

# CITY OF WILDER, KENTUCKY

March 4, 2024

## City Council Meeting

**The regular meeting of the Wilder City Council was held on Monday, March 4, 2024 in the downstairs hall at the Wilder City Building, 520 Licking Pike, Wilder, Kentucky 41071.**

*Mayor Jones asked everyone to stand and to honor former Mayor Jerry Williams, who passed away last month, with a moment of silence.*

Lords Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

### **Roll Call:**

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

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Upon motion of Councilman Blankenship, seconded by Councilwoman Decker to approve the minutes of February 5, 2024. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

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

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for their interest in the city.
- Condolences to Councilman Williams on the passing of his father.
- Thanked City Administrator Vance for representing the city at the Castellini Ribbon Cutting.
- The newsletter has been sent out through email and it's on the website. If you would like a copy, please call the city building.

*Mayor Jones thanked Greg Fischer for coming to the meeting and she also thanked him for keeping the city informed on the development. She stated it is very important to make sure the community is informed with every step of this development.*

*City Administrator Vance stated tonight is not a public hearing. The purpose of this meeting tonight is for Fischer to ask City Council for some financial assistance and for council to see Fischer's new plan.*

### **Attorney Beck explained the flow of the meeting:**

1. Fischer Development to give presentation uninterrupted.
2. Residents will have 3 minutes to speak.
3. Council will then speak and/or ask questions.
4. Fischer will then speak again to give more information or to answer any other questions.

Mayor Jones welcomed Greg Fischer to speak.

- Mr. Fischer gave a presentation of the development.

*The presentation will be attached to the minutes.*

Residents that took the podium to speak at the meeting:

1. Tom Asher
2. Larry Nitardy
3. Tina Jenkins
4. Jeff Moles
5. Sarah Wilson
6. Garrett Scotty
7. James Weaver
8. Russ Meyer
9. Tyna Eichman
10. Darleen Spicer
11. Craig Curk
12. Phyllis Lawson

Councilman Profitt asked Greg Fischer to take the podium to answer the residents' questions and concerns before council took the floor.

Mr. Fischer addressed the residents' concerns and answered their questions.

Comments and Questions from Council:

**Councilman Profitt** commented he is not for IRB's. Councilman Profitt stated that council needs to be opened minded regarding the new development. In order to keep taxes low, the city needs some new development. He stated he is not in favor of IRB's but he is not opposed to the development. He stated he is open minded and he will be willing to talk to any resident; email him with any questions.

**Councilman Williams** stated he in total agreement with Councilman Profitt. He stated without the Steel Plant and no new development the city will be forced to raise taxes. He also stated he is not in total agreement with IRB's. Councilman Williams asked Mr. Fischer a couple questions, and they were answered by Mr. Fischer.

**Councilwoman Meiser** thanked Greg Fischer for presenting to them tonight. Councilwoman Meiser asked for a copy of the presentation for council and for the residents. City Administrator Vance stated he will email council and residents can request a copy. Councilwoman Meiser asked Mr. Fischer several questions, and they were answered by Mr. Fischer.

*Attorney Beck gave a brief overview on how IRB's work.*

**Councilwoman Decker** stated all of her questions have already been answered.

**Councilman Blankenship** thanked Fischer for coming to the meeting and for the presentation. He also stated he is not in favor of the IRB's. Councilman Blankenship had a couple questions and they were answered by Mr. Fischer.

**Councilman Murphy** stated he has been on council for about a year now and he went back and did some research; he stated Sentinel Point would not be here today if it wasn't for some assistance from the city. He commented the city does have some history in helping with new developments. Councilman Murphy did his own traffic study on Mooock Road and through the city and he stated the traffic issues are not that bad. He shared some of his data. Councilman Murphy had a couple questions and they were answered by Mr. Fischer.

**Mayor Jones** stated she is concerned about the entire city and all the residents. Regarding the legality of the IRB's; Mayor Jones will lean on Attorney Beck to make sure there is no risk to the city. She shares the concerns of the residents on Three Mile and in Bentwood Hills. Mayor Jones stated she thinks Fischer can build this development without the community's tax dollars. She stated "I don't believe they need our money, to make money."

**Attorney's Report:**

Attorney Beck presented Ordinance No. 24-0201: **An Ordinance amending Chapter 90 Section 96.01 (A) and (C) of the Wilder Municipal Code regarding public nuisance, and the procedure to remedy public nuisances. (Second Reading)**

Upon motion of Councilwoman Meiser, seconded by Councilman Williams to approve Ordinance No. 24-0201: **An Ordinance amending Chapter 90 Section 96.01 (A) and (C) of the Wilder Municipal Code regarding public nuisance, and the procedure to remedy public nuisances. (Second Reading) Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

Attorney Beck presented Ordinance No. 24-0202: **An Ordinance of the City of Wilder, Kentucky, providing for a credit of its Occupational License fee for new employees as part of an economic development project by Castellini Company, LLC under the Kentucky Business Investment Program (KRS 154.32-010-KRS 154.32-100). (Second Reading)**

Upon motion of Councilman Profitt, seconded by Councilman Blankenship to approve Ordinance No. 24-0202: **An Ordinance of the City of Wilder, Kentucky, providing for a credit of its Occupational License fee for new employees as part of an economic development project by Castellini Company, LLC under the Kentucky Business Investment Program (KRS 154.32-010-KRS 154.32-100). (Second Reading) Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

**City Administrator Report:**

- City Administrator Vance asked for a motion to hire Tri-state Wildlife to get rid of the racoons at 521 Licking Pike. The bid is for \$2,500.

**Upon motion from Councilwoman Meiser, seconded by Councilman Profitt to approve the bid from Tri-state Wildlife of \$2,500. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

- City Administrator Vance gave an update on street repairs.
- Public Works is clearing a lot of brush on Gloria Terrell.
- One or two of BestWay trucks were leaking oil or hydraulic fluid on the streets. They were contacted and the issue has been corrected.
- The contractor that is resurfacing I-275 is storing their equipment next to the Holiday Inn Express.
- City Administrator Vance asked for a motion to surplus two police vehicles. 1. 2012 Dodge Durango and 2. 2016 Dodge Charger.

**Upon motion from Councilwoman Decker, seconded by Councilman Williams to declare surplus the two police vehicles: 1. 2012 Dodge Durango 2. 2016 Dodge Charger. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

- Condolences to Councilman Williams in the passing of his father, Mayor Jerry Williams. He will be greatly missed.

**Department Reports:**

**Treasurer Report:**

- Easter Egg Hunt – March 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m.
- If anyone is interested in the community garden; contact the city building.

**Upon motion from Councilman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Williams to approve the financial report and authorize payment of the bills for General Fund ending January 2024. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

**Police Chief Comments:**

**Chief Martin:**

- *Update on the Recruiting Process* – The 3 applicants are in the final phase of their background investigation.
- The parts for the new Tahoes are just now starting to be delivered. There is a vehicle and parts shortage.
- Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness is April 1<sup>st</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Fire Chief Comments:**

**Chief Neyman:**

- Condolences to Councilman Williams on the passing of his father.
- Thanked everyone for their help with the fish fries.
- Chief Neyman will be interviewing five EMT's next week.

**Mayor Jones comments:**

Mayor Jones was contacted by Randy on Three Mile; he stated he does not support financial assistance for the Fischer Development.

*Old Business:*

- Veteran Banner update: Applications are being accepted to gauge the interest in the banners. More information to come.
- Our Auditor will attend the April meeting to go over the FY23 audit report.
- Thanked Councilman Blankenship for working with Southbank Partners and gathering information for council.
- Met with BE NKY regarding the Steel Plant. Nothing firm to report. More information to come.

*New Business:*

- Thanked Fischer Development for coming to the meeting.
- The Budget Cycle is fast approaching. The ARPA funds have to be earmarked by 2024 and spent by the end of 2026. Mayor Jones asked council to send her some ideas on how they would like the ARPA money spent.
- MUNICIPALS Day is June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- Bobby Mackey's has temporarily relocated to Florence while they remodel their building.

**Council Comments:**

**Councilwoman Decker:**

- Condolences to Councilman Williams on the passing of his Father.
- Councilwoman Decker will reach out to Aaron to discuss some beautification around the city.

**Councilman Blankenship:**

- Condolences to Councilman Williams on the passing of his Father. He will be missed.
- *Southbank Partners update* – Councilman Blankenship stated that Southbank Partners is not part of Southbank Shuttle. The cost for Southbank Partners for the year is \$15,000. Southbank Partners is a Regional Economic Development Organization. They helped to develop the Purple People Bridge and they are still working on the River City Walk and Bike Trail.
- John's Hill Road after Davis Landscaping to the 90-degree turn is starting to separate.
- Board of Elections forms are in council's mailbox.
- Thanked Public Works for clearing the hillside on each side of John's Hill Road from the I-275 overpass up to Alanna Drive.

**Councilman Murphy:**

- Condolences to Councilman Williams on the passing of his Father.
- Councilman Murphy asked about if the lighting on Andrews Way has been installed.
  - Councilman Vance stated there was an issue; but the lights should be installed this week.
- Thanked Public Works for clearing the brush. It looks great.
- Enjoyed working the Fish Frys.
- Councilman Murphy will be attending the KLC conference next weekend.

**Councilwoman Meiser:**

- Condolences to Councilman Williams and his entire family.
- Thanked the citizens for voicing their concerns and thoughts on Fischer.
- Thanked Sergeant Collins and Detective Holland for an issue on Three Mile.
- Councilwoman Meiser asked if the city could honor Mr. Combs at the Flag Raising.
- Councilwoman Meiser asked when council will get the first draft of the budget.
  - Mayor Jones stated she does not have a date at this time.
- Councilwoman Meiser asked about the Salary Survey.
  - City Administrator Vance stated he has not received the survey yet.
- Enjoyed working the Fish Frys.

**Councilman Williams:**

- Thanked the city for all of the prayers and support through this difficult time. Councilman Williams and his entire family appreciated the honor and respect shown to his dad. Councilman Williams thanked the fire and police departments for helping out with the funeral. It meant so much.
- Thanked Newport Police Department for the rifle salute at the burial.
- Thanked the residents for coming to the meeting tonight.

*Page Seven*


**Councilman Profitt:**

- Condolences to Councilman Williams on the passing of his Father.
- Thanked the residents for coming to the meeting tonight.

**Adjournment:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. The next meeting of the Wilder City Council will be held on April 1, 2024.

  
Valerie A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Juanita Schultz, City Clerk