject: Property Tax Amnesty – Mayor Downey presented the council with a list of delinquent property taxes he would like to allow the council to consider for amnesty. The property owners would still have to pay taxes, penalties, and release fees, but interest would be removed. Discussion held. Motion made by Member Wayman and seconded by Member Smith to allow amnesty to taxpayers on delinquent property beginning March 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025. On a call for votes, all members present voted, “Yea”.

Subject: Cannabis Discussion – Attorney Brammell presented council with three options regarding cannabis businesses operating within the city:

1. Allow and Regulate,
2. Disallow, and
3. Put on Ballot

Motion made by Member Wayman and seconded by Member Smith to put cannabis decision on ballot and let the people decide. On a call for votes, all members present voted, “Yea”.

Subject: Resolution of Directing that the Question of Allowing Cannabis Businesses to Operate within the Limits of the City be Submitted to Voters at the Next General Election – Attorney Brammell read the resolution directing that citizens would be allowed to vote whether or not to allow cannabis businesses to operate within the city. No action required.

Attorney Brammell reported the city would need to draft a zoning ordinance and start thinking about locations and administrative fees.

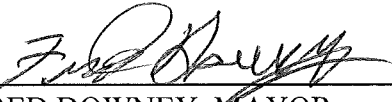
Mayor's Update: Mayor Downey reported the AC unit has been replaced in the council room and the one in the rental unit will be replaced later in the week.

Also, Mayor Downey reported he is getting the downtown area cleaned up.


Council – New Business – Member Armstrong reported that on September 28th, there will be a Body and Mind Health Fair in the Community Room.

Amy Charles reported there are twenty-five vendors and there will be something for everyone.

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 7:28 p.m.



FRED DOWNEY, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

ATTEST: 

ROBIN MULLINS, CITY CLERK
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

