

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

EMINENCE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 6:15 p.m. with Mayor Drane Stephens and the following members were present: LeeAnn Armstrong, Fred Downey, Danny Meadows, Steve Metcalfe, and Polly Troxell. Absent was Member Justin Wayman. Also, in attendance were City Attorney Bill Brammell; City Clerk Robin Mullins; Police Chief Mike Wells, Police Major John Dudinskie, Public Works Director Matt McAllister, Angie Deckard, Sherry Curtsinger, DiAnn Harlow, Brenda Cox, Chris Cox, Richard Hayes, Sandra Smith and Ed Steinmetz.

Mayor Stephens called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Subject: County Business – Magistrate Scott Bates was absent, so no report was submitted to council.

Subject: Presentation of Bravery – Chief Wells presented Alyvia Goodrum with a Certificate of Bravery and a Teddy Bear for her courageous act of bravery during the lockdown on October 14, 2021. Alyvia stood quietly on top of the toilet in the restroom and went unnoticed for about twenty minutes until Principal Curtsinger found her. She used the training she had learned just a few days earlier.

Subject: Peoples Bank – DiAnn Harlow, Branch Manager at Peoples Bank was present to let the city know that Peoples Bank is all about community and they would like to keep the relationship the same as it has been in the past. The city is free to use the property adjacent to the bank for Christmas and any other events, because it appears there has been some miscommunications.

The city discussed the possibility of asking that the adjacent property to be deeded to them or just continue with a long-term lease. Clerk Mullins will reach out to Mrs. Harlow and report back to the council.

OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Minutes – The minutes of the previous regular session held on October 11, 2021 were reviewed. Mayor Stephens asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. With no additions or changes noted, Mayor Stephens stated they would stand as presented.

Subject: Second Reading of An Ordinance Establishing a Grant Program for Beautification of the Downtown Business District – Attorney Brammell held the second reading on an ordinance establishing a grant program for beautification of the downtown business district. Member Troxell made a motion to accept the ordinance as read and Member Metcalfe seconded the motion. On a call for votes, all Members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Second Reading on Zoning Ordinance for Henry County Amending Section 670:

No second reading was held because council didn't feel there was enough information provided to make an informed decision.

Second Reading on Ordinance Renaming Sulphur Ave to Wm H Mason Jr Ave – Attorney Brammell held the second reading on an ordinance renaming Sulphur Ave to Wm H Mason Jr Ave. Motion made by Member Downey to accept the ordinance as read and Member Meadows seconded the motion.

Clerk Mullins reported John from the Post Office asked that we wait until after January to change the name of the street because of Christmas packages being sent.

Motion made by Member Downey to withdraw the previous motion to accept the ordinance as read and Member Meadows seconded the motion to withdraw the previous motion.

First Reading of Ordinance Renaming Sulphur Ave to Wm H Mason Jr Ave – Attorney Brammell held the first reading of an ordinance renaming Sulphur Ave to Wm H Mason Jr Ave.

Subject: Sandra Smith – Sandra Smith was present to thank the council for the work they had done on getting the name change on Sulphur Ave. She also, wanted to thank the police for the work they had done with the theft of the lawn mower on her property. She wanted to know what could be done about getting an extra streetlight put up. Public Works Director McAllister replied he would contact K.U. and see what could be done.

REPORTS:

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

Chief Wells reported he has court for the Crabb Ave property, and the Sulphur Ave property was given 30 days to bring their property up to code by the court system.

Chief Wells reported on the incident at Eminence Independent School, how they were able to work together and get the case solved quickly.

Chief Wells also reported 90% of the felony cases are solved.

Chief Wells reported the BEAST program is up and running.

Chief Wells reported they had found the two juveniles who vandalized the park restrooms.

Member Downey reported he had heard good things about the police department from post 5 and wanted to share it with the police and the council.

Subject: Public Works Report (Copy Attached Hereto) – Public Works Director McAllister presented his report.

Mayor Stephens reported that Tony Tingle stated the roads had been completed in the Elmcrest subdivision and were ready to be dedicated to the city. Public Works Director McAllister reported all the roads in the subdivision had not been brought up to the city’s standards. Member Meadows agreed with Director McAllister.

Clerk Mullins presented a second leak adjustment for the following:

1. Gracie Blackburn \$60.10
2. Charley Brewer \$149.57
3. Andrea Ensminger \$55.97

Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Downey to allow the second leak adjustments for Gracie Blackburn, Charley Brewer, and Andrea Ensminger. On a call for vote, all members present voted “Yea”.

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

Clerk Mullins reported they had received 79% of the 2021 property tax bills.

Clerk Mullins reported she was going to have a meeting with Peoples Bank tomorrow, November 9, 2021 about the interest rates not being as high as they were when the bank was Citizens Deposit Bank.

Clerk Mullins also requested to combine the three Water & Sewer Reserve money market accounts we now have with United Citizens Bank that used to be certificates of deposit. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Troxell to combine the three money market accounts at United Citizens Bank. On a call for vote, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Fire Report – Member Meadows presented the monthly report. He reported there were 4 fire runs and 3 were rural.

Member Meadows reported the finish work at the Fire Department looks great, the concrete, striping, and sealing.

Member Meadows also, asked about the fire hydrant on Mulberry Pike. He stated the box was too high. Public Works Director McAllister reported he was waiting on the ground to settle then the box would be removed.

Member Meadows also, reported the fire hydrant on Quail Hollow needs to be facing the house. Public Works Director McAllister reported he would turn it.

Subject: Festivals Update – Member Downey reported that all other cities are having their light up on December 4th and we may need to look at changing ours. After discussion the council decided to have the Light Up on December 18th the same night as the Christmas Tractor parade since the crowd would already be in the city.

Public Works Director McAllister asked if they had ever thought about a digital marquee to advertise city events. The council agreed it was something to investigate.

Subject: Park Update – Mayor Stephens reported that a citizen sent him the video of the vandalization of the park which helped the police officers identify the suspects.

Mayor Stephens also reported the cameras and internet are in process, although, we will not be able to use the ARPA funds for the purchase.

Subject: Beautification Committee: Mayor Stephens reported that now that the ordinance has passed, he would like to have a pre-holiday committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution on Fire Department Premium Pay – Mayor Stephens reviewed the premium pay resolution with the council. Motion made by Member Metcalfe and seconded by Meadows for Mayor Stephens to sign the Premium Pay resolution.

First Reading Ordinance Amending Ord. No. 2010-002 Updating Policies & Procedures, Comp. Plan & Class and Repealing Ord. No. 2021-004 – Attorney Brammell held the first reading of an ordinance Amending Ord. No. 2010-002 Updating Policies & Procedures, Comp. Plan & Class and Repealing Ord. No. 2021-004.

Subject: Open Citizens – Resident Ed Steinmetz asked if the city's verbal agreement with the bank is still valid. Attorney Brammell explained the bank wasn't sold it was a merger, so it takes on the position the other bank had before them. However, he agreed we should get a written agreement.

Resident Steinmetz also asked if there was any talk about widening the highway on the north side of town. Mayor Stephens reported a study had been done and it was even put on the 5-year plan by the state, but it eventually just dropped out of their budget.

Resident Richard Hayes was present to give us a little history on flag etiquette. He goes from county to county educating people on rules for flying the American Flag. If a flag does not have a light on it, you should take it down at sundown.

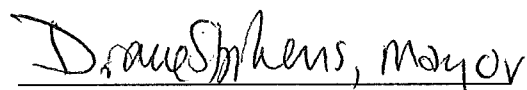
Subject: Mayors Update – Mayor Stephens reported we would proceed with getting bids for the walking trail.

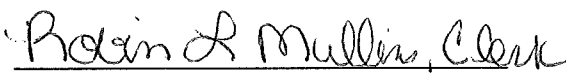
Subject: Council Update – Member Meadows reported the sewer line in front of Member Downey property needs to be addressed because it moves when you touch it. It appears to be swayed. Mayor Stephens asked if the previous bill had been paid from when the contractor broke the sewer line. Member Downey replied the \$350.00 bill would be paid when the sewer line was repaired to his satisfaction. Public Works Director McAllister reported he will investigate it and see how to best address the situation.

Member Armstrong reported people are speeding through the neighborhoods. Chief Wells reported he will get the officers to do more patrols.

Subject: Warrants – The warrants for payment were presented and reviewed. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Troxell to approve the warrants for payment as presented. On a call for votes, all Members present voted “Yea”.

With no further business to be discussed, motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Metcalfe to adjourn. All Members present voted “Yea”. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.


DRANE STEPHENS, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

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

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