

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL
March 14, 2016

The regular meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Mayor John Mohr in the City Council Chambers at Lexington City Hall.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Mayor Mohr, Alderman Miller, Alderman Cole, Alderman Meyer, Alderman Richard and Alderman Stover. Alderman Johansen was absent. Members of the staff and public present were: Melanie Kunkel, Walker Adams, Katie Adams, Mary Beth Wright, and David Belvery.

It was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Cole to approve the minutes as amended from the February 22, 2016 council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Alderman Stover and seconded by Alderman Meyer to approve the treasurer's report and pay bills in the amount of \$33,662.15. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Castle Gardens National Registry of Historic Places Plaque: Mary Beth Wright addressed the council regarding a bronze plaque she had made commemorating the Van Dolah castle into the National Registry of Historic Places. The sign will be 18" x 24" and will be set on a 4' pole that will be installed at Mary Beth and Chuck Wright's expense. The County has approved the sign to be installed on Spencer Street. Mary Beth noted that homes that are inducted into the National Registry of Historic Places usually do get a bronze plaque indicating same. Mayor recommends the city bear the cost of the plaque as historic sites generally bring people to town. Mary Beth indicated that there will be a public dedication on May 7th during the Red Carpet Corridor whereby the front gates will be opened and guests will be allowed on the front lawn of the house. Motion by Alderman Miller and second by Alderman Meyer to approve the purchase of the plaque in the amount of \$1,560 and record it against 11.11.194 in the billing codes. Motion carried unanimously. Mary Beth Wright noted that there will be concerts on the lawn at Castle Gardens in July and August as well as other events planned for the fall.

Lexington Bucks Promotion by Jason Thomas: In Jason Thomas' absence, Mayor circulated an email sent to him regarding a promotion he would like the city to fund. There is a softball tournament that will be in town during the Red Carpet Corridor. They would like to bus/shuttle participants and their families from the park to Main Street and provide the first 500 bus riders a \$5 coupon redeemable at a local business. They are asking the city to reimburse the businesses for coupons redeemed at their establishments. Because there was no one from this school's committee present to answer questions, the council is postponing any decision regarding this item for a future date. Council members indicated that they would rather see the city put money towards the trams and allow the businesses to provide their own coupons.

Homecoming Carnival Contract for June: Mayor distributed a contract from Conner Family Amusements, Inc. who is interest in bringing their carnival to town June 9-11th. This carnival company is the same company that operates at State Farm. The only point in the contract that is of concern is that the company has a \$7500 ticket sale guarantee that the city would have to cover if ticket sales do not exceed that amount. Motion by Alderman Miller and second by Alderman Stover to enter into a contract with Conner Family Amusements, Inc. to bring a carnival to Lexington June 9-11th. Alderman Meyer asked if there is a committee the carnival could be overseen by. Mayor explained Sara Compton's role in the past with city sponsored events and how he has moved City Collector, Star Torkelson, and Katie Adams, into that position to coordinate city sponsored events. He also noted that Alderman Johansen has also been brought on to oversee and watch the budget for those events. Motion carries unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Mayor: Mayor noted that for the past several weeks he has worked to reduce the city's costs to run electricity out to the water treatment plant. Several letters were written to Corn Belt and last week, Steve Hancock of Corn Belt came to town to tell the Mayor that they are going to release the city as a customer so that the three phase electricity can be run by Ameren from the Lexington Township Shed for a savings of close to \$100,000. Mayor noted that the Wirtz property tax rebate check has not been sent to Wirtz as, according to the Redevelopment Agreement, Wirtz has to provide a list of TIF eligible expenses. We are currently waiting for the list. Mayor requested a closing for the old City Hall building. The property owner is pretty well done removing items he wants from the building except for those items he wants to take when demolition starts. Mayor also noted that Sondra Wisdom has contracted with the Fireside building owner to partition off a section to open up her high end furniture store.

Police: There is a police committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 17th at 3:30pm.

Building/Insurance: Alderman Richard is going to reiterate to the staff that EOBs have to be turned into the office within 90 days or they will not be reimbursed. Mayor asked Alderman Richard to check on what insurance Diamond Brothers is providing to the city to cover city sponsored events.

Finance/TIF: A budget meeting has been scheduled for April 9th at 9:00 am.

Water: Pipe for the water treatment plant water mains will begin installation.

Sanitation: None

Streets/Alleys: Alderman Miller noted that he and Bill Elias have already begun going over the street budget and have some projects that need to be considered. Council members mentioned adding paving the area around the fire station to the street departments list of projects.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Richard to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Kunkel, City Clerk

Approved: 3/28/2016