

**City of Mt. Washington
Regular Council Meeting
January 23, 2023
Fick Hall**

Mayor Owen called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following council members present, Layne Abell, Troy Barr, Greg Gentry, Bruce Gooden, Sandra Hockenbury and Curt Hudson.

Also, present were, City Treasurer Alice Harris, City Administrator Dawn Hardin, Paul Brannon Public Works Director, and Chief Tim Morris.

Curt Hudson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Owen asked those present to take a moment of reflection.

The mayor introduced Thomas Hamilton as the new City Attorney. Thomas Hamilton said he is from Bardstown and has practiced law there since 2010. Mr. Hamilton said he is currently working with the City of Bloomfield and also worked with the City of New Haven. He stated he is excited to get to know everyone here in Mt. Washington and looking forward to working with the City of Mt. Washington.

Mayor Owen introduced Peter Gaglio as our new Community Development Director. Peter Gaglio said he is experienced in working with legislators, government officials as well as businesses. He is excited to bring new ideas and looking forward to improving the city and working on continuing making it better than it is today. Mr. Gaglio spoke on the current events that the city has, they will continue and said he has been with the city a week and has already hit the ground running. He aims to serve this community to the best of his ability. Mr. Gaglio said he has planted a flag here and he and his family live here in Mt. Washington and it is a great place to raise a family. He thanked everyone for their support and would be happy to chat with anyone after the meeting.

Minutes

Councilman Gentry made, and Councilman Barr seconded a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for January 9, 2023. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 to 0. Councilman Abell said the homestead exemption should be \$46,350 and said he wanted to add the intent to open a dialog to encourage the council to do a municipal order for an additional \$25,000 for a homestead exemption. Councilman Hudson stated Sandy's name needed to be added after Councilwoman in a couple of places. Councilman Gentry made a motion and Councilman Barr seconded the motion to approve the minutes to include the corrections. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

City Treasurer Alice Harris read the treasurer's report for the month of December 2022.

Resolution

City Attorney Hamilton read a resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into a joinder agreement with Kentucky Public Employee's Deferred Compensation 401k and 457 plans. Councilman Hudson made, and Councilwoman Hockenbury seconded a motion to approve. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Ordinance (s)

First Reading - Sponsored by Councilman Barr

- (A) The city attorney read the first reading of an ordinance (Docket 2023Z-74) requesting a rezoning from R-3 Residential to AG Agriculture of 11.164 acres more or less owned by Kristel Doss and located on Stringer Lane

First Reading – Sponsored by Councilwoman Hockenbury

- (B) Attorney Hamilton read the first reading of an ordinance (Docket 2023Z-06) requesting rezoning from R-3 Residential to B-2 Central Business of .63 acres more or less owned by Fonda Harrod and located at 11340 Hwy 44E. Attorney Wooldridge was present to represent the owners and said the purpose of the rezoning is to transfer the property to 31 and 44 investment who currently own the adjacent lot and will be utilized as retail.

Sign in Sheet

Perry Cook is the Executive Director with Mark 12 Ministries which serve the homeless and underserved in Bullitt County. He distributed information to the city council about his organization. Mr. Cook said his hope is to have partnerships with the cities and the county including faith leaders in the communities to work together to address homelessness and underserved. Mr. Cook stated he requested monies through ARPA to possibly be utilized for this purpose and said he is asking for the new city council as well as the incumbent to consider it now. Councilman Gentry asked if there was any interest with other cities in the county. Mr. Cook said he has reached out to Hillview and Shepherdsville, and they are interested, and meetings are planned to discuss further. Councilman Gentry asked if the people they help and serve are from within the county. Mr. Cook explained there are people from our county as well as Jefferson County but try to reconnect them to the place that they are from. He also stated there are a lot of Bullitt County residents in Jefferson County facilities because there are no resources here in our county. Councilman Abell asked how Mark 12 is organized. Mr. Cook said Mark 12 is a non-profit organization and has a board with members made up from Bullitt County residents and solely funded by churches and individuals. Councilman Hudson asked if he was aware that the Shepherdsville Mayor was working towards building a similar facility. Mr. Cook said he attended a council meeting recently in Shepherdsville and said he was unaware of them buying a building for a facility.

Joe Coulter asked for an update on the Snapp Street construction and asked if it was going to continue up Evans Lane. Mayor Owen said the Public Works Director Paul Brannon will be giving an update shortly.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Owen announced City Hall hours have been changed to better serve the community. The new hours are 9:00 AM to 4:00PM, Monday through Friday and will take effect on February 1st.

The mayor said the sewer department is raising awareness on items that should not be flushed into the sewer system and said he is going to let our Public Works Director Paul Brannon speak on this issue as well as provide an update on the Snapp Street project.

Paul Brannon said there are a lot of items that are being flushed down the commodes that are causing issues with the lift stations and wet wells, the problematic items are wipes. Although they say flushable, they are not and do not degrade and get caught up in our sewers and have to be removed either by hand or with our new vac system more frequently than normal which causes more money to maintain. Mayor Owen said there was a lot of information provided on the website to raise awareness and said we will continue to do so and ask everyone to be mindful of the items they flush.

Mr. Brannon reported the Snapp Street project is underway and moving down Snapp Street and is in front of city hall currently. He said it may look like it is moving slow but they are digging up and replacing sewer lines and installing new pipes, he also said there has been a few issues with gas lines as they are exposed. He said LG&E have been onsite and repairing as we go. Once the construction reaches North Bardstown Road, we will be going back down Snapp Street installing storm sewers and there will be road closures continuing as construction progresses. Paul Brannon said the project is estimated to be ongoing for 9 months.

Mr. Coulter asked if this would help with the drainage on Evans Lane. Paul Brannon said he assumes this will help alleviate some, but he will look at the plans in more detail and will get back to him.

Report from Council

Councilman Barr made a motion to nominate Councilman Gentry as a chairman of the council to lead a portion of the meeting and addressing the people who sign in to speak at the city council meetings. Councilman Gooden seconded the motion. Discussion was held whether this was in accordance with the Kentucky Revised Statutes. Councilman Barr withdrew his motion. The City Attorney said he would research and report back accordingly.

Councilman Hudson welcomed Thomas Hamilton and Peter Gaglio in their work and said he looks forward to working with them in the future. He also said he recently attended the KLC, City Officials training and said it was beneficial and stated that HB 71 allows for cities within a county with a population greater than 80,000, to no longer under the requirements, publish in the newspaper but are allowed to do so on their website. He said this will be a cost savings to the city on publications. Mr. Hudson also said the city is currently working to launch a new website soon and looking forward to hearing updates. Councilman Hudson asked the status of the marker at the cemetery located at Branham Way.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion for the council, Councilman Barr made, and Councilman Gentry seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:59 PM.

Elizabeth D Hardin
City Administrator

Stuart Owen
Mayor