

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

May 23, 2019

6:30 P.M.

The Murray City Council met in regular session on Thursday, May 23, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Bob Rogers presiding.

Council Members Present: Jeremy Bell, Wesley Bolin, Linda Cherry, Rose Elder, Danny Hudspeth, Monty McCuiston, Dan Miller, John Mark Roberts, Pat Seiber, Terry Strieter, Burton Young

Council Members Absent: Alice Rouse

Staff Present: Dannetta Clayton, Marilynn Downey, City Attorney Warren Hopkins, Tom Kutcher, Jeff Liles, Bennett Moore, Cathy Morris, Jim Osborne, Eric Pologruto, Justin Smith, Zach Warren, Kim Wyatt.

Mayor Rogers called the meeting to order and welcomed Council members and guests.

After a longer moment of reflection to remember the reason we celebrate Memorial Day, our Veterans, and to remember Alice Rouse and her husband, John Mark Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The minutes of the Council meeting of May 9, 2019 were presented for approval. **Mr. Roberts moved for approval; seconded by Ms. Cherry. All members present voted Aye.**

Mayor's Report

Mayor Rogers recognized Mr. McCuiston and Ms. Seiber, co-chairs of the Downtown Revitalization Committee. Mr. McCuiston recognized the members of the Committee and thanked them for their service. He shared different items the committee had discussed. Ms. Seiber expressed her appreciation to the Committee and the members of the Community. She shared the following recommendations for City Council consideration; the City of Murray to remove all time restrictions and signs for public parking in the downtown/historic district, and the City of Murray amend 110.15 (B) to waive the \$35 license fee for the relocation of a business to the downtown/historic district. Ms. Seiber shared other items that the Committee is studying. Mayor Rogers stated the waiver of the license fee is being addressed in an ordinance change. He stated the parking recommendation would be turned over to a standing committee to study.

Mayor Rogers recognized Tom Kutcher. Mr. Kutcher gave an update on the progress of three capital projects: the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade, the Water Plant Clearwell project, and the East Clarks River Pump Station project.

Mayor Rogers recognized Health Insurance Committee Chair Dan Miller. Chair Miller reported the Committee had a meeting prior to the Council meeting with two items on the agenda: Broker Renewal and Wellness Funding. He stated the Committee unanimously voted to extend the broker contact of McConnell Insurance for one year, and to continue the wellness funding of \$15,500.00. **Dr. Miller moved for approval; seconded by Mr. Bell. All members present voted Aye.**

Mayor Rogers recognized Public Works Committee Chair Danny Hudspeth. Chair Hudspeth reported the Committee had a meeting prior to the Council meeting with one item on the agenda:

SCADA agreement. He stated the Committee unanimously voted to accept the SCADA agreement with Marcum Engineering in the amount of \$54,900.00 for the monitoring of the clearwell high pressure pumps. **Mr. Hudspeth moved for approval; seconded by Mr. Bell. All members present voted Aye.**

Ordinance Number 2019-1777 (first reading) an ordinance amending City of Murray Code of Ordinances, §110 General License Requirements, specifically §110.10(C) License Tax, and §110.15(B) Change of Location in order to include mobile food vendors and to improve, modify, clarify and revise provisions addressing the Historic Overlay District to better serve the community.

Mayor Rogers recognized Justin Smith. Mr. Smith stated the ordinance update is to add the fee for mobile food vendors, and to remove the \$35 fee for a business relocation in the downtown historic overlay district.

Ordinance Number 2019-1778 (first reading) an ordinance amending City of Murray Code of Ordinances Chapter 32, Departments, Boards, and Commissions, specifically §32.71(A); Cable Communication Commission, Membership, to clarify composition and to ensure compliance with other ordinances.

Mayor Rogers recognized Jim Osborne for points of clarification. Mr. Osborne stated the Cable Commission has recently changed their by-laws to have five members which requires the ordinance update.

Resolution 2019-007 a resolution relating to the City of Murray acknowledging support for the submission of a State 911 Services Board grant by Calloway County and further committing local funding support as part of the grant application.

Mayor Rogers recognized Jim Osborne for points of clarification. Mr. Osborne stated the Murray Police Department and the Calloway County Sheriff's office is working together on a grant for a new CADD system for dispatch. He stated if the grant is received it would be a significant cost saving for both agencies.

Mr. Roberts moved for approval; seconded by Dr. Miller. All members present voted Aye.

Resolution 2019-008 a resolution of the City of Murray, Kentucky authorizing the Mayor to make application for and, upon approval, to enter into an agreement with the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security (KOHS), to execute any documents which are deemed necessary by KOHS to facilitate and administer the project and to act as the authorized correspondent for this project. This resolution also establishes procurement policy for any KOHS approved project for the FY2019 application cycle.

Mayor Rogers recognized Jim Osborne for points of clarification. Mr. Osborne stated \$61,182.00 for forty-five portable radios has been budgeted. He stated if this grant is received there is a guarantee of a \$20,000.00 match, which would save \$41,182.00.

Dr. Miller moved for approval; seconded by Mr. McCuiston. All members present voted Aye.

Mayor Rogers stated attached to the draft budget is the Mayor's message summarizing the budget. He stated once the budget is passed the budget along with the Mayor's message will be placed on the City's website.

Ordinance Number 2019-1776 (second reading) an ordinance adopting the City of Murray, Kentucky Annual Budget for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, for the General Fund; Cemetery Fund; Alcohol Beverage Control; Municipal Aid Tax Fund; E-911 Fund; Court Award Fund; Local Government Economic Assistance Fund; Murray Natural Gas System; Murray Water and Sewer

System; Murray Storm Water System; Sanitation, Transfer Station, and Central Garage Division; by estimating revenues and appropriating funds for the operation of City government.

Mr. Hudspeth moved for approval; seconded by Dr. Miller.

Ms. Cherry asked to make a comment and that the comments be recorded as a matter of record. Ms. Cherry's statement is attached to the minutes.

Mayor Rogers called for a roll call.

Ayes: Mr. Bell, Mr. Bolin, Ms. Cherry, Ms. Elder, Mr. Hudspeth, Mr. McCuiston, Dr. Miller, Mr. Roberts, Ms. Seiber, Dr. Strieter, Dr. Young

Nays: None

Municipal Order Number 2019-034 to reappoint Michael Dobbs to the City of Murray Transit Authority for a four (4) year term. Said term will expire May 9, 2021. **Dr. Strieter moved for approval; seconded by Mr. Roberts. All members present voted Aye.**

Municipal Order Number 2019-035 to reappoint Tung Dinh to the City of Murray Transit Authority for a four (4) year term. Said term will expire November 13, 2022. **Mr. Hudspeth moved for approval; seconded by Ms. Cherry. All members present voted Aye.**

With no other business before the Council, **Mr. Bell moved to adjourn; seconded by Dr. Miller. All members present voted Aye.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Bob Rogers, Mayor

ATTEST

Dannetta Clayton, City Clerk

Statement by Linda Cherry at the May 23, 2019 Council Meeting

As an elected City Council representative, I would like to take this moment to preface my vote on the proposed city budget with a few facts regarding my concern about this Council giving Murray Main Street \$25,000.00, and I ask that my comments be recorded as a matter of record.

Some of the following facts have been published in the Ledger & Times, Kentucky League of Cities publications, minutes of City Council meetings, and Murray Main Street Publications.

Murray Main Street came to Murray in 1998, twenty years ago. Its purpose was to revitalize downtown Murray in the hope that people would come here to shop the downtown stores.

During this time, Murray Main Street has been given in the neighborhood of ½ million dollars which was approved by City Council members. This ½ million dollars is local tax payer dollars.

At one point, through a real estate purchase, Murray Main Street became the owner of two business properties on the square. One is rented by a successful restaurant owner, and the other one has been rented by a number of hopeful merchants who have come and gone over the years. At this time, it is currently vacant.

Murray Main Street has been here for twenty years and the downtown area is still plagued with businesses that have come and gone because the downtown area has not been revitalized as promised.

In a 2018 impact statement Murray Main Street publication detailed that since the year 2000 Murray Main Street has received \$29,551,161 public (which is Government) and private investment dollars, according to a KLC publication, the City must receive benefit from the appropriation of tax dollars given to Murray Main Street. The city must have control over either the organization itself or control on how the money is spent. The preferred way to obtain this control is enter into a written agreement with Murray Main Street addressing how the funds will be spent and how the City will benefit the public at large, rather than just a private entity. To my knowledge the City Council has done none of the above.

So I have to ask two questions:

If in twenty years with over 29 ½ million dollars Murray Main Street has not been able to make good on their promise of revitalization, how can this Council justify giving Murray Main Street another \$25,000 of local Murray tax dollars? And, who can tell the tax payers what is the return on the ½ million dollar investment in Murray Main Street after twenty years of investing public tax dollars?

With that being said, the Mayor, Department Heads, Finance Officer, City Administrator, and others have presented a sound budget with an eye toward perceived future needs and growth with one obvious exception, I support it completely and I will vote yes on this budget.