

COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of May 5, 2014

City of Independence, Ky.

Opening

The City Council of the City of Independence, Kentucky met on Monday, May 5, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Independence Municipal Center, 5409 Madison Pike, Independence, Kentucky with Mayor Donna G. Yeager presiding. Mayor Yeager called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was given by Council Member Bushong. Roll was called and the following Council Members registered present: Bill Aseere, Tom Brinker, Jim Bushong, Carol Franzen, Mike Little and Chris Reinersman. Also present was City Attorney Jed K. Deters, City Administrator Dan Groth and City Clerk Patricia Taney.

Presentation of FEMA Funds by Kenton County Judge Executive Steve Arlinghaus

Judge Executive Arlinghaus presented Mayor Yeager with a check for \$4,670 which is the City's portion of FEMA funds obtained by the County for expenses arising from the tornado that hit the County in March 2012. He reminded everyone of the tornado damage that hit the southern portion of the County and these funds will help reimburse the City for some of the expenses incurred by the police and public works departments for their assistance with the cleanup. Judge Arlinghaus also presented a check in the amount of \$5,035 to Chief Messingschlager of the Independence Fire District. He stated the County was very appreciative of the City and Fire District's efforts in assisting the County with the aftermath of the tornado.

Presentation – Daughters of the American Revolution Stephens Project – Pam Marcum

Pam Marcum advised Council that the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) has initiated the Stephens Project to honor Lt. William Stephens who owned a farm on Stephens Road where the graves of his son John R. Stephens and John's wife Elizabeth Beale Stephens are located. It is also believed that Lt. Stephens is also buried on this farm at 751 Stephens Road. Ms. Marcum advised the purpose of the Stephens Project is to honor Lt. William Stephens with a Revolutionary War grave marker. She stated they plan to have a special ceremony in the fall to honor Lt. Stephens for his military service at which time they will place a marker at the grave site. Ms. Marcum advised Lt. Stephens has a large number of direct descendants and they plan on locating and contacting them with an invitation to participate in the Grave Marking Ceremony.

Mayor Yeager offered the City's assistance if Ms. Marcum needed it. Council Member Reinersman commented that he currently owns the Metcalf-Stephens house on Madison Pike which is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places and keeps in contact with the Stephens family.

Approval of the April 7, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes

Mayor Yeager called for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on Monday, April 7, 2014. Council Member Bushong so moved, with second by Council Member Franzen. No amendments to the minutes were noted and the motion carried with all ayes.

Proclamation – Building Safety Month

Mr. Groth presented City Building Inspector Kevin Barbian with a Proclamation declaring May as Building Safety Month to create awareness to the importance of construction and building codes and spotlight the role of the code officials in administering those codes. Mr. Barbian thanked Council for the recognition. He advised Council that during the month building officials throughout the State visit schools to promote building safety as well summer safety. He also took the opportunity to encourage citizens to obtain building permits to ensure safety in all construction projects on their property.

Announcement – Armed Forces Day – Bill Schneider

Council Member Bill Aseere introduced Bill Schneider, a local military veteran. Mr. Schneider advised Council that Armed Forces Day is Saturday, May 17th. He stated it is a challenge to get people to recognize this special day set aside each year to honor all branches of our military personnel. Mr. Schneider announced the American Legion Moon Brothers 275 would be holding an appreciation event at the Independence Senior Center on Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. He stated there will be food and drink concessions available, live music and vintage military vehicles displayed. He encouraged everyone to stop by to meet and thank our military members for their patriotic service. Mr. Schneider thanked the City for assistance in publicizing Armed Forces Day on the City's marquee, website and Facebook page.

Mr. Schneider also mentioned that National Peace Officer's Day is Thursday, May 15th and on Memorial Day there will be a ceremony at the Memorial Oaks of South Kenton in front of Simon Kenton High School.

Announcement – Kenton County YMCA Outdoor Pool (Marshall Road) Reopening

Mr. Groth introduced Jason Roberts, representing the Kenton County YMCA who wished to address Council about the reopening of the Marshall Road location of the YMCA. Council Member Aseere commented that he recently met with Mr. Roberts and has joined the effort to get this pool reopened, which was closed in 2008.

Mr. Roberts stated he is a long-time resident of Independence and in his youth spent time at the local YMCA pool which included coaching a swim team. He spearheaded the effort to get the pool reopened. He stated the residential growth in Independence could support this reopening and would be a great place for family gatherings and family fitness. He stated his goal would be to see this become a vibrant family center for the community.

Mr. Roberts advised they need a minimum of 100 memberships to get the pool reopened by June 2nd. He stated memberships in year past reached 370. He stated the pool would be open daily from noon until 6 p.m. for the summer season. He stated there is a possibility to be open longer hours but that would be contingent on strong community support. Mr. Roberts advised the need for volunteer plumbing work to get the baby pool operational and encouraged anyone with plumbing skills to contact him.

Council Member Franzen stated she would pass the information along to the swim team coach at Simon Kenton High School. Council Member Reinersman commented that this could be a great opportunity for the local businesses to sponsor the pool reopening.

City Administrator Report – Dan Groth

Mr. Groth announced that the City’s current contract with Rumpke for curbside trash and recycling pickup will expire on June 30, 2014. He stated the current contract allows for a two year extension. He advised that he along with other City representatives recently met with Rumpke to discuss the two-year extension along with adding some services like twice a year curbside large item pickups. He stated that Rumpke was receptive to adding some services for a nominal increase in the monthly rate for the next two-year cycle. Mr. Groth advised that there will be a spring and fall large item pickup and no charge for the large recycling container. Currently the small red recycling bin is provided free of charge, but if a resident would request the large recycling container they would not have to pay the \$1.00/month fee. He sated the new monthly rate that would include the additional services, would be \$12.08 effective July 1, 2014.

Mayor’s Report – Donna G. Yeager

Executive Order No. 2014-EO-04 - Mayor Yeager presented Executive Order No. 2014-EO-04 appointing Rita King and Jenny Paul to the Board of Directors of the Independence Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

Attorney’s Report – Jed K. Deters

Mr. Deters advised he did not have anything to report and there was no need for an executive session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Council Member Little and seconded by Council Member Reinersman to adjourn. Motion carried with all ayes and the meeting ended at 7:27 p.m.

Donna G. Yeager, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia H. Taney, City Clerk