

CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS
Council Minutes
February 5, 2019

On Tuesday, February 5, 2019, Mayor Meyers calls the Council meeting to order at 176 Johns Hill Road.

Present: Mayor Meyers, Council Members: John Hoffert, Debbie Ball, Gary Chinn, Rene Heinrich, Virgil Miller. A quorum was present.

Also Present: Attorney Pat Walsh, Chief Bill Birkenhauer, Public Works Director Steve Lehman, City Clerk/Treasurer Jeanne Pettit.

Absent: Dave Whitacre

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: After member Miller delivered the prayer, everyone said the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Presentation of the regular council meeting minutes from January 15, 2019: These minutes had been previously emailed to the Mayor, Councilmembers and City Staff for review.

Action Taken: Member Heinrich moved to approve the regular council minutes of January 15, 2019, seconded by Member Chinn. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Announcements: Mayor Meyers announced that Pat Walsh is serving as our city attorney for the meeting.

Scheduled Guests: None.

Correspondence: Two letters of interest were received for the open city council seat. Discussion will occur under old business.

Staff Reports:

- Police Chief – Bill Birkenhauer
 - Annual Report and January report were distributed. Chief Birkenhauer gave credit to Sonoma Moreland for doing an excellent job on the reports.
 - Sonoma Morland is working on the Police website and as it gets finished, the police reports will be available on-line.
 - Member Hoffert asked about Smart 911 technology. It is available county wide. Member Miller stated he has the app on his phone. If you put your information into the app, if you call 911, the first responders have

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immediate access to the information you entered. It works in any city across the county that uses Smart 911.

- Michelle Snodgrass spoke at Highland Village about Scams. Call the Attorney General's office to report a scam.
 - Officer was involved in an arrest for heroin. Drug arrests are down, but it is still a serious problem The 275/471 loop seems to have slowed down a bit.
 - Chief Birkenhauer stated he has a personnel issue that will require an executive session.
- City Clerk – Jeanne Pettit – copy of report is attached to these minutes
 - Recommend to have Attorney Franzen create a Municipal Order to take advantage of the two-year extension in the Rumpke Waste contract.
 - **Action Taken:** Member Heinrich moved to have Attorney Franzen write a Municipal Order to use the option to extend the Rumpke Waste contract two more years. Seconded by Member Hoffert. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.
 - Finance Director – Harry Barlage
 - Andy DeMoss will be at the February 19 meeting to review the audit. Mayor Meyers, Member Hoffert and Member Heinrich will meet with Mr. DeMoss at 6:00 p.m. prior to the Council meeting.
 - City Engineer and Zoning Administrator – Dave Whitacre – copy of the report is attached to these minutes.
 - Mr. Lehman reviewed Mr. Whitacre's request for revision of Ordinance # 07-2014. The ordinance will be forwarded to Attorney Franzen for revision.
 - Public Works Supervisor – Steve Lehman – a copy of the report is attached to these minutes.
 - There have been 18 snow events this year, 14 were in January. Over 90 hours of overtime have been spent plowing and salting the street.
 - During a snow event, residents are requested to get their car(s) off the street so the plows can get as close to the curbs as possible. Additionally, residents are asked to move their car(s) and out of the cul-de-sac so the plows can turn around and not have to back out of the street. Finally, please don't shovel driveway snow into streets. Mr. Lehman will send a blurb about this to Member Hoffert for the newsletter.

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- It was recommended that warning tickets be given to those parking in cul-de-sac. There are signs indicating there is No Parking in cul-de-sacs.
 - If the budget permits, the city is looking into purchasing a smaller truck with a smaller blade to plow the narrower streets.
- City Attorney – Mr. Walsh read the following ordinance and municipal orders:

Second Reading of Ordinance #01-2019:

Action Taken: Member Ball made a motion to approve ordinance #01-2019 an ordinance amending ordinance no. 05-96, fixing the time and place of regular meetings of the city council of the city of Highland Heights, Kentucky and repealing any ordinances in conflict herewith. Seconded by Member Chinn. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Municipal Order #01-2019:

Action Taken: Member Heinrich made a motion to approve municipal order #01-2019 approving the appointment of Jeanne Pettit as the City Clerk-Treasurer. Seconded by Member Miller. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Municipal Order #02-2019:

Action Taken: Member Ball made a motion to approve municipal order #02-2019 appointing Michael Forge to a four-year term on the Highland Heights Planning and Zoning Commission. Seconded by Member Hoffert. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Municipal Order #03-2019:

Action Taken: Member Miller made a motion to approve municipal order # 03-2019 erecting a stop sign at the corner of Dale and High street. Seconded by Member Heinrich. Discussion: This sign is need so that the line of sight is not blocked for those traveling through the Dale/High street intersection. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Discussion of Ordinance #02-2019 – An ordinance establishing a Tree Commission and guidelines pertaining to the protection of city trees.

Member Heinrich suggested the council discuss the ordinance as a group so they are all on the same page.

Discussion:

- We want to highlight the beautiful areas of our city without creating undue burden on homeowners
- Note that the Highland Heights Nature Trail is excluded from the ordinance

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- Citizens can choose to have a tree on their property designated as a “Landmark Tree” if they choose. The Tree Commission does not make a decision about Landmark Trees on private property.
- Should an arborist from Northern Kentucky University be asked to participate as an ad hoc member on the Tree Commission.
- The commissioners from the tree commission do not need to be involved in every development plan. Commissioners should be involved in the development of the Comprehensive Plan and then provide input to development plans at a Planning and Zoning meeting.
- The \$2.00 per resident for the planting of trees is part of the city budget and stays within the city.

Good Neighbor Award: Mayor Meyers asked if anyone know of a anyone on their street, possibly a young person, who is shoveling snow for neighbors to consider nominating them for the Good Neighbor Award.

Old Business:

Member Hoffert announced that the newsletter almost ready to go to press. He will send out a draft to council once it is ready.

Council Member Vacancy: Member Hoffert stated he had read the two letters that were submitted for the open council position. Member Hoffert stated the Mr. Kessling is an entrepreneur, manages rental property in the city and is active at NKU. Member Hoffert stated he believed these qualities would be an added value and perspective on council.

Action Taken: Member Hoffert made a motion that Michael Kessling, Jr. fill the vacant city council seat. Seconded by Member Miller. Discussion: No further discussion. Roll Call Vote: Member Miller, Aye; Member Heinrich, Aye; Member Chinn, Aye; Member Ball, Aye; Member Hoffert, Aye. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

New Business: Member Miller introduced himself to council and shared his experiences as a police officer, member of the EMS and Fire service, retired from the Campbell County School System and his current service as a contractor for the Department of Education in Frankfort. Member Miller also talked about his wife of 50 years, Leah, their 4 children, 13 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Member Miller closed by saying it was his pleasure to serve the citizens of Highland Heights.

Citizens to Address Council: None.

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Executive Session:

Action Taken: Member Chinn made a motion to go into Executive Session as outline in KRS 61-810 to discuss personnel issue. Seconded by Member Miller. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Action Taken: Member Heinrich made a motion to come out of executive session. Seconded by Member Hoffert. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Action Taken: Member Heinrich made a motion to authorize Mayor Meyers and Chief Bill Birkenhauer to deal with the personnel issue. Seconded by Member Miller. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Member Heinrich moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Member Hoffert. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

GROUPS OR DELEGATIONS WHO WISH TO BE HEARD ARE ASKED TO APPOINT A SINGLE SPOKESPERSON. COMMENTS SHOULD BE KEPT BRIEF.

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Submitted by:



Jeanne Pettit, City Clerk/Treasurer

Signed:



Gregory V. Meyers, Mayor