

**City of Mt. Washington  
Regular Council Meeting  
February 27, 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 Attorney Thomas Hamilton, City Administrator Dawn Hardin, Paul Brannon Public Works Director, and Chief Tim Morris.

Councilman Barr led the pledge of allegiance.

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

**Minutes**

Councilman Abell made, and Councilman Gentry seconded a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for February 13, 2023, to include the start date of Chief Marcus Laytham as being March 1, 2023. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 to 0.

**Treasurer's Report**

Alice Harris, City Treasurer read the treasurer's report for the month of January 2023.

Mayor Owen stated there are two ordinances prepared for a first reading on the agenda and stated the first ordinance is amending Chapter certain sections of chapter 11: Business License provisions. The mayor opened the floor to the city council for discussion prior to the attorney reading the ordinance.

Councilman Layne Abell asked under what scenario would a school be in violation under the penalty section 110.99. Dawn Hardin said section 110.99 is a standard penalty clause throughout our code of ordinances and a school would not be in violation of this chapter as they are not required to purchase a business license but are required to be in compliance of other ordinances. City Attorney Hamilton said he is currently working with Kentucky League of Cities to update and will address this section for future. Councilman Abell asked that this section be taken out for the second reading.

**Ordinance**

***First Reading and Sponsored by Council Member Hudson***

The city attorney read the first reading of an ordinance of the City of Mt. Washington amending certain sections of chapter 110: Business license provisions.

The Mayor said the second ordinance on the agenda is amending Chapter 51:Garbage and opened the floor to the city council for discussion prior to the first reading.

Councilman Barr questioned the garbage fee that is included on the water bill. He asked if the charge on the bill what is we pay Rumpke for the trash service. Dawn Hardin said yes, and Alice Harris said that also includes recycling. Councilman Barr said Spencer county pays a lesser fee and has two trash pickups weekly and the tote can is included. Mayor Owen said we will look into this.

Councilman Gentry requested that the amendment to Chapter 51 clarifies that dumpsters cannot be used for business purposes in a residential zone.

Councilwoman Hockenbury clarified that a permit was required for residential dumpsters and allowable for 14 days up to 28 days in a calendar year.

Councilman Gentry wanted to clarify no dumpster in a residential zone

Councilman Gentry made a motion to table the first reading to include clarifications in the ordinance and Councilwoman Hockenbury seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by a vote call vote.

### **Sign in Sheet**

Joe Coulter addressed the city council regarding the utilization of mowers and blowers after dark in is neighborhood up to 8:00-9:00PM. He asks if they could look into this and thanked them for their time.

Councilman Gentry stated this would not be enforceable in accordance with the current noise ordinance as it is permissible until 11:00PM . Councilman Hudson said this is something we can look into. Dawn Hardin said she will email the current noise ordinance to the council for their reference.

Mr. Coulter also commented on the fee of \$25.00 to the vendors mall and asked if the city charges a fee to all the vendors that go to Kroger. Alice Harris stated that all vendors pay a license fee of \$75.00.

Brian Anderson, EMA Director reported that March 1<sup>st</sup> through March 7<sup>th</sup> is Severe Weather Awareness week. He also reported that March 1<sup>st</sup> is a statewide tornado drill and said city hall will be participating in this practice. Brian Anderson welcomed the council to join in if they wanted to participate. He said all the sirens in the county and state will alarm and said he would also be doing a full-scale drill at the new Old Mill Elementary School. Brian said the new school has a storm shelter in place at the school.

Brian reported the Bullitt County EMA will have a new trailer at the Spring Festival on May12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and will have weather radios available for citizens who may be in areas that do not hear the sirens through the county. Brian also mentioned a mobile app that is downloadable called smart 911 that the county utilizes for notification for severe weather alerts.

Mayor Owen thanked Brian Anderson for also updating the Emergency Operation Plan for the City of Mt. Washington.

## **Mayor's Report**

The Mayor asked IT to show pictures of areas that are experiencing flooding during rain events in Bogard and Bethel Branch. The mayor said several complaints have been received in this area and the city is looking into these issues and have meetings planned to discuss what the city can do right now and moving forward with new development requirements.

Paul Brannon discussed the possibility moving forward to require development plan submittals provide a hydraulic study and or possibly more green space or retention ponds.

The mayor said he has recently been made aware of a situation where a resident's home was built directly on a drainage easement.

Councilman Abell said the city may need to look into implementing impact fees for future, to help address these issues that may evolve in the future once a development is completed. He also stated these funds could possibly be utilized in subdivisions where a HOA's that may dissolve and residents are left with unmaintained common areas.

Mayor Owen stated he wants the citizens to be aware that the city is looking into all these issues and is a priority to find a solution.

The mayor also said the city recently received a listing of fire hydrants provided by the Fire Department, that are in need replacement or repairs to maintain good working order, Paul Brannon said the Public Works Department has prepared a maintenance program and have already been out in the community repairing fire hydrants by priority. Paul Brannon also stated he is looking at the maintenance of the water main infrastructure as well.

The Mayor announced the city recently hired a new Traffic Guard to help with traffic in the morning and afternoons at Bullitt East High School and also recognized Constable Eric Sullivan for his assistance with the school traffic at Eastside Middle and Mt. Washington Elementary School.

The mayor commended Keith Griffie and Judge Summers for their efforts on the turning lane that will be under construction soon in front of Bullitt East and the widening of Hwy 44 E going east to Kings Church Road. The mayor said the utilities in that area are being marked and to be moved in this first phase and construction on the road will immediately follow. The mayor said the first phase is to be completed by June.

## **Report from Council**

Councilman Abell asked for an update on the property needed for the Pleasant Grove pumping station. The mayor stated the construction is underway and Attorney Hamilton said he is corresponding with the Board of Education's attorney on drafting and agreement for them to review a possibility of a professional lease.

Councilman Gooden asked for an update on the round-a-bout. Paul said he and the mayor met with the engineer from Qk4 and we are still awaiting a federal letter releasing North Bardstown Road to the city. The mayor said it could possibly be 9-12 months before there is a "shovel in the ground."

Councilman Hudson said he received a complaint of the light at Highway 44E and Armstrong Lane only staying green for 20 seconds coming out of Armstrong Lane. Paul Brannon stated he can contact the state to possibly do a traffic count at this intersection to adjust the timing of the traffic light.

Councilwoman Hockenbury reported that she, the mayor, Nora, and Anthony met with Mr. Sowder to discuss the ADA requirements and what they found.

Councilman Gentry reported the light at Armstrong Lane going west does not seem to be bolted very tight and is swinging noticeably more than the others, he asked Paul Brannon to report this when he calls the state regarding the timing of the light. Councilman Gentry fears if this fell it could possibly kill someone.

Councilman Gentry also said there is a bike track that has been constructed in a middle of a subdivision and wants the city to reach out to the county attorney for advice.

Councilman Barr asked about the drainage that the city corrected in the cemetery at Branham Way, which is now diverting drainage directly across the street and asked Paul Brannon if the city is going to replace the drain tile that may be blocked. Paul Brannon said he will look into corrective measures and possibly seek the states help since it's in their right-of way.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion for the council, Councilman Hudson made, and Councilwoman Hockenbury seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:31 PM.

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Elizabeth D Hardin  
City Administrator

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Stuart Owen  
Mayor