

# ORIGINAL



## CITY COUNCIL MEETING Minutes of Caucus Meeting November 3, 2020

After the pledge and invocation by Amy Hurst, the caucus meeting was called to order

Amy Hurst	Present	Joyce Carson	Present
Shannon Johnson	Present	David Klaber	Present
Amy Hitch	Present	Luke Price	Present

Also Present: Attorney Brandon Voelker

The Mayor introduced Billy Matthews to speak. He presented Council with a proposed letter they are garnering support to seek redistricting. He explained every ten (10) years the officials in Frankfort review and entertain redistricting of counties that request to do so. The letter being proposed is a request to such action. It listed what services we currently receive being part of the 24<sup>th</sup> Senate District, and those we do not receive for varying reasons including services provided based on rate payers and taxes collected on users/citizens. He said due to the geographic location it seemed Boone, Kenton, and Campbell Counties received more priority than Pendleton County when projects were submitted. The letter was to propose being redistricted into Senate District 27 or Senate District 17. "This transfer will strengthen relationships in the capitol and hopefully solidify the voice of the Pendleton County citizenry and our business community." Mr. Matthews emphasized his presence was to inform of the potential for the option, generate discussion, and if Pendleton County was happy with where they are in districting, they did not have to pursue the request.

Also present to speak was Senator Wil Schroder representing the 24<sup>th</sup> Senate District of which Pendleton County is part. He was unaware that leadership had been to our county to have open discussions about redistricting and that a vote had taken place with the Butler City Council. He had been notified of Mr. Matthews being present at this meeting and felt it was a "slap in the face". He stated he had worked very hard for Pendleton County and well aware of the issues facing this county. He was successful in getting funds set aside to do a corridor study to build a connector road from Kenton Co to AA Highway. He had listened to his constituents in Pendleton County regarding the frustration of the lack of highway access to Northern Kentucky or I75. Most businesses and industries are locating in the NKY counties due to easy access to CVG and interstates. He understands us being geographically "out of the way" and fought to get the funding for the study. He added the new leadership did not prioritize the project and frankly road monies are not available. The project is now on the back burner. He would like to hear from leadership personally on what they feel the needs are so that he can continue to be a voice and work for Pendleton County.

Both men thanked Council for their time.

Bill Mitchell was present to seek questions and input from Council on his email regarding the letter of commitment needed for the additional funds needed for the sewer project. Also stating along with that

letter and signature, we understand, commit, and will need to raise the sewer rate by then end of the loan closing. The anticipated time could be August 2021. The rate would need to be in effect at that time.

Allison Nichols, Director of the Pendleton County Recreation Commission was present at Council request to give financial reports on the Recreation Commission. She submitted said reports and encouraged them to contact her with any questions or concerns as she would be glad to discuss any matters with them. She stated as they contemplate funding for the Recreation Commission and the Bingo Hall, she understands the COVID restrictions as a City they may have to cut funds. As an organization they have felt the cuts and changes as well. If that happens, they can revisit in the future. She thanked them for their time.

Tim Morrison was present to continue discussion of his property at 109 W Shelby and the concerns that a portion of the current stage is 8' on the property he owns. He has submitted a proposal to the City to tear down the existing stage at his cost in exchange for the City to deed him the other lot said stage is on. He has plans to move a stage to the rear of the property and have seating with a center "aisle" for event venues that would be free to the public. In further discussions, Mr. Morrison was not aware the City paid the amount stated for their lot. A survey was presented by Council member Shannon Johnson that had been done in 2008 when the property was purchased. According to that survey, the stage was not on any portion of his property. After much discussion, Attorney Brandon Volker suggested Mr. Morrison go back and do his title search and get clarification of deed description. Council told Mr. Morrison they fully support his proposal of creating a venue to do events, they need clarification of deed discrepancies. They did not feel they could "just give away" city property but would be open to discuss options to protect the City's interest.

#### Departmental Reports:

**Mark McClure**-was present for Chief Clem. He submitted the report on police runs and was asked about the Code Enforcement explaining the Police Report, he said arrests were up but the report spoke for itself. He opened the floor for questions. There were several Council members that gave him multiple addresses to be checked for Code violations. He made notes of all that were reported to give to Chief Clem.

**David Marquardt**-submitted and reviewed the fire run report for the month and also discuss the maintenance issues with trucks. He said there would be a demonstration of the Jaws of Life equipment on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm if Council would like to see it.

**Gary Lea**-reported they had found and fixed a few water leaks but nothing major. There had been a couple electrical issues they were called out for and repaired. He was to meet with Anthony Wright on Thursday at 9:00 am to review lighting. They had flushed hydrants, were aware that some were not working, and an on-going issue to get them replaced.

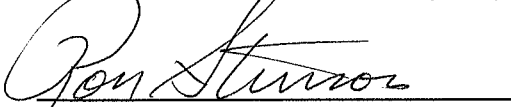
**Andy Richie**-He reported there were issues with two more pumps, but they were being worked on and should be back operational. He said the two new employees were doing well, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> guy would start mid-October.

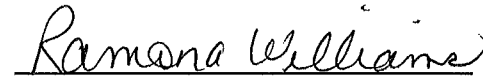
**Ramona Williams**-employee meeting scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup> to issue new personnel policy, moving forward with office renovation and everything had been finalized with insurance company and

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Frankfort on getting the front of building repaired. Contractor to be notified. Tax paperwork had been sent to the NKADD, waiting rate information back. There is a piece of equipment with Neptune that has to be purchased as an upgrade in order to read the newer meters. The current equipment is obsolete and ours has not been updated since we've had it.

A few more announcements by Mayor Stinson and the meeting concluded.

  
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Ron Stinson, Mayor

  
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Attest: City Clerk