

THE PARK HILLS CITY COUNCIL HELD A BUSINESS MEETING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023, AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE GARDENS OF PARK HILLS, 1622 DIXIE HIGHWAY, WITH MAYOR, KATHY ZEMBRODT PRESIDING.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: MONTY O'HARA, DR. JOE DAUGHERTY, SARAH FROELICH, PAM SPOOR, AND STEVE ELKINS

ABSENT: JOE SHIELDS

ALSO PRESENT: CITY ATTORNEY, DANIEL BRAUN

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Motion to approve the August 14, 2023, minutes was made by Ms. Spoor; seconded by Mr. O'Hara. Roll call: all ayes. Motion to approve the September 25, 2023, minutes, with changes, was made by Ms. Spoor; seconded by Mr. Elkins. Roll call: all ayes. Ms. Froelich abstained as she was absent from the meeting.

I. First Reading: Ordinance No. 10, 2023 amending a section of the Nuisance Ordinance was read in summary by Attorney Braun. Ms. Froelich asked the reason for the Ordinance. Mayor Zembrodt stated that a resident was cited by the PDS for not having their chickens 500 feet from their neighbor. Ms. Spoor noted that the 500 feet requirement was likely a typo as no resident could meet that standard. She added that many residents keep chickens, and they haven't been a problem. This Ordinance will reduce it to within 10 feet of any neighboring resident. After discussion, it was decided to change the Ordinance by removing the wording 'any neighboring residence' to 'the closest lot and which are restricted to being maintained in the rear of the property'. Mr. Braun will make the necessary changes for second reading next month.

II. Department Reports

A. Police Department – Chief Cody Stanley

Chief Stanley's report contained the following:

Reports: 13

Citations:

- 0 Warrant Arrest
- 3 Traffic citations (0 Federal Grant Citations)
- 0 Criminal Arrests

City Citations: 5 (4 paid)

Additional:

475 calls for service less 29 traffic stops, 186 Vacation/Business/ Special Area Checks, 15 Special Detail we had a total of 245 police related calls.

A traffic study on South Arlington: Not available

Call Review:

- 0 citations & 3 reports on Elberta Circle.
- 0 arrest & 2 reports on St. Joseph Lane.

Chief Stanley stated that the new officer, Eric Love, is retired from Ludlow P.D. and comes highly recommended. He shared that Captain Webster has been coming in the office for 1-2 hours per week to help with the evidence room. Sergeant Dewaine has been

put in charge of the evidence room in the Captain's absence, with Officer Prater as backup.

B. Fire Department – Chief John S. Rigney
Chief Rigney's monthly report contained the following:

- A total of 28 calls were received during the month of August, and 28 for the month of September. The incidents are broken down by type on the Activity report.
- FD crews participated in smoke training at the former Substation restaurant in Ft. Wright.
- Hydrant flushing was completed with (2) hydrants in need of repair.
- FD crews responded to assist Ft. Wright with a lightning strike.
- PHFD will be hosting the annual Halloweenies on Tuesday, October 31st at the firehouse from 6 – 8:30.

B. Public Works – Dan VonHandorf
Mr. VonHandorf was absent from the meeting. Mayor Zembrodt read his report:

- Greetings Mayor Zembrodt and Council and thanks for another month.
- I hate to have to bring this up but, there are a lot of doggie bags (used) laying around town; once again, thank you to those who do the right thing.
- Just a reminder about the hayride October 22nd at 4 p.m., Dan said, "this old kid is looking forward to it, as well as his older brother, Glenn."
- Fall is finally here, temperature wise anyway, so that means leaves falling. We will be offering the leaf pick-up again here soon. Dan has to get the truck set up and be ready. Price? Last year Mayor and Council set it at \$48 for one and \$90 for the season last season.
- We have a mill & overlay project yet to do on Park Drive up to the stop sign at Devou Park.
- Dan says hello, sorry to miss the meeting but had to do a little stress management (camping).

D. Engineering – Jay Bayer
Private projects in the city:
Gateway Development (aka Park Pointe)

The city has a bond in place until the punchlist work is completed. A plat is being prepared by the developer to dedicate the proposed right of way along Amsterdam.

E. Treasurer's Report – Julie Alig
Ms. Froelich asked if some of the Public Works and PD lines were over budget due to the new building. Mayor Zembrodt stated that there were additional expenses to Public Works for outside issues and the PD for some upgrades they needed.
Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Ms. Froelich; seconded by Ms. Spoor.
Ms. Froelich asked if we are tracking the cost of the new building as a total project. Mayor Zembrodt stated that most of the expenses came out of the general fund's budget of \$40,000 in the building line but is closer to \$50,000 spent. A new HVAC needed to be purchased and Ms. Spoor added that signs are still needed for the new building.

Roll call: all ayes

III. Committee Discussions

A. Parks, Recreation and Beautification

Ms. Spoor stated that Dr. Daugherty and she met to do a tour of some items. Today, a Red Maple was planted in Trolley Park to provide shade to the play area. A dead tree was replaced on Hamilton Road and another tree was planted at Wald and Audubon. She is hoping the Hamilton sidewalk will happen this month. Mr. Elkins agreed that it is very much needed.

Ms. Spoor stated that the community garden has been replanted for fall and winter crops. No chemicals are used in the garden. Ms. Spoor added that a lot of work has been put into the new entry sign. Drawings will be sent to Council. The city has retained Grainwell to design 2 stone columns with a sign in between which will be lit from the ground. Preliminary designs were just received and will be forwarded to council.

B. Economic Development and Business

Ms. Froelich stated that the committee was not able to meet in September. Their next meeting will be this Thursday.

C. Infrastructure

Ms. Spoor stated that the committee discussed the Hamilton sidewalk as well as wanting traffic counts on all the roads to assist council in analyzing which roads need work. They also discussed street striping.

D. Financial Oversight

Dr. Daugherty began by stating that the municipal insurance tax is budgeted to bring in \$490K but is projected to bring in \$523K. In the 2nd quarter, about 41% of revenue came from auto insurance. If the tax was reduced to 9% from 10% for all taxes except auto, it would reduce our income by about \$30K on the year which should fall very close to the budgeted amount for the year. The \$20K of auto insurance tax that is not being proposed for reduction, makes up for discontinuing the auto stickers.

Mayor Zembrodt would like to discuss this at the next financial meeting.

E. Code Enforcement Board

Mr. Gray stated that the property at 1430 Dixie Highway (the new liquor store) has received 2 citations. The board will meet Thursday night and he will find out why this was done when there is a construction permit still valid for this property. Mayor Zembrodt noted that this goes back to the previous owner. Mr. Gray stated that part of the construction permit was demolishing the existing sign and replacing it with the new one and added that this shouldn't have even come into play.

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

Ms. Spoor attended the Fresh Art event at the Behringer Crawford Museum and purchased a painting by Park Hills' artist, Anthony Nassano. It is a painting of Ms. Carol Whitehead tending to her garden on Arlington Road. Ms. Spoor hung the picture in the city building for anyone wanting to view it. Thanks Pam!

8:02 Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Elkins; seconded by Ms. Froelich

Mayor, Kathy Zembrodt

ATTEST:

City Clerk