MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

September 28, 2023 6:30 P.M.

The Murray City Council met in regular session on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Mayor Bob Rogers presiding.

Council Members Present: Mr. Bell, Mr. Bohannon, Mr. Bolin, Ms. Cherry, Mr. Darnall, Dr. Higginson, Mr. Hudspeth, Mr. McCuiston, Ms. Ross, and Dr. Strieter.

Council Members Absent: Mr. Roberts and Ms. Rouse

Staff Present: Jim Osborne, Kim Wyatt, Rakov Aetherus, Jay Herndon, and Kim Miles.

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

After a moment of reflection, Dr. Strieter led the pledge.

The minutes of the Council meeting of September 14, 2023, were presented for approval.

Mr. Bohannon moved for approval of the minutes; seconded by Dr. Higginson. All members present voted Aye.

Mayor's Report Mayor Rogers announced Mike Sykes as the Park Interim Director. Mr. Yates accepted a position in Muhlenberg County. The Park Director position will be advertised and we are hopeful it will be filled by January of 2024.

Consider a request from Life House Care Center Mayor Rogers recognized Ms. Stephanie Kelly, Director of Life House Care Center here in Murray. Ms. Kelly stated this organization is here to help our community with at risk, unplanned pregnancies. Ms. Kelly stated her origination is here to love these women, help in the best possible way and not pass judgement on them. Ms. Kelly would like permission from the City of Murray to place a Safe Haven Baby Box in our community. The box has been donated; no cost would be expected from the City. This box must be placed in a location that has trained emergency personnel available twenty- four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. The idea place would be a Fire Department, Police Department, or EMS Station. The Safe Haven Law legally permits a mother in crisis to safely, securely, and anonymously to surrender her baby if she is unable to care for the child.

Mr. Bell made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Ross. All members present voted Aye.

Ordinance 2023-1855 (First reading) an ordinance amending city of Murray Code of Ordinances, Chapter 75: Occupational License Tax to include a new subsection, specifically 75.18: Rebate or Retention in accordance with the Kentucky Business Investment Incentive Program in order to consider allowing rebates or retention of the Occupational License Tax, up to one percent (1%) for a business entity approved for a Tax Incentive Agreement with the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority. (No Vote)

Mayor Rogers recognized Mr. Manning to explain how beneficial KBI Incentive is to our community. Mr. Manning stated this program gives small tax breaks on payroll taxes, for a small amount of time. This incentive attracts businesses to our community to create jobs for our community. Mr. Manning stated he hopes at the next Council meeting this ordinance passes because it is a small investment with a huge payoff.

Ordinance 2023-1848 (Second Reading) an ordinance amending City of Murray Code of Ordinances, Chapter 30 Council, specifically, §30.01, Form of Government; §30.02 Regular Council Meetings; and §30.03 Standing Committees, to modify the frequency, date and time of Council Meetings; and to establish new committees and member requirements.

Dr. Strieter made a motion to amend the ordinance and have a second reading on the amended ordinance; seconded by Ms. Ross. Mayor Rogers called for a Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Mr. Bell, Ms. Cherry, Dr. Higginson, Mr. Hudspeth, Mr. McCuiston, Ms. Ross, Ms. Rouse, and Dr. Strieter.

Nays: Mr. Bohannon and Mr. Darnall

Motion passes 8-2 vote.

Ms. Ross made a motion to approve amended ordinance; seconded by Mr. McCuiston. Mayor Rogers called for a Roll Call vote.

Ayes: Mr. Bell, Ms. Cherry, Dr. Higginson, Mr. Hudspeth, Mr. McCuiston, Ms. Ross, Ms. Rouse, and Dr. Strieter.

Nays: Mr. Bohannon and Mr. Darnall

Motion passes 8-2 vote.

Consent Agenda

a) Municipal Order 2023-036 reappointing Althia Caldwell to the Board of Zoning Adjustments for a four (4) year term. Said term to expire 10/27/2027.

b) Municipal Order 2023-037 reappointing Gayle Balentine to the Code Enforcement Board for a term of three (3) years. Said term to expire 10/23/2026.

c) Municipal Order 2023-038 reappointing Mike Basiak to the Code Enforcement Board for a term of three (3) years. Said term to expire 10/23/2026.

d) Municipal Order 2023-039 reappointing Dr. Kevin Spengler to the Human Rights Commission for a term of three (3) years. Said term to expire 10/24/2023.

Mr. Bell made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Ross. All members present voted Aye.

With no other business before the Council, Mr. Bell moved to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Ross. All members present voted Aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:12 P.M.

Bob Rogers, Mayor

Kim Miles, City Clerk