

CITY OF WILDER, KENTUCKY

September 7, 2021

City Council Meeting

The regular meeting of the Wilder City Council was held on Tuesday September 7, 2021 at the Wilder City Building, 520 Licking Pike, Wilder, Kentucky 41071.

Lords Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Call to Order:

Mayor Robert Arnold called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Roll call was answered by Councilwoman Valerie Jones, Councilwoman Sandy Decker, Councilwoman Kelly Meiser, Councilman Jim Profitt, and Councilman Andy Williams.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion of Councilwoman Decker, seconded by Councilman Williams to approve the minutes of August 16, 2021 Regular Meeting. Mayor Arnold called for a vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Arnold Report:

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Thanked Councilwoman Jones for filling in for him at the last meeting.

Introduction of Guests/Public Comments:

- Mr. Thomas who lives at 753 John's Hill Road was in attendance. Mr. Thomas thanked the Mayor and Council for the wonderful water park. He also asked someone to contact Rumpke to ask them to not put trash cans in the middle of the residents' driveways.
 - Mayor Arnold assured him someone will contact Rumpke regarding this issue.
- Mr. Smith with Smith Towing was in attendance along with Mr. Franks and Mr. Blankenship. Mr. Smith stated the bank's appraisal came in lower than they expected. Mr. Smith paid for another appraisal and it also came in lower than the selling price. The bank is only going to lend him 80 % of the bank's appraisal; which leaves him short. He would like to still buy the property and he asked council to work with him anyway they can to make this happen.

Mayor Arnold stated council would be going into executive session late in the meeting to discuss this issue.

Attorney's Report:

Attorney Verst presented Ordinance No. 21-0901: **An Ordinance levying an Ad Valorem Tax Rate for the Year of 2021 on all Property Real and Personal Property in the City of Wilder, Kentucky, setting the waste collection/recycling rate for 2022 on properties receiving curb side collection, levying an Ad Valorem Tax Rate on Motor Vehicles for 2021 in the City of Wilder, Kentucky, establishing the rates therefore and adopting the Campbell County Tax Commissioner's Assessment on said property and providing for a Tax Lien against all Taxable Property in the City of Wilder, Kentucky to secure the payment of said taxes. (First Reading)**

- Long Discussion ensued regarding the new tax rates for 2021.

There was some confusion to whether or not there needed to be a public hearing for anything above the Compensating Rate. Mayor Arnold asked for the City Clerk to check on this and they will readdress this after the Executive Session.

Attorney Verst presented Ordinance No. 21-0902: **An Ordinance amending Chapter 72 section 72.02 of the Wilder Municipal Code amending parking restrictions for Colonel Pointe a city maintained street located in the City of Wilder. (First Reading)**

- Discussion ensued regarding the parking on Colonel Pointe.

No motion was made at the meeting. Mayor Arnold will ask for a motion and a vote at the September 20, 2021 meeting.

Assistant City Administrator Report:

- Nothing to report.

City Administrator's Report:

- The Zone Change Signs and Letters are going out on the Town Center Zone Change for the North Fire Station.
- The Fischer Development will move forward and start construction on three buildings.

Department Reports:

Treasurer Report:

- Nothing to report.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Meiser to approve the financial reports and authorize payment of the bills for General Fund ending July 31, 2021. Mayor Arnold called for a vote. Motion carried.

Police Chief Comments:

- Secret Service Presentation on Cyber Crime went well.
- Riverfest went well.
- There has been no applications submitted for any full or part time officers at this time.

Fire Chief Comments:

- The Wilder Fire Department along with several other fire departments applied for a Recruitment and Retention Grant from FEMA. More information to come regarding the grant once it has been approved.

Park and Rec Report:

- The fence has been completed along the road at Frederick's Landing.
- City Wide Yard Sale – September 24th, 25th, and 26th.
- Splash Pad will close September 30th.
- Assistant City Administrator Norris confirmed anything over the Compensating Rate needed a public hearing.
 - Mayor Arnold stated we will revisit the Tax Rate before Council Comments.

Maintenance Report:

- Maintenance is doing a great job.
- Jason staying busy with maintenance on cruisers.

Attorney's Report continued:

Mayor Arnold revisited Ordinance No. 21-0901. Mayor Arnold confirmed council would need to have a Public Hearing if they approve any rate over the Compensating Rate.

- Discussion ensued regarding the new tax rates for 2021.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Profit to approve Ordinance No. 21-0901: **An Ordinance levying an Ad Valorem Tax Rate for the Year of 2021 on all Property Real and Personal Property in the City of Wilder, Kentucky, setting the waste collection/recycling rate for 2022 on properties receiving curb side collection, levying an Ad Valorem Tax Rate on Motor Vehicles for 2021 in the City of Wilder, Kentucky, establishing the rates therefore and adopting the Campbell County Tax Commissioner's Assessment on said property and providing for a Tax Lien against all Taxable Property in the City of Wilder, Kentucky to secure the payment of said taxes. The rate of taxation for the City of Wilder, Kentucky for year 2021 shall be .231 percent of each \$100 of assessed valuation for real estate and 0.148 percent of each \$100 assessed valuation of motor vehicles, and .313 percent of assessed valuation for other personal property. All of said amount shall be and is hereby taxed for the general fund of the City. Mayor Arnold called for a vote. Motion carried. (First Reading)**

Council Comments:

Councilwoman Jones:

Parks and Rec Committee Update:

- Chili-fest Cook Off – Councilwoman Jones along with the Parks and Rec Committee would like to host a Chili-fest on October 16, 2021 from 1:00 to 4:00. She would like council to vote yes or no to the cook off. Councilwoman Jones stated there is a lot of interest and people are very excited about the Chili-fest.
 - Discussion ensued regarding the Chili-fest.
- There will be some cost to the City. The City will be covering the cost of the Health Department permits for each chef. Each permit is \$60 per chef. Council approved the Cook off and Councilwoman Jones will be moving forward on the planning.

Councilwoman Decker:

- Congratulated Chief Neyman on the FEMA grant.
- Landscaping bids for the City Building should be in soon.

Councilwoman Meiser:

- No Comment.

Councilman Blankenship:

- Not in attendance.

Councilman Profitt:

- Councilman Profitt thought the fence at Frederick's Landing would be more of a protection fence and he also asked why the fence was not taken to the walking trail.
 - City Administrator Vance stated the fence was more for decoration, not to fence anyone in and in the future, the fence could be extended to the walking trail.
- Congratulated Chief Neyman on the FEMA grant.

Councilman Williams:

- No comment.

Mayor Arnold's concluding comments:

- Mayor Arnold stated he was approached by Councilman Blankenship expressing a public safety concern related to the personnel changes in the Police Department. His concern is the supply and demand issue with police officers. Many departments in the area are hiring police officers and there has not been much interest in the city's open position. Mayor Arnold met with each police officer last week; all the meetings went well. The Mayor is concerned with the supply and demand issue. This creates a public safety concern. He thinks there are two issues; one is hiring and the other one is retention.
- Mayor Arnold would like council to make a motion to authorize a \$1200 premium payment for any Wilder employee that brings to the city a candidate for police officer and gets hired.

- Mayor Arnold would like Council to set up a three year contract and within that contract there would be terms that would be beneficial to the officer and the city. This would address the retention issue. In the contract there would be an incentive for the officer to stay with the city for at least three years. At the end of each fiscal year they would receive a premium payment. There could also be a fitness and skills training incentive.
 - Discussion ensued regarding the hiring incentive and the contract for the police department.
- Mayor Arnold will move forward on the contract and the hiring incentive and will present more information to council in the near future.

Upon motion of Councilman Profitt, seconded by Councilwoman Jones to enter into executive session at 9:00 p.m. pursuant to KRS 61.810 subsection 1B concerning real estate sale and subsection 1C pending and proposed litigation. Mayor Arnold called for a vote. Motion carried.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Williams to come out of executive session at 9:35 p.m. and to enter back into regular session. Mayor Arnold called for a vote. Motion carried.

South Fire Station update: As part of the existing contract, The City of Wilder will amend the contract whereby the city will finance \$70,000 of the sale over five years with a 2.5% interest rate with no prepayment penalty and the payments will be made monthly to the city.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Meiser, seconded by Councilman Williams to amend the South Fire Station contract. The City of Wilder will finance \$70,000 of the sale over five years with a 2.5% interest rate with no prepayment penalty and the payments will be made monthly to the city. Mayor Arnold called for a vote. Motion carried.

Documents will be prepared and distributed to all parties.

Flag Raising is September 12th at 2:00 pm at Frederick's Landing.

Adjournment:

Upon motion of Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Decker to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Arnold called for a vote. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m. The next meeting of the Wilder City Council will be held on September 20, 2021.


Robert Arnold - Mayor

ATTEST:


Juanita Schultz - City Clerk