

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 14, 2022

EMINENCE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in a regular session on Monday, February 14, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. with Mayor Doug Bates and the following members were present: LeeAnn Armstrong, Fred Downey, Danny Meadows, Steve Metcalfe, Polly Troxell and Justin Wayman. Also, in attendance were City Attorney Bill Brammell; City Clerk Robin Mullins; Police Chief Mike Wells, Public Works Director Matt McAllister, Henry County Local Publisher Jane Ashely Pace, Phillip Smith, and Sandra Smith.

Mayor Bates 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.

OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Minutes – The minutes of the previous regular session held on January 10, 2022 were reviewed. Mayor Bates asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. Motion made by Member Troxell and seconded by Member Wayman to accept the minutes as presented. On a call for votes, all members present voted “Yea”

Subject: Second Reading of Ordinance Changing Name of Sulphur Avenue – Member Meadows reported that a second reading wasn’t needed because he and Member Armstrong had met with Phillip Smith and Sandra Smith and had come to a mutual agreement not to change the name of Sulphur Avenue due to the controversy and would like to recommend the city do a street dedication in honor of William H. Mason Jr.

Member Meadows presented a picture of the proposed dedication sign and an estimate of the cost at \$233.14.

Member Armstrong reported she would like to make sure the signs would be reflective. Public Works McAllister will check Econo Signs.

Phillip Smith and Sandra Smith were present and approved the signs and suggested a different color if the black and gold wasn’t reflective.

Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Wayman to dedicate Sulphur Avenue to William H. Mason Jr., street dedication only, no address changes, with dedication signs to be posted. On a call for votes, all members present voted “Yea”

REPORTS:

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

Chief Wells reported he's been in contact with the property owners of the apartments and duplexes, and they are working with him on code enforcement violations. Some property owners have started the eviction process on the multiple offenders.

Chief Wells reported he participated in a Use of Force Survey, and they requested a virtual tour of the Police Department which he declined because of the condition of the building.

Member Armstrong asked Chief Wells if any progress has been made on updating the Police Department. Chief Wells reported no action has been taken. Another meeting of the Police Advisory Board was suggested.

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

Public Works Director McAllister reported he had contacted other government agencies to see if they were interested in the two dump trucks and no other agency was interested. So, he requested at this time we move forward with declaring them surplus property.

Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Metcalfe to declare the two dump trucks surplus property because they can't be used for public works functions, snow removal, or any other tasks we use the dump trucks for and will not pass the DOT inspection. On a call for votes, all members present voted "Yea".

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

Clerk Mullins reported they had received 95% of the 2021 property tax bills.

Clerk Mullins reported she and Mayor Bates were meeting with auditor tomorrow to discuss the audit for fiscal year end June 30, 2021.

Clerk Mullins thanked Mayor Bates for allowing them to work from home during the ice storm. She explained to council that they were able to do everything at home they did at work with the laptops that were purchased last year, and the office phone was transferred to the city cellphone so water payment could still be made by phone.

Clerk Mullins reported the city had been involved in a case of cyber fraud and she had been working unsuccessfully with the bank to get the money returned. She was continues working on her own with the other bank to get the money back. Clerk Mullins asked the council to agree to for

the payroll account to be transferred from Peoples Bank to United Citizens Bank. The council reported they were in agreement. Attorney Brammell reported it was ultimately an administrative matter and the mayor and clerk could make that decision.

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

Member Meadows reported the siren did not go off last month when the emergency test was conducted. The siren can be set off manually, but dispatch cannot set it off. They are working on getting the siren repaired.

Member Meadows asked for an update on the lights on the Fire and Police Building. Public Works Director McAllister reported we are still waiting on Greg Hutchinson to work us into his schedule.

Subject: Festivals Update – None.

Subject: Park Update – None.

Subject: Beautification Committee: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subject: First Reading of Ordinance Time Change of City Council Meetings - Attorney Brammell held the first reading of an ordinance to change the time of City Council Meetings from 6:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Subject: First Reading of Ordinance on Planning & Zoning Text Amendment (Solar Farms) – Attorney Brammell held the first reading of a Planning & Zoning Text Amendment Ordinance about Solar Farms.

Subject: Regional Hazard Mitigation Resolution – Attorney Brammell explained no reading was required; council just needed to make a motion to adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Motion made by Member Troxell and seconded by Member Meadows to adopt the KIPDA Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. On a call for votes, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Comprehensive Plan – Maps – Clerk Mullins reported she had received an email from Amanda from Henry County Planning and Zoning asking the council to review and make any changes. No comments or changes.

Subject: Mayor/Council Cost of Living Increase – Clerk Mullins reported she received the annual cost of living increase for DLG and the increase for 2022 was 7%.

Subject: Covid 19 – Sick Pay Discussion – Clerk Mullins reported the need to address the covid sick pay situation since the federal guidelines have expired. She reported right now employees are using sick time, but asked for clarification on providing paid sick leave as was done previously.

Member Meadows reported it was reasonable to pay up to five days as long as the covid was documented and it was not an at home test.

Member Downey wanted to make sure it wasn't the same employees, taking time off.

After discussion.

Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Downey to pay up to five days for the balance of the year after a confirmed covid test done by a medical facility. On a call for votes, all members present voted "Yea".

Subject: Tornado Siren – Member Meadows presented two estimates from Federal Signal for a tornado siren. The consensus of the council was to go with Model 508. Member Meadows reported he is also getting another estimate from another company.

Mayor Bates suggested we check to see if this will qualify for the ARPA funds. Clerk Mullins or Member Wayman will check into it.

Subject: Cheryl Nelson – 150 Zelcova Drive – Mayor Bates presented maps of Ms. Nelson property and suggested we quit claim the right-a-way to her. We would also peel back the black top, seed, and straw the property. The only money we would be out would be for the survey.

Council suggested city also talk to the people across the street and do the same thing.

Motion made by Member Downey and seconded by Member Meadows to relinquish the right-a-way pursuant to any plat to Cheryl Nelson and people across the street. On a call for votes, all member present voted "Yea".

Subject: Easter Egg Hunt Coach D – Restoration Life Church - Clerk Mullins reported Pastor Chuck Luttrell contacted her about an easter egg hunt on April 16, 2022 at Coach D. Park. Attorney Brammell stated no action was needed, he was free to proceed and if pavilions were needed just the usual reservations were needed.

Subject: Open Comments – Jane Ashley Pace, Henry County Local Publisher was present to introduce herself and say she was back until an editor could be found for Henry County.

Subject: Mayors Update – Mayor Bates wanted to thank everyone for their help. He thanked the Police and Public Works Department for their help. He also wanted to thank the council for their support.

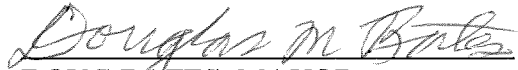
Subject: Council New Business – Member Meadows asked Public Works Directors McAllister how he is doing on salt. Public Works Director McAllister reported they are half full, he had ordered some on January 25, 2022.


Member Downey reported he would like to see signs posted on jake brakes. Chief Wells reported there is no penalty for jake brakes in the current ordinance. Member Downey suggested we amend the ordinance.

Member Downey will contact Scott Bates and see if they can meet about getting some signs put up about jake brakes. Chief Wells would like to attend the meeting as well.

Subject: Warrants – The warrants for payment were presented and reviewed. Motion made by Member Meadows and seconded by Member Metcalfe 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 Troxell and seconded by Member Downey to adjourn. All Members present voted “Yea”. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.


DOUG BATES, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

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

