

Special Council Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2014

The Special Council meeting of the City Council of Audubon Park was held on Monday, June 23, 2014, at 3340 Robin Road, with the following present: Mayor Dorn Crawford and Council Members Joanne Bader, Vince Osbourn, Mark Stevens, Nancy Zinner, William Klump and Cary Campbell. Also present were Police Chief Douglas Sweeney and City Clerk Janette Mercer.

Call to Order

Mayor Crawford called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. He announced the purpose of the meeting was to hear a second reading of the proposed City budget for fiscal year 2015 and invite further discussion after a motion to adopt. The Mayor asked the City Clerk to read the *City of Audubon Park, Kentucky Ordinance Number 4 Series 2014 an Ordinance Adopting the City Budget for Fiscal Year 2015*. The Mayor did note the only change on this reading was in the Waste Management Revenue and Appropriations, as the number of units had been hand-checked and refined from tax rolls.

The Mayor asked for a motion to adopt the Ordinance. Mark Stevens made a motion and Joanne Bader seconded. The Mayor asked for discussion. Mr. Campbell questioned the following line items:

Parking Fines/ Towing \$5,000. The last he saw the total was \$2,500 which is not close to \$5,000. Joanne Bader answered that the actual number is \$3,420.00. Mr. Campbell acknowledged the most recent numbers.

KLEFPF decrease to \$6,200. The Mayor answered that this resulted from a decrease in full time police officers. KLEFPF is awarded only to full time police officers. Angela Owens is no longer an employee and James Curtis no longer full time.

Mr. Campbell asked for debate on the necessity of a full time clerk for the years to come, while specifically noting that it appeared a necessity for the next year. He noted there are other cities that have part time City Clerks. Joanne Bader noted the City Clerk is also acting as a Treasurer. Mr. Campbell asked whether some of the work could be outsourced at a lesser rate of pay. Joanne Bader noted that not all work could be outsourced based on confidential issues. Mr. Campbell's concerns were that this would set a precedent for the pay. Nancy Zinner and Joanne Bader asked Mr. Campbell to focus on this year and the budget proposal. In response, Mr. Campbell noted that we should be evaluating each and every budget with a long term vision in mind, and that we currently have no long term vision. Mr. Campbell is also concerned about the bookkeeping and the financial position of the City being managed by someone without government bookkeeping experience or accounting education. He stated he could not support a budget that does not include a CPA overseeing the finances. William Klump stated that is the purpose of an audit and an auditor.

Mr. Campbell then questioned why the city is going to pay off the \$100,000 line of credit, loaned at 3.25 percent interest. He feels that the City should use the money for other needs, like street repaving because it is better to borrow at 3.25% now than 8.25% four years from now. The other Council members disagreed and felt the line of credit needs to be paid off and the City work within the revenues received. Mr. Osbourn reminded Mr. Campbell that tonight's meeting is about this year's budget only, and there can be meetings set up for long term plans for the City such as comprehensive road repaving,

estimated at \$1.5 million. Mr. Campbell once again noted that is the kind of mindset that led to problems in the past, and that we have to start thinking long term.

Mr. Campbell questioned the line item Supplies and Equipment/ Public Works. He noted that last year's budget did not reflect this category. The Mayor explained this line item was included in the line item of Maintenance in last year's budget. Mr. Campbell asked about the salary increase for the Public Works. The Mayor explained the agreement was the City would start restoring some of the wages to mitigate lost benefits.

Mr. Campbell asked whether Chief Sweeney felt like he had all the resources that he required to manage and monitor employees and cost constraints. Chief Sweeney gave examples of buying refurbished equipment and if equipment breaks they will share remaining equipment that is working.

The Mayor asked for any public comments:

Laura Kelty, 3242 Cross Bill Rd: Laura noted that all financial statements are posted on the Web. She was shocked that Mr. Campbell would go on for 45 minutes about issues that could have been answered had Mr. Campbell used the City Web page.

Darrell Shelton, 919 Audubon Parkway: Mr. Shelton noted he wants and feels that employees should be treated fairly and compensated fairly. He would like to see the City going back to giving employee benefits. He would like for the City to be a model employer.

Lindsey Breen, 1128 Dove: Ms. Breen disagrees with Mr. Campbell about the city clerk position being a part time position. If residents have issues, it is nice that the city clerk is available to answer questions or give directions.

Pete Becker, 3105 Chickadee: Mr. Becker agrees the city clerk is a full time position and he disagrees with Mr. Campbell about not paying the line of credit back.

The Mayor asked if there was any more discussion, reminded the Council the motion to adopt the Ordinance has been made and seconded, and asked for a vote. The motion passed with 5 in favor 1 opposed (Cary Campbell).

William Klump made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Nancy Zinner seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is set for July 21, 2014.

Attested



Approved

