

# CITY OF WILDER, KENTUCKY

April 4, 2022

## City Council Meeting

**The regular meeting of the Wilder City Council was held on Monday, April 4, 2022 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 Kelly Meiser, Councilman Jim Proffitt, Councilwoman Valerie Jones, and Councilwoman Sandy Decker.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Upon motion of Councilman Proffitt, seconded by Councilwoman Decker to approve the minutes of March 21, 2022 Regular Meeting. Mayor Arnold called for a vote. Motion carried.**

### **Introduction of Guests/Public Comments:**

- Erin Sizemore was in attendance. She introduced herself, and will be running for District Court Judge in Campbell County.
- Brad Murphy (Wilder Resident) was in attendance.

### **Mayor Arnold Report:**

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Good News - Jules Comte was interviewed for the open position in the police department. The Mayor announced that Jules will be rehired and will be starting as soon as all the paperwork is completed.
- The City of Wilder has received an appropriation of funds in the 22/23 state budget for \$400,000 (unless vetoed) to be used for a waste water project at Frederick's Landing.

### **Attorney's Report:**

- Attorney Verst received the signed order for the dismissal of the Ken Perry lawsuit.

### **Assistant City Administrator's Report:**

- Nothing to Report.

### **City Administrator Report:**

- More information to come in the near future regarding the development at Frederick's Landing. Progress is being made.

## **Department Reports:**

### **Treasurer Report:**

- Nothing to Report.

Councilwoman Meiser asked when Council could anticipate a copy of the FY23 budget.

Mayor Arnold stated he received the budget last week and he hopes to have to council by the next meeting.

### **Police Chief Comments:**

- Car thefts in the area. Please lock your cars.
- Officer Adam Peak has acquired several items from the Military Surplus store in Columbus. He also acquired a Military 4 seater ATV. The ATV will have to be returned if the city no longer has a need for the vehicle. Total amount of all the equipment is valued over \$60,000.
- There was a shooting at Bobby Mackey's bar last Saturday night. Thanked the Fire Department for all of their help. Officer Miller was the second officer on the scene. All the officers did an outstanding job.
- Jules Comte accepted the offer to return to Wilder as a police officer. He will have to fill out some paperwork with the pension board. He will return to work after he gets the approval from the board which could take two to three weeks.

Mayor stated, him, along with City Administrator Vance and Chief Martin met with Mr. Mackey last week regarding the shooting. Chief Martin recommended better lighting, signage and cameras.

Councilwoman Meiser asked about the police contract.

- Chief Martin stated most of the police contracts have been signed.

Councilwoman Meiser inquired about the instructor specialist payment in the police contract. She stated in an email she sent on February 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 she asked the Mayor if he could specify in more detail when the payment would be issued for the specialist payment. She commented that the specialist payment does not have a specific date for payment.

Mayor Arnold stated he did not change the wording in the contract. He commented he was confident Chief Martin would stay on top of getting the payment made to the officers.

### **Fire Chief Comments:**

- Thanked Councilwoman Jones, Councilwoman Decker, Councilwoman Meiser and Councilman Proffitt for their help with the fish fry last week.
- Last fish fry is Friday, April 8, 2022.

**Park and Rec Report:**

- Easter Egg Hunt – April 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:30. Grill out after the Easter Egg Hunt.
- Some Community Garden Plots are still available.

**Maintenance Report:**

- Nothing to Report.

**Mayor Arnold Comments:**

- Mayor Arnold gave a presentation and an update on the Comprehensive Plan.
  - Presentation will be attached to the minutes.

Councilwomen Meiser and Councilwomen Jones asked if they could have a copy of the presentation. Mayor Arnold stated the presentation is on the City's Website. City Administrator Vance commented it was Appendix B on the website.

Councilwoman Meiser asked for the balance in the capital account.

- City Administrator Vance stated once the carryover from FY 21 and FY 22 is transferred into the capital account the balance should be around \$3 million.
- Councilwoman Meiser stated she would like to have a padding in the capital account; especially with losing some jobs in the city.

Mayor Arnold stated he would send Councilwoman Meiser his PowerPoint presentation.

Councilwoman Jones asked in regards to the ARPA funds; did the city complete the necessary paperwork with the Treasury Department to show lost revenue during the pandemic.

- Juanita stated the paperwork has been completed showing lost revenue; she also stated because there was lost revenue for the city there was less restrictions on how the money could be spent. The ARPA funds are in a separate bank account but can be transferred to the General Fund.

Councilwoman Jones asked how many people took part in the Comprehensive Plan Survey; she also asked if they were all Wilder residents.

- City Administrator Vance stated around 130 people completed the survey. He also stated the city did not know if they were Wilder residents or not. Some surveys were completed online and some surveys were completed at the fish fries.

### **Council Comments:**

#### **Councilwoman Decker:**

- Congratulated Jules Comte back to the Wilder Police Department.
- Councilwoman Decker asked for an update on the landscape project at the city building.
  - Mayor Arnold stated he met with Assistant City Administrator Norris regarding the landscaping at the city building and Chuck recommended hiring a part time employee instead of bringing in an outside company.
    - Councilwoman Decker stated she thought it would be more cost effective bringing in an outside company.

#### **Councilwoman Jones:**

- Councilwoman Jones stated she has spent several hours researching and talking to several residents regarding the Fischer Project and she cannot approve giving up 50% of the property taxes for 30 years. She stated she is just rejecting this proposal, not all IRBs. Councilwoman Jones commented she feels Fischer Development has the means and the resources with 1.3 billion dollars in revenue to complete this project. She wanted to make a motion to reject the proposal from Fischer Development.
  - Mayor Arnold stated he doesn't think that was Fischer's proposal, it was more like a presentation to Wilder. This was just their starting point and there will be more negotiations in the future regarding this project. Council will be involved in all discussions and there will be no documents signed until council authorizes the proposal.
- Councilwoman Jones asked if Wilder was using Smith Towing in their towing rotation.
  - Chief Martin stated Smith Towing along with Dempsey Towing is in their rotation.
    - She asked if Larry from Airport Auto body who attended a meeting a couple months ago was in the rotation.
      - Mayor Arnold stated he followed up with him and they are not using him in the rotation.

#### **Councilman Profitt:**

- Thanked Mayor Arnold for the presentation.
- Thanked Aaron and Jason for all of their hard work at the Fish Frys. They do an excellent job and work very hard.

**Councilwoman Meiser:**

- Thanked Sergeant Collins for his help with the dog issue near her house last week.
- Thanked Officer Adam Peak for acquiring all the equipment for the Police Department.
- Councilwoman Meiser asked for an update on the bids for the roof.
  - Assistant City Administrator Norris stated he is waiting for one more bid to come back.
- Thanked City Administrator Vance for the information he gave her regarding the new developments.

**Councilman Blankenship:**

- Not in attendance.

**Councilman Williams:**

- Not in attendance.

**Mayor Arnold comments:**

- Mayor Arnold stated he has not yet filed to run for re-election. The deadline to file is not until June.

**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 8:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Wilder City Council will be held on April 18, 2022.



Robert Arnold - Mayor

ATTEST:



Juanita Schultz - City Clerk