

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL**May 23, 2022****7:00 P. M.**

The regular meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order at 7:00 P. M. by Mayor Spencer Johansen in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

Mayor Johansen led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Mayor Johansen, Alderman Richard, Alderman Stover, Alderwoman Wilson, Alderman Little, Alderman Mattingly and Alderman Franklin. Members of the staff and public present were: Chief Belvery and Tom Kinsella.

It was moved by Alderman Mattingly and seconded by Alderman Franklin to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2022 regular session of the City Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderman Mattingly to approve the Treasurer's Report and paying of the bills in the amount of \$54,689.53. It was noted that this was two sets of bills. One for fiscal year 2021-2022 and one for fiscal year 2022-2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: Tom Kinsella addressed the council concerning the property next to where the city had purchased the Brandt property at 507 West Main Street. He had several pictures of buildings and the livestock pens that used to be there. He feels that the alley that appears to run through that property was vacated over 50 years ago. Bill Fasking told him that his dad had bought the alley from the city on the west side of the building.

Alderman Richard said they are going to get plats of the area.

It was noted that there is an alley showing going down the middle of the building on a Sidwell Map and that alley was vacated.

The city and any adjacent property owners should have access to all utilities. Tom has a surveyor coming soon and hopes by the next council meeting will have a map drawn up and if approved he will have it recorded.

It should be recorded like the city did with the Fire Department. It should be taken care of before the city sells the property.

Tom feels we may need a property attorney to get it filed properly.

Old Business:**Discussion/Vote 2022-2023 Budget**

Alderman Stover led this discussion. He had sent everyone a copy of what he had done so far on the budget but it still was not where he had wanted it to be. The final numbers are in and everything proposed are in the proposed columns . We are not required to pass a budget. It is our way of getting input for the Appropriation Ordinance. We can make adjustments or discuss these items. As it sits right now, we are in the black and the budget is balanced. The Sewer Fund is the only one that is \$1,000 more expense than revenue. Since last year we are \$40,000 more in revenue.

We are pretty conservative across the board. We have some extra expenses such as the street signs and concrete projects.

We had \$170,000 in revenue from the General Fund last year. We have not been able to make our capital purchases that we had planned and had to roll that money over to this year.

The only things that we did not talk about at the budget workshop were repairs to the Circle Park pavilion and the pergola that blew over.

Motion was made by Alderman Franklin and seconded by Alderman Richard to pass the provisional 2022-2023 budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Only Rental Property Ordinance

Alderwoman Wilson reported that the outline for this ordinance had been sent to the lawyer for review. When she gets it back she will send out a copy to everyone for review.

The question was asked that after it was passed how do we start to enforce it? Do we have an open meeting and invite property owners? How do we get a list of property owners?

New Business: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Johansen reported on the following items:

He had been contacted by Kathy Michael about putting a voter ballot box at City Hall. Last year they had put it at the Library because he did not want it at City Hall due to all the controversy around voter fraud and he was not comfortable having the ballot box here. She had no objections with Star leaving early some days and felt that it was good to have them where they would be in camera view 24/7. Someone from the County Clerk's office will pick up the ballots daily.

Money for the Water Tower is progressing and the city should be getting their share soon. City mayor's should have the agreements by next week. Work on the tower should start Mid August or September.

He and Bill met with the county about the cross walk at the Shake Shack area. It will need to be made handicap accessible and they will put the cross walk in. They will put in a pedestrian crossing with flashing lights. We will split the cost with them. It will be a safe place for them to cross.

Police: Chief Belvery reported that they received new tasers for the ones that went down and new body cams.

Alderman Richard reported that of the three officers candidates that they interviewed, one did not pan out, one went with the State Police and the other was going through the background check portion. He is a Lexington grad and it is going well.

Chief Belvery also commented on a meeting at which Don Knapp was speaking on the state’s no bond law that takes effect in January. They were discussing the language that refers to clear and present dangers. That it could create additional expenses for departments especially part time officers regarding bond hearings. Still more discussion to come on this as it was creating more questions rather than answers.

Building/Insurance Alderman Franklin has not heard back from the church on the lot behind the Blacksmith Shop.

Finance /TIF None

Water/Sewer/Sanitation None

Street/Alley: Alderman Mattingly is getting bids for painters to come and paint City Hall.

There was some discussion about what would be done with noncompliance of the Golf Cart Ordinance. They will be given till June 1st to be in compliance then citations will be issued.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Mattingly to adjourn at 7:34 P.M. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Pati Pease

City Clerk

Approved: June 13, 2022