

City of Mt. Washington
Regular Council Meeting
May 24, 2021
Fick Hall

VIA LIVESTREAM FACEBOOK

Mayor Armstrong called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following council members present, Greg Gentry, Sandra Hockenbury, George Maddox, and Troy Barr. Councilmen Troutman and Armstrong were absent

Also, present were City Attorney Hayden Sweat, City Administrator Dawn Hardin, Major Tim Morris, City Treasurer Alice Harris, Public Works Director Ronnie Fick and Community Development Director Lori Puchino.

Councilwoman Hockenbury led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Armstrong asked those present to take a moment of reflection and to remember former retired Police Officer and Councilman Dooley's family.

Minutes

Councilman Maddox made and Councilman Gentry seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the special council meeting for May 10, 2021. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Hockenbury made, and Councilman Barr seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting for May 6, 2021. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

City Treasurer Alice Harris read the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2021.

Ordinance

Second Reading – Sponsored by Councilman Gentry

The City Attorney read the second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 121: Mobile Food Vendor Service. Councilman Gentry made and Councilman Barr seconded a motion to approve. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 4 to 0.

First Reading Sponsored by Councilman Barr

Hayden Sweat read the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 150 Building Regulation section 18: Exhibit 1 Fee Schedule of the Mt. Washington Code of Ordinances.

First Reading Sponsored by Councilman Gentry

The City Attorney read the first reading of an ordinance amending certain sections of chapter 52: Storm Water Quality Management.

First Reading Sponsored by Councilwoman Hockenbury

Hayden Sweat read the first reading of an ordinance implementing fees for the City of Mt, Washington Pool. Councilman Maddox suggested the pool open at 12:30 PM on Sunday's and also look in the future for a season pass for families. Lori Puchino said the city is looking into season passes and possibilities on extended hours in the evening.

First Reading Sponsored by Councilman Barr

City Attorney Sweat read an ordinance adopting the Budget Ordinance for the fiscal year July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

First Reading Sponsored by Councilman Maddox

Hayden Sweat read the first reading an ordinance amending the Budget Ordinance for the fiscal year July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.

Sign in Sheet

Trisha Moats thanked the Mayor and City Council for taking on the task of the Swimming Pool She said her daughter is in the process of getting re-certified for a lifeguard. She also said the season pass was a great advantage for residents and said you may not want to do passes for daycares. She said the pool is going to be an asset to the city and thankful the city took this task on.

Craig Kinslow addressed the city council regarding the sign ordinance in place. He stated there were several discrepancies in messages being relayed through city hall on enforcing the ordinance. He read a list of concerns from other business owners and their frustration on signage in the city. Mr. Kinslow said there seems to be some confusion on what is being relayed through city hall, code enforcement and the city council. He referenced Chapter 158 of the Mt. Washington Code of Ordinances that referenced monument signs. He also mentioned signs that were erected in other locations after this ordinance was passed. Mr. Kinslow also quoted J-town ordinances on taking down signs after a business closes. Mr. Kinslow stated it is very confusing to navigate through the system as a small business on replacing a sign. He stated the code needs to be clearly defined and the process is clearly defined on the enforcement. Mr. Kinslow thanked the City Council for their time.

Mayor Armstrong asked the city attorney to address the sign ordinance. Hayden Sweat stated on April 10, 2017, the city passed chapter 158 and any sign that existed prior to April 2017 does not have to adhere as long as its well maintained or left abandoned. Hayden stated any sign prior to this chapter can have the content or the face changed and will be a non-conforming sign. Hayden said the only thing that would require a sign to comply with Chapter 158 is if the sign was structurally altered and moved.

Hayden Sweat acknowledged the sign ordinance needs to be amended and simplified and clarified qualified.

Mayor Armstrong clarified that the city council is the legislative body and set forth the ordinance and the mayor is the administrative officer that assures the ordinances are enforced.

Councilman Barr suggested a committee be put together to simplify the sign ordinance.

Mayor's Report

The Pool is anticipating opening the first week in June 2021. The mayor said funds were donated to help assist the remodeling of the pool and the city is grateful to have it.

The mayor said the application process in which to apply for the Park Director has closed and interviews have been underway, and a decision will be made soon.

Mt. Washington Water will be resuming water disconnections for past due water bills. The mayor stated Gwen Elkins is the newly appointed office manager in the water administrative office. He asked Gwen Elkins to update everyone on this process. Gwen Elkins stated any customer that currently have a past due balance will receive a letter offering a payment plan due to Covid-19. Customers will have a year to pay off the delinquent balance. All the information will be posted on our city website and Facebook page. Once the grant money is available the application and all the information will be posted as well. Gwen said the bills that are being mailed out June 30 and due by July 15th, if unpaid will receive late fees and be disconnected if remain unpaid in August.

Mayor Armstrong stated he had two appointments. The first is Joe Wells to serve on the code enforcement board. Councilman Maddox made and Councilman Barr seconded a motion to approve. Motion carried.

The second appointment is the Zoning Board of Adjustments and asked to re-appoint Amy Pruitt. Councilman Barr made and Councilwoman Hockenbury seconded

Report from Council

Councilman Gentry commended Ronnie and public works for all their work on getting the pool ready to open.

Councilman Gentry also extended his condolences to the Dooley family and said he will be greatly missed.

Councilman Maddox also commended Ronnie on his efforts and what he does.

Ronnie Fick also extended his condolences to the Dooley family.

Lori Puchino also thanked Ronnie and Public works department for all their hard work in the city and she thanked Major Tim Morris and Dan Kelty for their help at the park.

Executive Session

Councilman Hockenbury made, and Councilman Barr seconded a motion to enter into executive session at 7:56 PM.

Reconvene

Councilman Maddox made, and Councilman Gentry seconded a motion to Reconvene at 8:40 PM.

City Attorney Hayden Sweat stated the City Council met in accordance with KRS 61.810 and no further action was taken.

Adjournment

Councilman Barr made, and Councilwoman Hockenbury seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:40 PM Motion carried.

Barry Armstrong
Mayor

Elizabeth D. Hardin
City Administrator