

ORIGINAL

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Caucus Meeting May 2, 2023

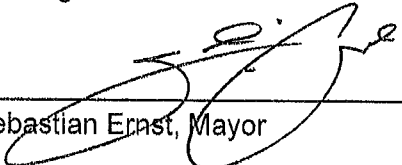
The Caucus Meeting then began with Mayor Ernst reporting they had found another engineering firm, Kentucky Engineering Group, PLLC to conduct the water survey for the potential increase to the wholesale water rates. He had met with Mark Stephens who had visited the City offices and was introduced to Dawn and Ramona for the data they would need. He said it may take about 4 weeks to compile the data and get a report prepared, then based on the results, would be submitted to the PSC for review.

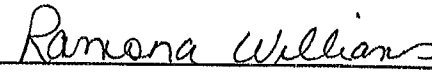
Brian Thompson was present to speak with Council members on the CRS certification in relation to the Flood Permitting Program. He had met with Clerk Williams and Mayor Ernst previously to let them know the 5-year audit would be taking place in June. This was part of the CRS aspect that must be done every 5 years. As discussed, he wanted to let Council members know it may be time to discuss getting out of the certification. Currently the real advantage is the rating Falmouth has, a 7, which only 2 other cities in the State of KY have same. It saves about 15% on the homeowner's flood insurance. However, with this comes more restrictions in addition to the existing flood permitting process and does not allow for any variances. It is intended to move people out of the flood prone areas, so those restrictions limit folks on the West end of town to do any significant repairs/remodel to their property. Removing the certification would enable them to do repairs some repairs within the flood permitting process, but not to the restrictive degree currently required. The disadvantage would be the increase to the flood insurance policies. There needs to be much more discussion on the topic before any decisions are made, he only wished to inform Council members of where things were headed. Clerk Williams also added that currently we have obtained the level 7 partially because of Brian's certification. There is testing required to be designated as certified. Once this year is over, we lose Brian's services, and would have to get someone certified, if we choose to continue the CRS program. Brian stated he is more than willing to work with and train someone if the City chooses to move in that direction. Mayor Ernst asked for everyone to think about forming a committee to look into this in the future.

A guest in the audience, Joseph Guy asked if it had ever been considered to speak with the Army Corp of Engineers to remediate the flood issues. Several council members spoke on the issue that in 1997 it was discussed, and overall it was more economical to go with the FEMA Buyout program than to build flood barriers etc.

Mayor Ernst then announced he had spoke to Brighton Center folks yesterday and they are interested in the Klee property for development. As soon as they have a site plan available, they would present to Council.

Ramona Williams said she was working on the budget and hoped to have a rough draft by the meeting on the 16th.


Sebastian Ernst, Mayor


Attest: City Clerk