

**City of Mt. Washington
Regular Council Meeting
February 13, 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 Administrator Dawn Hardin, Paul Brannon Public Works Director, and Chief Tim Morris.

The Boy Scout's Troop led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Minutes

Councilman Hudson made, and Councilman Barr seconded a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2023. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Police Report

Chief Morris read the police report for the month of January.

Resolution

City Attorney Hamilton read a resolution of the City of Mt. Washington accepting the grant, approving the grant assistance agreement, and authorizing the amendment of the annual budget and authorizing a representative to sign all related documents. Councilman Gentry made, and Councilwoman Hockenbury seconded a motion to approve. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Ordinance (s)

(A) Second Reading – Roll Call Vote

Attorney Hamilton read the second 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. Councilman Barr made a motion to approve Bullitt County Planning and Zonings recommendation to rezone to AG Agriculture, and Councilman Abell seconded a motion to approve. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 6 to 0.

(B) Second Reading – Roll Call Vote

Attorney Hamilton read the second 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. Councilman Abell made a motion to approve Bullitt County Planning and Zonings recommendation to rezone to B-2 Business, and Councilman Hudson seconded a motion to approve. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Sign in Sheet

No one signed up to speak.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Owen announced the dates for the following events in the city

Spring Festival – May 13, 2023

Farmers Market – June – September

Light Up Mt Washington – December 1, 2023

The mayor stated that the red light on 44 and Bogard is underway.

The mayor stated that he, Dawn, Peter and Attorney Hamilton met with Pike Legal to discuss planning and zoning strategies within the city. Potentially making text amendments to the R1, R2 and R3 zoning requirements.

The mayor mentioned that some residents may have received a letter in the mail regarding HB8 that would require a water utility charge of 6% sales tax on rental properties. Mayor Owen stated that it was a new state law that passed.

Mayor Owen stated that the current ordinance relating to business license fees does not include situations such as craft fairs and special events. The mayor would like to open discussion to look at amending chapter 110 in the ordinance. Mayor Owen recommended that any special event such as craft fairs, Light Up Mt. Washington, etc. have no fee or license. Peddlers Mall type facilities would have an option for the vendor to be charged a reduced rate of \$25 or a fee from the owner based on the amount of booths. After some discussion, the council decided that a reduced rate for the vendors would be best rather than charging a fee to the owner. The mayor stated that they would work on an ordinance for the next council meeting.

The mayor gave an update on the new website.

The new utility payment drop box will be installed later this week at the police department. The mayor stated that it will be announced on Facebook when it is installed.

Mayor Owen announced the new Code Enforcement Board Attorney Bob Waters and stated that he was sworn in at the last Code Enforcement Board meeting.

The mayor announced that he is looking to appoint Marcus Latham as the new Chief of Police. Marcus Laytham briefly introduced himself to the city council.

Executive Session

At 7:04 PM Councilman Gentry made a motion to go into executive session, Councilman Hudson seconded.

Reconvene

At 7:34 PM, Councilman Gentry made a motion to go back into regular session, Councilwoman Hockenbury seconded. Attorney Hamilton announced that no decision was made in executive session.

Councilwoman Hockenbury made a motion to approve the appointment of Marcus Laytham as the Chief of Police, Councilman Hudson seconded. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5 in favor and 1 opposed (Abell)

Mayor Owen stated Marcus Laytham will be the new Chief of Police effective March 1, 2023.

Report from Council

Councilman Barr asked if there has been a date set for spring cleanup. Paul stated he is looking into and will announce the date soon. Councilman Barr thanked Chief Morris for his service.

Councilman Gentry thanked Chief Morris for his service.

Councilwoman Hockenbury thanked Chief Morris for his service.

Councilman Hudson thanked Chief Morris for his service. He asked about the status of the Rite Aid and CVS building. Mayor Owen stated that they have inquired about the properties and they are available for purchase and are exploring options.

Councilman Gooden thanked Chief Morris for his service and stated that he is looking forward to working with Marcus as the new chief of police.

Council Abell thanked Chief Morris and wished everyone a happy Valentine's Day.

Public Works Director, Paul Brannan thanked Chief Morris for his service.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion for the council, Councilman Barr made, and Councilman Gooden seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:49 PM.

Whitney Blackburn
Executive Assistant

Stuart Owen
Mayor