

CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS
Council Minutes
June 18, 2019
Approved July 2, 2019

On Tuesday, June 18, 2019, Mayor Meyers called the Council meeting to order at 176 Johns Hill Road.

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

Also Present: Attorney Steve Franzen, City Clerk/Treasurer Jeanne Pettit.

A moment of silence was held for Rob Honaker Wilder Councilmember and Former Assistant Fire Chief. Passed away on June 8 in a single vehicle motorcycle crash.

The prayer and pledge of allegiance was delivered by Councilmember Miller.

Minutes for Approval:

Regular Council Minutes of June 4, 2019. These minutes had been previously e-mailed to the Mayor, Council Members, and City Staff for review.

- **Action Taken:** Member Miller made a motion to approve the council minutes of June 4, 2019, seconded by Member Heinrich. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Announcements:

- Flash Drives were distributed to Council containing the Comprehensive Plan, Sub-Division Regulations, and Zoning Ordinances.
- Duke has cleaned up everything on Jillian Court from the gas line repair.

Scheduled Guests:

- The Yard of the Month award and \$25.00 Lowes gift card was presented to Ashley and Logan Mullins, 342 Knollwood, by Jean Rauf, Co-Chair of the Tree Commission.

Correspondence: None

State of the City Address: A copy is attached to these minutes.

- Mayor Meyers expressed his appreciation to the administrative staff, professional staff, the citizens who serve on the City's boards and commissions and City Council.
- The achievements of the administration, police, and public works departments as well as the recreation commission were discussed.
- Challenges confronting the city and Opportunities before us were outlined.
- Mayor Meyers encouraged council to consider creation of a full-time City Administrator position and suggested the following to produce the revenue to finance such a position:
 - An ordinance creating a hotel room tax.

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- Council liked the idea of adopting a hotel tax but we need to make sure money collected from these taxes can be put into the general fund and are not required to be earmarked for promotion of tourism.
- A ticket tax on events at the BBT Arena
 - Council wants to explore a ticket tax for tickets sold at BBT arena. We are beyond the 10-year moratorium agreed upon when BBT was built. Will this include NKU sporting events?
- Increase the ceiling on the payroll tax to match social security maximum of \$132,600 and maintain 1% ceiling so as not to penalize lower wage earners.
- Take 4% compensating rate on property tax.
 - Council agrees with the need to discuss the 4% increase. Highland Heights is becoming a landlord's paradise – our property taxes are the second lowest in the county.

Staff Reports:

- **Action Taken:** Member Heinrich made a motion that the second readings be read in summary. Seconded by Member Chinn. Discussion: None, Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.
- City Attorney – Steve Franzen
 - Second Readings of Ordinances
 - **Ordinance #08-2019**
 - **Action Taken:** Member Heinrich made a motion to approve Ordinance #08-2019, an ordinance adopting the City of Highland Heights, Kentucky annual budget for the fiscal year 7/1/2019 through 6/30/2020, by estimating revenues and resources and appropriating funds for the operation of city government. Seconded by Member Hoffert. Discussion: None, Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.
 - **Ordinance #09-2019**
 - **Action Taken:** Member Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance #09-2019, an ordinance amending the City of Highland Heights, Kentucky annual budget for the fiscal year 7/1/2018 through 6/30/2019, by estimating revenues and resources and appropriating funds for the operation of city government. Seconded by Member Ball. Discussion: None, Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.
 - First Reading of Ordinances
 - **Ordinance #10-2019** – An ordinance adopting a supplement to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Highland Heights, Kentucky.

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- Municipal Order
 - **Municipal Order #23-2019**
 - **Action Taken:** Member Miller made a motion to approve Municipal Order #23-2019, a Municipal Order appointing Dale Elifrits to a four-year term on the Highland Heights Board of Adjustment. Seconded by Member Heinrich. Discussion: None, Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Good Neighbor Award:

- Member Miller nominated Mike Walters, 117 Crestwood to receive the Good Neighbor Award. Mr. Walters helps take care of his neighbor and his yard.
 - **Action Taken:** Member Ball made a motion to present Mike Walters with the Good Neighbor Award. Seconded by Member Miller. Discussion: None, Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Old Business:

- Investments: Member Kessler, working with the limited scope of investments permitted by statute, indicated that the City might consider putting up to 20% of our investments in a fund that is a little more aggressive – about a 4 on a scale of 1-10 with 1 being minimally aggressive. He stated this type of investment would need a time frame of more than 2 years. Member Kessler also recommended the City stay on top of interest rates for CD's, Bonds, and Treasury Bills. Member Kessler will meet with Mayor Meyers and Finance Director Barlage to discuss further.
- A child is riding a moped/dirt bike in their backyard on Sunset for several hours at a time. This is occurring during the evening hours. The police were called but the complainants were told there was nothing the police could do.
- Construction will need to start early a few days in July to pour the top deck; neighbors will be notified.
- Saturday, July 13 beginning at 4:00 p.m. is the Cruise-In and Concert.

New Business:

- Member Heinrich recommended exploring the cost of tablets for council members to use, helping reduce the use of paper and keeping all city business in one place for easy access by council members. Jeanne Pettit will explore the cost and report back to council.
- Member Heinrich presented research she had done on Fairness Ordinances. These ordinances create a right of action for the LGBTQ community and people over 40 years of age. Council agreed this is important. It was mentioned that some of our largest employers have policies that address Fairness and that being proactive in adopting this type of ordinance could draw businesses to Highland Heights.

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- Member Miller suggested the Tree Commission look at 54 Crestwood for the Yard of the Month award. The owners are Michael and Teresa Gillam.

Citizens to Address Council: None.

Adjournment:

- **Action Taken:** Member Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Member Ball. Discussion: None. Ayes: All. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

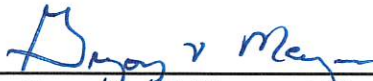
Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:21 p.m.

Submitted by:



Jeanne Pettit, City Clerk/Treasurer

Signed:



Gregory V. Meyers, Mayor