

# CITY OF WILDER, KENTUCKY

September 5, 2023

## City Council Meeting

**The regular meeting of the Wilder City Council was held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at the Wilder City Building, 520 Licking Pike, Wilder, Kentucky 41071.**

Lords Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

### **Roll Call:**

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

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Upon motion of Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilwoman Decker to approve the minutes of August 7, 2023 Regular Meeting. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

### **Mayor Jones opening comments:**

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- The newsletter has been published, if anyone would like a hard copy, please call the city building.
- The annual report has been published. The annual report is on our website.

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

Attorney Verst presented Ordinance No. 23-0801: **An Ordinance levying and imposing an annual waste collection/recycling service charge upon owners of improved real estate, persons, firms, and corporations, and businesses and professions in the City of Wilder, Campbell County, Kentucky, fixing the amount of said charge; specifying the purpose for which levied; providing a penalty for violations of the provisions of said ordinance; setting forth the general provisions for waste collection and recycling and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith. (Second Reading)**

City Administrator Vance stated this Ordinance is not to set the exact rate of the collection; that will be set by tax ordinance.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Decker, seconded by Councilwoman Meiser to approve Ordinance No. 23-0801: **An Ordinance levying and imposing an annual waste collection/recycling service charge upon owners of improved real estate, persons, firms, and corporations, and businesses and professions in the City of Wilder, Campbell County, Kentucky, fixing the amount of said charge; specifying the purpose for which levied; providing a penalty for violations of the provisions of said ordinance; setting forth the general provisions for waste collection and recycling and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith. (Second Reading) Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

Mayor Jones asked if we could skip ahead to Resolution No. 23-0901 and then move to Ordinance No. 23-0902. Attorney Verst and Council agreed to the change in the agenda.

Councilman Blankenship was not attendance because of his surgery so he sent an email to Mayor Jones regarding the City's waste and recycling contract. Councilman Blankenship stated he knows he will not be in attendance to place a vote but due to the information he received and the annual rate being so much lower than their competitor his vote would have been for Bestway.

Mayor Jones stated she reached out to a Mayor and he also recommended Bestway's service.

*Discussion ensued regarding the waste and recycling contract.*

Councilwoman Meiser stated people she spoke with recommended Bestway and they said they had good service and they were happy with them.

Attorney Verst presented Resolution No. 23-0901: **A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor of the City of Wilder, Campbell County, Kentucky to enter into a three year contract with Best Way Disposal of Indiana, Inc. for the purposes of providing curbside solid waste collection and recycling beginning January 1, 2024 through December 32, 2027.**

<b>Best Way</b>	
<b>Without Homestead:</b>	<b>\$220.50</b>
	<b>Increase of \$6.50</b>
<b>With Homestead:</b>	<b>\$205.60</b>
	<b>Increase of \$6.50</b>

Upon motion of Councilwoman Meiser, seconded by Councilwoman Decker to approve Resolution No. 23-0901. **A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor of the City of Wilder, Campbell County, Kentucky to enter into a three year contract with Best Way Disposal of Indiana, Inc. for the purposes of providing curbside solid waste collection and recycling beginning January 1, 2024 through December 32, 2027. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

Councilman Profitt thanked Rumpke for their service over the years. All of council echoed these remarks.

City Administrator Vance stated he will send a letter to Rumpke regarding their partnership over the years and thank them for their service to the City of Wilder.

Attorney Verst presented Ordinance No. 23-0902: **An Ordinance levying an ad valorem tax rate for the year of 2023 on all property real and personal in the City of Wilder, KY, setting the waste collection/recycling rate for 2024 on properties receiving curb side collection, levying an ad valorem tax rate on motor vehicles for 2023 in the City of Wilder, KY, 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)**

Mayor stated she is concerned with the Tangible Rate. She thinks the rate is high and it imposed a 64% rate increase on the businesses. The rate suggested by the NKADD for 2023 was an additional 55% increase to the businesses.

*Mayor Jones stated the 3 options regarding the rates:*

1. Keep the existing rates. *Real rate - .231 and Tangible rate .513*
2. Adopt the NKADD rates.
3. Select any other rate in between or lower. If you go 4% or higher it will require a public hearing.

*Mayor Jones also stated:*

1. If council decides to lower the tangible rate for the businesses, Mayor Jones recommends not amending the budget right away. She stated the budget could be amended at a later time. If revenues are up, the budget may not have to be amended.
2. If the revenues are short, the city could also use ARPA to cover the difference and amend the budget at that time.

Councilman Profitt stated that he was not in favor of using the ARPA money for any shortage. Council was in agreement of not using ARPA money.

Mayor Jones thanked Councilman Profitt for his comments. She stated using ARPA money was not the preference, but a suggestion. She also stated there was enough surplus in capital if there was a shortfall in the general budget.

*Discussion ensued regarding the 2023 tax rates.*

Mayor Jones thanked all of council for the discussion and their feedback.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Decker, seconded Councilman Williams to approve Ordinance No. 23-0902: **An Ordinance levying an ad valorem tax rate for the year of 2023 on all property real and personal in the City of Wilder, KY, setting the waste collection/recycling rate for 2024 on properties receiving curb side collection, levying an ad valorem tax rate on motor vehicles for 2023 in the City of Wilder, KY, 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) Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

**The rate of taxation for the City of Wilder, Kentucky for year 2023 shall be 0.231 percent of each \$100 of assessed valuation for real estate, and 0.148 percent of each \$100 assessed valuation of motor vehicles, and 0.513 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.**

**City Administrator Report:**

- Easton Asphalt has agreed to mill out a portion of the rolled curb in front of the firehouse and level the roadway to zero out at the crown. The roadway will be milled, leveled, surfaced, and edge sealed. Eaton Asphalt's price is \$30,481. (815 square yards @ \$37.40 a square yard). City Administrator Vance asked council for a motion to complete this work.

**Upon motion of Councilman Profitt, seconded by Councilwoman Decker to approve the bid of \$30,481 from Eaton Asphalt for the repairs on South Street and Andrew's Way, not being done by NKWD contractor. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

- City Administrator Vance stated that money was saved on the pickup truck, snow plow and the carpeting in the Capital Fund. City Administrator Vance stated due to the savings in these areas, the City purchased him a new Ford Explorer.

Councilman Profitt stated he agreed that City Administrator Vance needed a car, but he felt council should have been involved with the final decision. Councilman Profitt stated council needed to be informed before major purchases like a new car.

The car was \$42,553.

Councilwoman Meiser asked why there is a Capital list if the city is not going to stick to it.

City Administrator Vance stated you have a capital list with a total expenditure and as long as the cost comes under the total expenditures, approval is not needed by council.

Councilwoman Meiser stated she would like the expenditures to be listed on the capital budget. She also asked for a copy of the capital repair schedule that was posted on the annual report; she stated she has not seen this schedule. Mayor Jones stated she will send the schedule out to council.

Councilwoman Meiser stated she would also like to be more informed.

City Administrator Vance asked for a motion to surplus the below list:

1999 Aeroil Crack sealing machine  
2007 Ford Explorer –  
2010 Ford Sport Track  
Unit 228 2014 Dodge Charger  
Western Snow Plow  
Swenson Salt Spreader

Complete list with VIN numbers and estimated values are attached to the minutes.

The items will be listed on Govdeals.com.

**Upon motion of Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilwoman Decker to declare the above list as surplus and authorize the sale of the items. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

- Splash pad closed Labor Day.
- New Pickleball Courts are close to being open for play.

#### **Department Reports:**

##### **Treasurer Report:**

- Flag Raising September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Music Fest September 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Financial Planning Seminar September 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Citywide yard sale – September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Upon motion of Councilwoman Meiser, seconded by Councilman Williams to approve the financial reports and authorize payment of the bills for General Fund ending July 2023. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

##### **Police Chief Comments:**

- Humvee motor is locked up. This vehicle was a military surplus item. It will be shipped back to them.
- Two of the older Dodge's need some major repairs.
- Touch-a -Truck went very well. Thanked everyone for all of their help.
- Officer Miller will be orchestrating Toys for Tots this year.
- The Department will be participating in the NKU Career Fair on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Fire Chief Comments:**

- The Fire Department is offering CPR classes.
- The city's boat was on the river for the WEBN fireworks this year.

**Mayor Jones comments:***Old Business:*

- Mayor Jones represented Wilder at the Governor's Department of Local governor's meeting. A couple of the topics on the agenda were Opioid Settlement discussion and the legalization of cannabis. If council would like a copy of the presentation on cannabis, let her know.
- Mayor Jones and City Administrator Vance met with Southbank on August 8<sup>th</sup>. More information to come.
- Personnel Policy almost complete.
- Business luncheon will be in October.

*New Business:*

- Mayor Jones and City Administrator Vance will be meeting with Jason Reser. The discussion will be centered on advancing the Licking River Greenway Trail and Bike Trail.
- Waiting on a call from Maxim to set up a meeting.
- Mayor Jones and City Administrator Vance will be going on a "business tour" and meeting with different businesses in the city.
- In the past council used to go on a "tour of the city"; Mayor Jones would like to do this again, if council was interested. More discussion in the future.

**Council Comments:****Councilwoman Meiser:**

- Thanked everyone involved with Touch-a-Truck. It was a great event.
- Asked for an update on Three Mile.
  - Eaton Asphalt has the contract on Three Mile; City Administrator Vance will contact them and try and get a completion date.

Discussion ensued regarding the work on Three Mile Road.

- Councilwoman Meiser would be interested in the city tour.
- Councilwoman Meiser asked what the status was on the amendment to the budget that was approved unanimously by council to adjust five salaries.
  - Mayor Jones stated the adjustment was made and the monies are sitting in each department.
    - Councilwoman Meiser asked if the money was going to be spent.
      - Mayor Jones stated right now the money will stay in each department.
        - Councilwoman Meiser stated she has a problem with money being spent on a new car but the money that was approved by council is not being given to the employees.

- Mayor Jones stated it was noted last month as well.

**Councilwoman Decker:**

- Nothing to report.

**Councilman Blankenship:**

- Not in attendance.

**Councilman Murphy:**

- Not in attendance.

**Councilman Williams:**

- Nothing to report.

**Councilman Proffitt:**

- Thanked the police department for the vacation checks.
- Touch-a-Truck was great. Thanked everyone involved.
- Thanked Assistant City Administrator Norris for his service to the city. He will be missed.

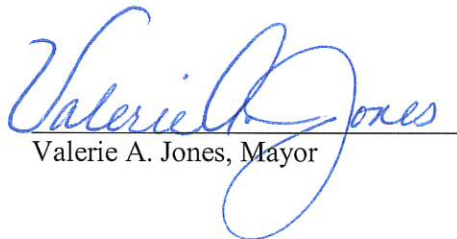
**Open Forum:**

- None.

**Adjournment:**

**Upon motion of Councilwomen Decker, seconded by Councilman Williams to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting of the Wilder City Council will be held on Tuesday September 18, 2023.

  
Valerie A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Juanita Schultz - City Clerk