

THE PARK HILLS CITY COUNCIL HELD A CAUCUS MEETING ON MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE PARK HILLS CITY BUILDING, 1106 AMSTERDAM ROAD, WITH MAYOR KATHY ZEMBRODT PRESIDING. COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: MONTY O'HARA, DR. JOE DAUGHERTY, SARAH FROELICH, PAM SPOOR, JOE SHIELDS, AND STEVE ELKINS. ALSO PRESENT: CITY ATTORNEY, DANIEL BRAUN

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

I. Petitioner

Ms. Gretchen Stephenson, a Rose Circle resident for 17 years, spoke to Council regarding the process of meetings, city business and financials. She began by saying that she believes the purchase of 1500 Dixie Highway was a frivolous purchase. She was under the impression that the building would be used as a meeting space as well as the police department. She stated that it cost over \$100K just to make it usable and the city still can't hold meetings there. Now the meetings are in a place where people must use stairs. She believes there was no negotiating, and these improvements were made after the purchase of the building. She believes there should be more curiosity from Council to be good stewards to the city.

She went on to say that she is aware of at least two pending lawsuits against the city yet no executive sessions since 2022. She believes there should be more transparency between Council and its constituents and between Council themselves.

She believes Ordinance No. 5 needs to be talked about and that people don't feel comfortable coming to meetings. She then questioned the sick leave Ordinance and why it isn't for all employees, not just the police. She also wonders what the cost will be. Mayor Zembrodt stated that the building purchase and renovations were discussed with Council. Ms. Froelich wants to be clear that the renovations cost \$104K when the budget was around \$70-72K and doesn't believe they were all discussed. Mayor Zembrodt replied that it was over a 2-year period and that it was discussed.

Discussion took place regarding the city's lawsuits. Mr. Shields stated that he was unaware of any lawsuits against the city. Ms. Froelich asked for a summary of any pending issues. Mayor Zembrodt said she would like to address the comments from the petitioner, but that we have business to discuss.

Mayor Zembrodt moved on to discuss Ordinance No. 5. She had asked the city attorney to write an Ordinance to clarify a Resolution that was written in 2011 regarding the conduct and order of business.

Ms. Froelich believes that the Ordinance is not necessary as it is all covered by KRS statutes. Mr. Phil Ryan addressed Council and warned against the city strictly following Robert's Rules as it is around a 600-page document with a lot of rules.

Ms. Spoor asked to go through the Ordinance line by line for Council's input. After Council went through and made adjustments, Mr. Braun stated that he would make the amendments and re-send before the next Business Meeting.

8:21 Motion to adjourn the Caucus meeting was made by Mr. Shields; seconded by Mr. Elkins.

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Mayor, Kathy Zembrodt

ATTEST:

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City Clerk