

## **Council Meeting Minutes**

**October 21, 2013**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council, of Audubon Park was held on Monday, October 21, 2013, at 3340 Robin Road with the following present: Mayor Michael Scalise and Council Members Joanne Bader, Nancy Zinner, Vince Osbourn, Mark Stevens and Cary Campbell. Also present were Acting Chief of Police James Curtis and City Clerk Janette Mercer.

### **Call to Order**

Mayor Scalise called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Mayor started the meeting by recognizing Acting Chief of Police James Curtis with the Medal of Valor. Mayor Scalise read from notes which referenced a vehicle break-in on October 15, 2013. The suspect was armed and a convicted felon. Captain Curtis apprehended the suspect and recovered the weapon, putting himself in harm's way for the City of Audubon Park. Mayor Scalise proceeded to swear in Captain Curtis as Chief of Police. He asked the council for a motion to confirm Captain Curtis as Chief of Police. Joanne Bader raised a point of order noting that the Council had not conducted an official search process as initially recommended by Mayor Scalise. The mayor asked again for a motion to confirm Captain Curtis as the Chief. After Mark Stevens made the motion and Nancy Zinner seconded the motion, the mayor asked all in favor to stand up. There were objections from both residents and council members about permitting the motion to be voted on. Cary Campbell raised a point of order again and the Mayor abruptly announced his resignation, asking Joanne Bader to be the acting Mayor. Mr. Scalise then handed Joanne his written letter of resignation and left the room. There were several minutes of confusion and Cary Campbell made the motion to name Joanne Bader chair pro tem. Vince seconded the motion, the motion passed with four in favor and one abstention (Joanne). Joanne and Cary addressed the motion to confirm Captain Curtis as Chief of Police. Joanne asked for comment and Joanne and Cary agree that Jim should be considered for the position. However, both noted that the appropriate action to take would be to continue with the search committee as initially proposed before confirming an appointment for the position. Cary made the motion to table the vote on confirming Jim Curtis as Chief of Police. Vince seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Minutes**

Joanne noted we have several sets of minutes that need to be approved. The following is the list minutes:

- August 12, 2013, Special Council Meeting, Budget Work Session;
- August 19, 2013, Council Meeting;
- August 26, 2013, Special Council Meeting;
- September 4, 2013, Special Council Meeting.

The August 12<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved with the understanding that Joanne will go back and review the tape to be sure the exact verbiage is reflected in the minutes. Vince made the motion, Mark seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The remaining minutes were tabled to be approved at the next meeting. Mark made the motion, Nancy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Report**

Mr. Veeneman covered the financial reports; those reports are included as part of the minutes. The first document covered was the Statement of Cash Receipts and Cash Disbursements General Funds. Mr. Veeneman covered a few line items that was questioned by the Council in an email to him. He explained to the Council that line items are not the numbers to watch, the department totals are the numbers to watch. There was extensive discussion about line items and amending the budget. Joanne asked that the Council look at the budget ordinance to ensure accuracy. Mr. Veeneman then reviewed the balance sheet, the Road Fund, and the Sanitation Fund. Nancy made the motion to approve the financial report as presented, Cary seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Police Report**

Acting Chief of Police, Jim Curtis read from the Police Report, the report is included as part of the minutes. Captain Curtis added that the police bus was sold and our net was \$3,175.85. Joanne commended the police department and Captain Curtis for all that they do. She also recommended residents sign up for Reach Alert and the APB alerts to be informed about city events or notices.

### **Forest Board Business**

Gil Zinner reported for the Forest Board. Mr. Zinner reported we did not receive the State grant for the replacement of the Ash Trees. The residents that do participate in the replacement of the trees will be offered the 10% discount. The Forest Board is working on a Monarch Butterfly way station, with appropriate planting in Curlew Park. The committee is organizing a volunteer "work day" on November 16, 2013.

Joanne mentioned that the Garden Club is set up to accept tax deductible donations, so that anyone can support the replacement of the trees since we did not receive the grant. This report is included as part of minutes.

### **Unfinished Business**

The Council members were in agreement of staying with the same auditor (Art Henson) for one more year (2013), but added that Council members should meet with the auditor to ensure that the recommendations are followed and understood.

Vince spoke to the web site development project. He and Joanne have narrowed down potential web design candidates to three. Joanne asked residents, the city clerk and the police department for any suggestions for the Web Page.

The mayor had candidates line up for interviews to fill the city attorney position, however the council would like to seek some additional candidates to interview. Joanne feels confident that we will have some by the next council meeting.

Mark spoke to Ray Brown, a resident of Audubon Park, in reference to repaving the streets. Mr. Brown works in Indiana, but has completed some work in Audubon Park in the past. Mr. Brown said that his company can give a bid on the entire city and as far as a discount that would be minimal, because if they are working on more than one street the equipment is physically on location. Joanne asked whether it was too late to start repaving work due to weather and Mark noted that 40 degrees is the minimum temperature necessary to lay asphalt. Joanne suggested the repaving issue should be tabled until spring.

Council noted that we have computer problems and security issues with the current network. We have Louisville Geek coming to evaluate and make recommendations for improvements.

Vince spoke about the lack of a formal contract with Mr. Veeneman to continue accounting services for the City. Joanne asked that Mr. Veeneman submit a contract proposal for the Council to review and approve.

Joanne then moved to the hiring of Police Chief. She feels that in light of keep things transparent, we need to continue with the search process, not taking away from the great things that Jim Curtis has done.

There was lengthy conversation about the oversight and approval of checks. There was confusion about the need of having three people within city government with the authority to sign checks. Further discussion was held whether Joanne as Acting Mayor (and a council member) would have voting rights. Mark made the motion to appoint Joanne as acting mayor with all the powers of approval and check signing that come with it, Nancy seconded. Cary Campbell asked for discussion, questioning the verbiage and how it needs to be stated. Steve Miller suggested that the council take a ten minute recess to read the law. Joanne read from KRS 83A.130 to 83A.150, then asked for the ten minute recess. The Council issued a municipal order giving Joanne limited executive authority for the interim period (up to thirty days) with the legal standing in question which will get clarification from the KY League of Cities legal counsel. The council issued a municipal order to handle the day-to-day activities and, as a precaution, instituted a \$1,000.00 limit on invoices. Invoices for greater than \$1,000.00 will require approval for payment from three Council members (Joanne, Cary and Vince). Joanne asked for the motion to approve these municipal orders. Vince made the motion and Mark seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

Joanne read a resolution nominating William Klump to fill the vacant city council seat. This document is included as part of the minutes. She asked for a motion to approve this resolution. Vince made the motion and Cary seconded. Cary asked Mr. Klump speak to the group and talk a little about himself. Joanne welcomed Mr. Klump and explained the reasons why he was selected by the current council, citing his knowledge of accounting practice. She asked for the vote and it passed unanimously.

### **Public Comments**

Tony Williams, 3220 Eagle Pass: He urged the Council to consider using digital recording noting that the posting to the web site would then be more readily available. He noted that the last posting of the

minutes was in May. He suggested that the Forest Board set up a face book page to post needed information. He supports the Ash Tree replacement program.

Sharon McGee, 3110 Chickadee Rd: She noted that state contracting arrangements can be used to obtain City road work; Council members affirmed that this option was on the table. She also asked that the residents be made aware of the plan and be notified prior to the start of paving work.

Joanne asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cary made the motion, Mark seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Attested \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_