

CITY OF WILDER, KENTUCKY

November 6, 2023

Municipal Road Aid Fund Public Hearing 6:30 p.m. Agenda

List of roads to be worked on for 2023/2024 using road funds.

Current projects include:

Colonel Pointe	-	spot repairs
Guardian Drive	-	spot repairs
Town Drive	-	spot repairs
Plum Street	-	spot repairs

Open to Public discussion

No comment from the public.

Meeting closed at 6:32 p.m.

City Council Meeting

The regular meeting of the Wilder City Council was held on Monday November 6, 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 Councilwoman Sandy Decker, Councilman Brad Murphy, Councilman Bob Blankenship and Councilman Jim Proffitt.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion of Councilman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Blankenship to approve the minutes of October 2, 2023 Regular Meeting. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Jones opening comments:

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Welcomed Aaron Beck to the meeting.
- Newsletter has been sent out to the residents and businesses. If you would like a copy or if you would like to be put on the email distribution, please contact the city building.
- The city has been given notice of an upcoming hearing in Southgate regarding a new development. The hearing will be on November 14th, 2023. The property adjoins the property in Wilder.

Special Guest:

Aaron Beck with O'Hara, Taylor, Sloan, Cassidy, Beck, PLLC was in attendance.

Attorney's Report:

Attorney Verst presented Resolution No. 23-1101: **A Resolution approving and authorizing the Mayor to enter into an interlocal cooperation agreement with the Northern Kentucky Regional Ethics Authority.**

Discussion ensued regarding the interlocal cooperation agreement with the Northern Kentucky Regional Ethics Authority.

Upon motion of Councilman Blankenship, seconded by Councilwoman Decker to approve Resolution No. 23-1101. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Jones thanked Councilwoman Meiser and Karen Schlipf for a great job on the Pumpkin Hunt. The residents loved it.

Mayor Jones stated Election Day is tomorrow. All voting machines will be downstairs in the hall.

City Administrator Report:

- City Administrator Vance sent council the KY01 Lighting Service Agreement for Andrews Way. City Administrator Vance recommended installing the four lights on Andrews Way. This money was not budgeted for this fiscal year. Mr. Vance recommended to council the 3 year service term. They will add \$1717.98 to the monthly bill for 36 months. The total cost for the four lights over 36 months will be \$61,847.28.
- Discussion ensued regarding the lights on Andrews Way.

Upon motion of Councilman Blankenship, seconded by Councilwoman Decker to approve the KY01 Lighting Service Agreement for lighting on Andrews Way for the 36 month finance option and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract. Mayor Jones called for a vote.

Councilman Blankenship -	Yes
Councilwoman Decker -	Yes
Councilman Profitt -	No
Councilman Murphy -	Yes

Motion carried.

- ***Street repairs update:*** Bids were taken for the street repairs:
 - Riegler Blacktop was the low bidder for the asphalt project on Plum Street and Town Drive. They will not start until the Spring.
 - TMS Construction was the low bidder for concrete on Colonel Pointe and Guardian.

Upon motion of Councilman Profitt, seconded by Councilman Blankenship to approve the contracts for Riegler Blacktop and TMS Construction and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract. Mayor called for a vote. Motion carried.

- ***Best Way update:*** Best Way will be delivering carts to the residents and businesses the week of December 20th. New carts are in the hall way of the city building for anyone to view on Election Day.
- Planning and Zoning meeting will be November 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will address the Fischer project Phase II; addition of four more (14 unit) buildings and a clubhouse. More information to come.
- City Administrator Vance's old car, 2007 Ford Explorer, was donated to Boonesville, Kentucky in Owsley County. The Mayor was very thankful for the donation.
- Nuisance Ordinance update was sent to council. Please look over the changes.
- Preconstruction meeting on Gloria Terrell bids came in higher than expected. There was additional monies allocated for the grant but some monies still may be short. The County, City, and Water District have agreed to pay \$8600 each to make up the difference.

Department Reports:

Treasurer Report:

- Nothing to report.

Upon motion from Councilwoman Decker, seconded by Councilman Murphy to approve the financial reports and authorize payment of the bills for General Fund ending September 2023. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.

Police Chief Comments:

- Toys for Tots – toys are due by December 9th.
- The police department has prescription lock boxes for medicine. (20 boxes) Contact the police department if you would like one of the lock boxes.
- NKU Career Fair – Three people stopped at the Wilder table for more information.
- Process for hiring a recruit - once you start the process it could take until April or May of 2024 before the city actually has a person they can hire. There are several phases and with the academy being backlogged it is a long process.
 - Councilman Profitt stated he saw the posting for a new recruit for the first time on Facebook. He stated he agrees with Chief Martin's plan but he should not have to read about it on Facebook. Councilman Profitt commented that it is one thing after another that council is not made aware of things ahead of time. He stated he did not think that is fair to all of council.
 - Mayor Jones thanked Councilman Profitt for his comments. She stated the strategy was discussed a couple different times in council meetings and emails were sent regarding the recruits to council. Councilman Profitt stated he did not get any emails. Mayor Jones stated she will get the emails that were sent and resend them to Councilman Profitt. Councilman Profitt stated he would like to see more transparency from the Mayor.

Fire Chief Comments:

- Turkey Raffle November 17th, 2023.
- Breakfast with Santa is December 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Mayor Jones comments:

Old Business:

- Business meeting is November 14th, 2023. Lunch will be provided.
- The city will be accepting applications for the rental house across the street.
- Southbank Partners proposal update – the proposal is about \$5.00 per resident and \$15,000 per year. Mayor Jones emailed everyone a brochure with information about Southbank Partners. More information to come.
 - Discussion ensued regarding Southbank Partners proposal.
- Mayor Jones sent council a copy of the new personnel policy. Mayor Jones also sent a summary of the changes to council. She would like council to adopt the personnel policy in December by Municipal Order.

New Business:

- Mayor Jones continues to meet with businesses in the city.
- There will be a trail meeting later this week. Councilman Williams will be attending that meeting.
- Mayor Jones and Councilwoman Decker have been working on some beautification in the city. Councilwoman Decker will share more information.
- Tree Lighting is December 4th, 2023.
- Mayor Jones and City Administrator Vance attended the Fiscal Court meeting regarding the housing shortage.
- The new personnel policy has 12 holidays; the old personnel policy had 10 holidays.

Council Comments:

Councilman Profitt:

- Councilman Profitt stated he is very, very disappointed in the decision regarding the City Attorney. He stated he does not agree with the decision to not renew Attorney Verst's contract. He commented that Attorney Verst has always done a fantastic job. He also stated he has nothing against Mr. Beck.

Councilwoman Decker:

- Councilwoman Decker stated she agrees with Councilman Profitt. Thanked Attorney Verst and stated he will be missed.
- There will be seasonal flags hung up throughout the city. She is very excited about this improvement to the city.

Councilman Blankenship:

- Happy to be back to the meetings.
- Councilman Blankenship was surprised and shocked Attorney Verst would be leaving the city. Attorney Verst has provided faithful legal guidance for the city. He will be missed.
- Election Day is tomorrow.

Councilman Murphy:

- Councilman Murphy stated he was shocked to hear about Attorney Verst leaving.

Councilwoman Meiser:

- Not in attendance.

Councilman Williams:

- Not in attendance.

Attorney Verst stated he has been with the city for 45 years and it has been an honor and pleasure to work for the city all these years. He stated he received an email on November 1st indicating his retirement. He wanted council to know that he is not retiring. He thought he would be with the city for several more years. Attorney Verst stated he is very upset. He thought sending an email was very inappropriate after 45 years of working at the city. He thanked everyone and stated it has been great working with them. Attorney Verst commented he will work with Aaron Beck to make it a smooth transition.

Mayor Jones thanked Attorney Verst for his service to the city and stated he has been committed and devoted to the city for many years. She stated after 45 years the new attorney will have very big shoes to fill. She stated she asked Attorney Verst about retirement because she has the executive authority to make the decision she made to hire a new attorney. She stated she would like to give Attorney Verst a very nice celebration for his dedication to the city. She stated he has been a great asset to the city. Mayor Jones thanked everyone for their comments.

Mayor Jones welcomed the new city attorney, Aaron Beck.

Mr. Beck commented he is very excited for the opportunity to work with council.

Open Forum:

Sheila Everson asked about the process of hiring the new attorney and what input did council have in this process.

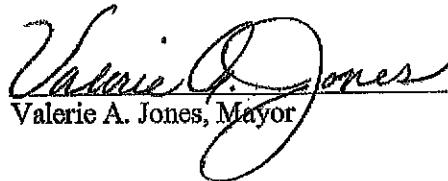
Mayor Jones stated the hiring of the new attorney is granted to her by the law. There is a statute of KRS law that is granted to executive authority to make this decision and form her team. She stated it has been a long drawn out process and she has given it a lot of thought and she feels this is the right decision for the city.

Councilwoman Decker read a message from Councilwoman Meiser. Councilwoman Meiser thanked Karen Schlipf for her help with the Great Pumpkin Hunt. She also thanked Attorney Verst for all of his years of service to the city.


Adjournment:

Upon motion of Councilwomen Decker, seconded by Councilman Murphy 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 December 4, 2023.


Valerie A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:


Juanita Schultz - City Clerk