

AGENDA

CITY OF AUDUBON PARK – COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 15, 2013

Call to Order: 7:30 P.M. – Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Minutes

Public Comments: 15 minutes or less

Financial Report

Amend Current City Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013

Police Report

Forest Board Business

Unfinished Business

New Business

Mayor's Report

Adjournment

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 15, 2013

The regular scheduled meeting of the City Council, City of Audubon Park, was held on Monday, April 15, 2013, at 3340 Robin Road with the following present: Mayor Michael Scalise along with Council Members Joanne Bader, Nancy Zinner, Vince Osbourn, Mark Stevens, Al Huber, and Cary Campbell. Also present were Police Chief Jeffrey Cox, Deputy Police Chief Ronald Jones, and City Clerk Stephanie Lee along with City Attorney Patrick McElhone. Assistant City Attorney Jonathan Leachman was absent from the meeting.

Call to Order: Mayor Scalise called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

At this time, Al Huber said a few words; and there was a moment of silence observed to honor the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing.

Approval of the Minutes: Mayor Scalise asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes from the previous month. Al Huber made motion to accept the minutes as presented. Nancy Zinner seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: The following is a list of people who spoke and a general summary of what they had to say:

1. Laura Kelty, 3242 Cross Bill – suggested not putting any lights on top of the pillars at the entrances to Audubon because she said she thinks they look just fine by themselves. She also inquired about the Budget Committee working on the Budget along with asking as to when the first reading will be. She also asked if there have been any areas that can be cut back.

Mayor Scalise said the problem with the lights on the columns is bad batteries, and he said one of them has been replaced now with a spare they already had. He said two of the lights are working just fine now, and he said they are working on a battery pack for the other one. He added the Budget Committee met about a week ago or so, and he said they are going to be meeting again the first part of May. He said the first Budget Ordinance reading will take place at the May Council Meeting with the second reading being in June.

Laura Kelty continued by inquiring about the Estate/Yard Sale at 1135 Audubon Parkway. She said she has heard several rumors that make the Police and City Government look like “villains”. She said one rumor said the people at the sale were threatened with being arrested and that they could not leave. She said the other rumor is that the person or persons that sign the permits do not know their jobs and issued the wrong permits. She said another rumor is that the Code

Enforcement Board would not allow people to speak and should offer an apology. She said she doesn't know the whole story, and she said she would like to hear from all sides in order to get a better understanding of what took place.

Mayor Scalise said he was there when the permit was issued, and he said it was issued in the manner in which it was requested. He said the City Clerk did explain the differences between the two, and he said we were told it was not an Estate Sale. After being asked by Mrs. Kelty, Mayor Scalise explained the differences between the two. He said the items, traffic, etc. is different with Estate Sales versus regular Yard Sales; and he said there is a charge for the Estate Sale and no charge for the Yard Sale. He said he was not at the Code Enforcement Hearing, but he said there was one person that insisted on trying to speak at the hearing.

Pete Becker (current Member of the Code Enforcement Board) commented about the legal counsel not allowing the gentleman to speak.

Pat McElhone said the Assistant City Attorney was there, and he said he makes the rules.

Mayor Scalise continued by saying he doesn't think the part concerning the Police happened. He said he was not there, but he said he has seen emails for both sides regarding the situation. He said he cannot get into other personnel issues, but he said he thinks a lot of this has been blown out of proportion.

Laura Kelty said that is what she figured, and she thanked the Council and Mayor.

2. Gene Stotz, 3330 Robin Road – spoke briefly regarding the Garden Club organizing along with some of the members and residents participating in the Brightside Cleanup this year. He said the cleanup had been held the previous Saturday (April 13th), and he said they had about 18 people show up to help. He said they picked up about 30 bags of garbage. He said they did the work in about two hours, and he said they picked up along Preston. He said he was quite happy with what they had achieved (especially with some of the younger residents showing up to help). He said they seem to be on target for the Dogwood Festival for the upcoming weekend. He said they will be having an “informal” lighting ceremony (weather permitting) on Friday night, and he invited everyone to come out to attend around 8:30 P.M. He said the Forest Board will be having an Arbor Day Tree Planting Ceremony on Saturday at 10 A.M. He said they may possibly have some trees available for residents that day as well. He mentioned the concert scheduled for Sunday at 3 P.M. at Audubon Baptist Church.

Al Huber inquired as to where the informal lighting will be on Friday night, and Mr. Stotz said it will be in Henderson Park.

Mayor Scalise commented about the mower at City Hall being in need of repair right now (in the shop currently), and he said they are working on getting the grass cut before the end of the week for the Festival.

Financial Report: The information submitted on the Financial Report showed the figures through the month of March. After a lengthy discussion, Al Huber made motion to accept the Financial Report as presented. Joanne Bader seconded, and the motion passed with Nancy Zinner and Cary Campbell voting against the report.

Vince Osbourn said for the forth meeting in a row, the revenue reported on the Profit and Loss Statement does not match the revenue reported on the monthly Financial Report. He said the expenses do match, but he said the revenue does not. He says the report is inconsistent, and he mentioned there may be questions regarding the report down the road. He commented about having a hard time voting for this as it is because it is very confusing.

Mayor Scalise said he thinks the recent difference occurred when the Treasurer put the funds in from two different fund sources (the line of credit and transferring funds from Road Funds to the General Fund).

Nancy Zinner questioned the Miscellaneous Fees section, and Mayor Scalise went into an explanation of the money that had been taken in already along with explaining as to where and why the parentheses are being used.

Cary Campbell asked as to why the Treasurer would be including money transferred in from a line of credit as revenue; and Mayor Scalise said when the Auditor comes in, he has her back it back out. Councilman Campbell continued on adding the public should be able to review this information as an accurate representation of the City's finances.

Joanne Bader questioned the amount taken in already for property taxes, and Mayor Scalise said that will go in for next year as revenue.

Chief Cox mentioned the notation of the pending Audit on the report. He said he doesn't like the format either, and he said it might just be a program issue.

Amend Current City Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2012 – 2013: Al Huber presented ORDINANCE NUMBER ~~0005-0004~~, SERIES ~~2012-2013~~, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AMENDING THE CITY OF AUDUBON PARK, KY ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2012 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2013; and Cary Campbell seconded with a lengthy discussion following.

Mayor Scalise went into an explanation of the need for the amendment mentioning some of the category changes such as increased revenue via grants, street and park funding not budgeted, insurance taxes collected, parking fines/towing fees collected, bond revenue, miscellaneous fees, contracted Police Services, Emerald Ash Borer treatment, Reach Alert funding, Public Safety, Police car damage and City Hall damage from storms,

Budget Committee meetings, Road Funds, etc. He said at the end of the fiscal year, the changes have to be made to comply with State law. He said these are the actual figures versus what was anticipated when the Budget was done last year. He went on to add and read from the Ordinance saying this will need to be done as an emergency tonight due to the planning for the Budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

After the discussion, Mayor Scalise called for the vote; and the Amended Budget Ordinance passed unanimously.

Police Report: Chief Cox read the Police Report for the month of March. A copy of the said report is made a part of these minutes.

Chief Cox went on to add the Audubon Police Bulletin (A.P.B.) will be coming out at the end of the month. He said they are currently looking for a sponsor for printing, and he mentioned emailing them out as well. He also said copies will be made available at City Hall.

Vince Osbourn and Joanne Bader mentioned the REACH Alert idea being incorporated along with the Bulletin.

Joanne Bader inquired as if there is more Police activity during Derby time, and Chief Cox said it normally does increase during that time of year.

Mark Stevens questioned as to the plan for traffic patterns for the Dogwood Festival; and Chief Cox said they are just going to keep it simple this year (no one-ways, etc.) with the “informal” lighting scheduled.

Forest Board Business: Gilbert Zinner passed out copies of the Forest Board Report dated April 15, 2013 to the Council and Mayor for their review. He mentioned the Arbor Day Community Tree Planting Ceremony scheduled for April 20th from 10 A.M. until approximately Noon in Henderson Park.

Joanne Bader commented about the tree planting being a part of the Tree City USA designation requirements.

Mayor Scalise said the opening ceremony on Friday night helps in the requirements also, and Gene Stotz said the activities on Sunday do as well.

Mark Stevens questioned about the possibility of trees being available at the ceremony for residents.

Gilbert Zinner and Gene Stotz said they had both heard trees would be available, and a short discussion followed regarding possible trees types that may be available.

Mayor Scalise mentioned the Emerald Ash Borer in the Ash trees, and he said some Elms are getting a type of fungus as well. He invited everyone out to attend to see what they may have available at the ceremony.

Unfinished Business: Mayor Scalise mentioned he had signed the REACH Alert contract, and he said they had discussed the various categories that may possibly be offered. He said he would like for the Council to make some suggestions on the categories, and he said Mr. Weber will be in on the following Wednesday to meet with him for a training session on the system. He later added they will be limited on the information they can give out on “crime alerts”.

Joanne Bader commented about not wanting to impede investigations that may be going on as far as the crime alerts are concerned. She also said there will be information available with regards to social events such as parades, festivals, Garden Tours, the Community Christmas Celebration, etc. She added there are also other possible categories as far as train derailments, downed power lines, trees down, bomb threats, etc. She later added approximately 45 or 50 people have signed up for the program right now.

Mark Stevens said he thought they should have some general titles such as hazardous situations (bomb threats, train derailments, etc.); social or festival notifications; etc. He later said they should go back in to look at adding more categories later.

Cary Campbell said he doesn't like the idea of “categorizing” if the system is being used for communication. He said he thinks people will be more inclined to think of a “junk mail” situation. He said by giving people a chance of opting out of certain categories, he thinks they will be doing a disservice in getting out the information.

Mayor Scalise said they should do it simple with the fewest categories as possible. He later commented about the Code Red System having three categories as an example.

Joanne Bader said they can do whatever they want to start out and look at the feedback later to see what is needed or not.

Vince Osbourn inquired as to who the Administrators will be for the system as far as the City is concerned. He went on to later reiterate this is a pilot project, and he invited and encouraged residents to sign up.

Mayor Scalise said he will be the Administrator on the City side, and Chief Cox said Captain Curtis will be the one on the Police side.

New Business: Mayor Scalise commented about the upcoming Budget process being his main focus right now.

Nancy Zinner spoke briefly regarding complications she had encountered in trying to reach the Police at City Hall after having a situation come up (a suspicious vehicle) out in front of her house approximately two weeks prior. She commented about the various

phone system options and recordings she had gotten. She said she did end up getting the City Clerk, and the Police immediately showed up for assistance. She said her complaint is not with City Hall, nor the Police; but, she said it is with the phone system itself. She later added she was told (by an unidentified person) that if she had called the Dispatch number for situations such as the one she had, they would laugh at her.

Chief Cox said the City has had problems with the phone system.

Deputy Chief Jones reiterated the need to call Dispatch at 574-5471 for Police assistance. He mentioned bulletins and information being sent out with this information in the past. He continued by saying the information she was given about anyone laughing at her for calling in with something like this is absolutely untrue, and he said that is the problem with social media and rumors. He said it is a full-time job just trying to get the correct information out with all of these rumors. He said please call City Hall if anyone at the Dispatch number laughs at any of the residents that call in with concerns. He later said he has had a few issues with the Dispatch number himself.

Mayor Scalise said the Police are dispatched from the Sheriff's Department as many other small Cities are for Police situations.

Cary Campbell commented about changing the phone system recordings to clarify what numbers need to be called.

Joanne Bader mentioned the Dispatch information being in the Garden Club Handbook as well. She also added sometimes the calls do not actually ever make it to the Police as she has had happen in the past. She said more often than not, they do respond and as quickly as possible.

Chief Cox suggested calling the Dispatch number, and he explained the centralized dispatching involved with the 911 system. He said they will have the phone system looked at and changed with the information being provided in the A.P.B. also. He said please call if there are any problems with anyone at the Dispatch number, and he apologized to Mrs. Zinner for the problems she had encountered.

Vince Osbourn inquired as to if bids can be sent out for repair work of the roads now, and Mayor Scalise said they can talk about that at the next Budget Meeting.

Mayor's Report: There was not a report by the Mayor at this time due to issues being covered earlier in the meeting.

Al Huber made motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark Stevens seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.


ATTESTED


APPROVED