

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
EMINENCE CITY MUNICIPAL BUILDING

FEBRUARY 12, 2024
EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Fred Downey and the following members present: LeeAnn Armstrong, Bobbi Jo Frazier, Karen Paris, Phillip Smith, Connie Nation, and Justin Wayman. 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 and see sign in sheet.

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

Pledge of allegiance held.

Drainage Problem on 85 N. King Street – Janet Young was present to ask if the city could do anything about the water running on her property on 85 N. King Street. Mayor Downey believes it's a drainage problem that can be solved by digging the ditches out and rerouting the water. Attorney Brammell said as long as it is on the right of way, the city can proceed. Public Works Director McAllister will assess the situation and come up with a solution for Ms. Young.

OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Minutes January 8, 2024 – The minutes from January 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.

Chief Wells presented Bill Thompson and New Hope of God and Emily Kasselmann with Eminence McDonald's (accepted by Adam Kerr) a plaque to recognize the support given to the Police Department and community.

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

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

Clerk Mullins presented the month of January 2024 expenses.

Clerk Mullins asked the department heads and council to begin working on the budget.

Subject: Fire Report – (Copy Attached Hereto) –Chief Lucas presented the monthly activity report. They had 21 runs and 202.50 manpower hours.

Member Armstrong asked if the state training had been done and Chief Lucas reported it will be February 23, 24 and 25th in Owensboro, Kentucky.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subject: Reappointment of Glen Smith to Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments – Motion made by Member Paris and seconded by Member Nation to reappoint Glen Smith to the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments. On a call for votes, all members present voted, “Yea”.

Subject: Award Bid for Engineer (RFQ) – Mayor Downey reported we had advertised for the request for qualifications for engineering for the sewer plant expansion and only received one bid from Strand & Associates.

Public Works McAllister gave some background information on Strand & Associates stating:

- They are out of Louisville,
- We used them on the last project and they did a good job.

Motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Smith to award Strand & Associates the bid for the sewer expansion project based on their qualifications. On a call for votes, all members present voted, “Yea”.

Subject: Rate Increase for Water Connection – Public Works Director McAllister presented council with numbers for the amount it actually cost to put in a water meter compared to what we are charging. The city is absorbing around \$927.00. After discussion. Motion was made by Member Paris and seconded by Member Armstrong to increase cost of a ¾ inch line to \$1,800.00 for water connection and anything above the ¾ line will be billed for time and materials. On a call for votes, all members present voted, “Yea”.

Subject: Cost of Living Increase for Mayor and Council – Clerk Mullins presented the cost of living for 2024 increase at 3.4%. After discussion. Motion made by Member Wayman and seconded by Member Armstrong for Mayor and Council not to take the cost of living increase for 2024. On a call for votes, all member present voted, “Yea”.

Subject: Rated Increase for Occupation Tax/Net Profits – Mayor Downey presented council with a possible rate increase for Occupational Tax/Net Profits that could be used for the sewer plant expansion. The rate is currently ¾% and hasn’t changed since 1993. This is just an option to put out there if we do not receive any grant funds. Clerk Mullins will look into the rates of other cities and report back next council meeting.

Mayor's Update: Mayor Downey reported the Tire & Wheel building is getting ready to sell and will be a computer assembly business that will employ 3 – 10 employees. The new owner is interested in the beautification grant.

Mayor Downey reported Jordan Hope met with him and some members of the fire department about the renovation and she is putting together a drawing and specs. The plans and specifications should be in by the end of the week, so it can be put out to bid.

Mayor Downey reported he and Member Armstrong met with Megan McCombs from Saltbox about the additional renovation to the new municipal building. The plans to sell or lease the other side of the building can't be completed because it needs to have a floor to roof firewall.

Mayor Downey reported Jesse Pullen is done with the roads, repairs were done in concrete. We paid him \$1,375.00 for 15 yards of concrete. However, we have two or three more holes from water leaks that will need to be repaired.

Mayor Downey reported the sidewalk project is complete.

Mayor Downey reported he will wait until March and meet with Buddy John Stanley about the walking trail. We have a year warranty and we will see what can be done. He still needs to put the ADA pads in the walking trail.

Mayor Downey reported that State Senator Adrienne Southworth had contacted the state engineer and all CVS needed to do was apply for a new permit to fix the entrance to CVS/McDonald's.

Mayor Downey reported the new plans for the Municipal Building are to build a storage area for P.D. and since the other part of the building can't be sold to sell the old EMS building and move the Public Works. Eventually if we build a new fire department, the Public Works can move to the old Fire Department. After discussion, motion made by Member Armstrong to move Public Works to Municipal Building and sell the old EMS building. Motion died for lack of a second.

Council – New Business – Member Armstrong reported the city had been asked to set up a table at the school for Robotic Gladiator League. Justin Wayman volunteered.

Member Armstrong reported employee appreciation lunch is on March 5, 2024, at 12:30 p.m.

Member Wayman reported the old jail will be turned into an escape room called Jail Break. It plans to be open mid-summer.

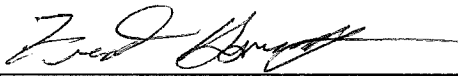
Member Armstrong inquired about thermostat covers. Mike will get the count and city hall will get them ordered.

Member Smith reported some changes were made to the Rental Agreement and they would like them posted around the community room.

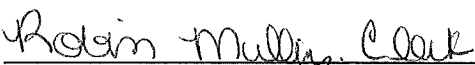
Member Paris reported she had spoke with Major Dudinskie about the traffic and getting detour signs to help people on Eminence Day. The Festival Meeting is scheduled for February 19th.

Open Citizens Comments – Steve Metcalfe reported the school has playground cover that the city should look into otaining. Also, there is a teacher who would like to write a grant for a new playground for small children.

With no further business to be discussed, motion made was by Member Smith and seconded by Member Nation to adjourn. All members present voted “Yea”. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.



FRED DOWNEY, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

ATTEST: 

ROBIN MULLINS, CITY CLERK
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY