

## **Council Meeting Minutes**

**March 16, 2015**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council of Audubon Park was held on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 3340 Robin Road, with the following present: Mayor Dorn Crawford and Council Members Joanne Bader, Darrell Shelton, Tony Williams, Nancy Zinner, Lindsey Breen and Laura Stevens. Also present were Police Chief Douglas Sweeney, City Attorney Steve Emery and City Clerk Janette Mercer.

### **Call to Order**

Mayor Crawford called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Comments**

The Mayor asked for Representative Jim Wayne to update the Council on the almost completed legislative session. Mr. Wayne gave a brief synopsis of the House bill allowing for a tax credit for insulating homes in noise levels of DNL 60 and higher. Mr. Wayne answered some questions about gasoline taxes which affect Road Fund aid and questions about the teachers' retirement fund.

### **Attorney Remarks**

Mr. Emery started with the Reesor/Lee case. He reported that a deposition was taken from the former Mayor Scalise. Mr. Emery was pleased with the swift turn-around on the transcripts. Mr. Emery and the assigned counsel are in the process of composing a draft to dismiss the claims against the City brought by former Police Chief Reesor and former City Clerk Stephanie Lee.

Mr. Emery and the Louisville Regional Airport Authority's attorney presented oral arguments in District Court in reference to the lawsuit brought against the city. The judge has not returned an opinion. She stated she wanted to render an opinion by the end of last week, however he has not received anything as of yet.

### **Engineer's Report**

The Mayor noted that he was still waiting for the engineer's recommendations on the necessary patch work to the roads as a result of the recent snowstorm, as well as his recommendations on the lighting at the entrances and in Henderson Park.

### **Financial Report**

Laura Stevens questioned line item 4329-40, Sanitation Revenue, on the Profit and Loss statement. She noted that the statement shows incoming revenue, but no appropriations. The Mayor and Ms. Stevens agreed that the Profit and Loss statement should reflect all funds consistently, income and expenditures. The Mayor advised he would discuss with the bookkeeper, and make the necessary correction. Joanne Bader questioned a couple other line items, and all questions were answered. The Mayor asked for a motion to accept the financial report as corrected. Joanne Bader made a motion to accept; Darrell Shelton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The financial report is included a part of these minutes.

### **Forest Board Report**

The Mayor distributed the Forest Board report to the Council members in their packets. He asked if there were any questions that he could answer, since there was not a representative from the Board present. Joanne Bader noted that the Arbor Day tree planting in Oriole Park on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> will be conducted at 11:00 instead of 10:00 am because the Brightside clean-up is scheduled on the same day and some of the residents want to attend both. The Forest Board report is included as part of these minutes.

### **Police Report**

Chief Sweeney reviewed the police report. The police report is included as part of these minutes. Darrell Shelton asked if there was a process or procedure in place to track police time in Audubon Park versus the other areas patrolled by the police. The Chief noted there are activity sheets that track where and how long the officers are at any given time.

### **Unfinished Business**

The Mayor presented the February 16 meeting minutes and asked for a motion to approve. Joanne Bader asked that the second paragraph clarify that the only persons present for the closed session were the Mayor, Council members and the City Attorney. The Mayor agreed to make that clarifying comment. Joanne Bader made a motion to approve the minutes with the one clarifying statement. Nancy Zinner seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Laura Stevens started the review of the action item list. The Mayor and Council discussed all items and updated status where possible. The action item list is included as part of these minutes.

### **New Business**

The Mayor asked the City Clerk for a second reading of An Ordinance Imposing License Fees upon Insurance Companies for Business Conducted within the Corporate Limits of the City of Audubon Park. He asked for a motion to adopt this ordinance, which as drafted would increase the rate from 8.25% to 10%. Laura Stevens made a motion to adopt, in order to open the matter for discussion. Tony Williams seconded the motion. The Mayor then invited discussion. Tony Williams, Joanne Bader and Darrell Shelton reported informal feedback from residents regarding the insurance tax rate. They all agreed that their samplings were small, but they all found that there was not any support to raise this tax. There were several lengthy conversations about alternative ways to raise money for priority programs other than taxes. After discussion ended, the Mayor asked for a vote on the proposed ordinance. The ordinance was defeated with 5 opposed and 1 abstaining (Joanne Bader abstained). Tony Williams made a motion to amend the proposed rate to 9%, versus 10%. Joanne Bader seconded the motion. The amended ordinance passed with 3 no's and 3 yes's (No's, Darrell Shelton, Nancy Zinner & Lindsey Breen; Yes's, Joanne Bader, Tony Williams & Laura Stevens) ; the Mayor broke the tie with a yes vote. Mayor and Council agreed that the next meeting would be held in Town Hall format to seek input from citizens on further fund-raising ideas and spending priorities.

**Mayor's Report**

The Mayor asked the Council for their Ethics Policy Compliance Forms to be completed and returned. He also offered kudos to the Parks and Recreation Board for organizing the upcoming Forest Fest. The Mayor noted that the spring newsletter is close to being completed.

**Public Comments**


Laura Kelty, 3242 Cross Bill – Ms. Kelty expressed her dismay on increasing taxes.

Frank Mosser, 3119 Meadowlark – Mr. Mosser asked about the Homestead exemption and how it affects tax structure. He wants to annex Audubon Woods Condominiums and Audubon Country Club.

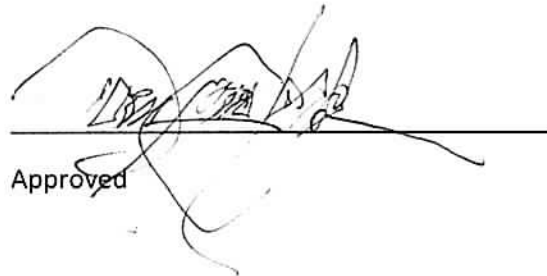
Darrell Shelton made a motion to adjourn. Nancy Zinner seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

The next scheduled meeting is set for April 20, 2015 at Audubon Elementary School.



Attested



Approved