

Stanford City Council
Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 4th, 2019
6:30pm, Historic Stanford L&N Depot

I. Call to Order

Mayor Scottie Ernst called to order the Regular Meeting of the Stanford City Council at 6:30pm, Thursday, April 4th, 2019 at the Historic Stanford L&N Depot. All recited the pledge to the U.S. Flag, after which the opening prayer was led by Councilwoman Ella Mae Curlis.

II. Roll Call

A roll call was conducted with the following members present: Ella Mae Curlis, Ronnie Deatherage, Sara Givens, Peggy Hester, Naren James, and Dalton Miller. A quorum was declared by the Mayor.

Also present were: John Hackley, City Attorney; Greg Butler, Republic Services; Abigail Whitehouse, AMNews/IJ, Jane Vanhook, Bluegrass Greensource and Kentucky Pride; Jeff Knouse, Code Enforcement; Scott Maples, Fire Chief; Zach Middleton, Police Chief; Aaron Miracle, Street Department.

III. Approval of Minutes

-03/12/2019, Special Council Meeting. Motion was made by Councilwoman Curlis (2nd by Councilwoman Givens) to accept the minutes as written. All in favor, motion carried.

-03/19/2019, Special Council Meeting. Motion was made by Councilman Deatherage (2nd by Councilman Miller) to accept the minutes as written. All in favor, motion carried.

IV. Update on Republic Billing and Trash Pickup by Greg Butler

Mr. Butler apologized for the delay in billing and explained that the transition has been made from summary billing to traditional billing and the technical issues with set-up have been resolved. Billing for the first two quarters of 2019 (Jan to March and April to June) should be mailed by April 20th, 2019. The bill will total 6 months of service at \$13.95 per month for a total of \$83.70 with a due date of May, 10th, 2019. The next transition will be converting billing from landowners to tenants or vice versa. Customer service is up and running and they will be able to deal with all billing and service issues. Concern was expressed that not all customers will be able to afford an \$83.70 bill at one time. Mr. Butler stated that customer service will be willing to work with them if they will call in when they receive their bill. After the April 20th, 2019 billing, regular billing will be quarterly, covering 3 months at a time. The final bill to the City from Republic has not been determined yet and will be looked at once this transition is complete.

V. Citizen's Comments

- 1.) Jane Vanhook shared the April 2019 Spring Clean-up Proclamation signed by Mayor Ernst. Garbage bags, gloves and vests have been received from East Kentucky Pride and Bluegrass

GreenSource has earth day t-shirts and other items that will be available from their sponsors. Main Street Clean Sweep will be April 6th, 2019 at 9:00 am. It is not just for Main Street, the entire county can participate. Litter grabbers will also be available to assist with picking up garbage.

VI. Council Comments

Councilwoman Hester asked about the Award Ceremony concerning the 2019 Smoke Free Indoor Air Excellence Award that is being presented to the City. She asked who would be attending. Mayor Ernst will be attending the April 17th, 2019, luncheon to accept the award for the city.

Councilwoman Hester asked for detail on several items in the general ledger. Each was explained. The consulting fee to the Law Firm of Linda Ain was discussed. She is a franchise attorney expert who is helping us negotiate with Spectrum/Charter. Our current contract has expired but is still being honored. Her advice is to keep the contract we have, as long as we can, so that we do not lose the additional services that Spectrum is no longer offering under new contracts.

Councilman James asked how the regular meeting is cancelled and rescheduled. What is the procedure for alerting the general public? The meeting change was advertised on the radio, on Facebook and through the newspaper as well as being posted at City Hall and the L&N Historic Depot. He also asked for clarification on the time that an agenda item must be submitted to be added to the written form of the agenda. Items need to be submitted by Tuesday at noon before the Thursday Regular Scheduled Council Meeting.

Councilwoman Hester asked that the council address the issue of member attendance at regularly scheduled meetings. She shared the recommendation from the KLC is that missing more than 1/3 of meetings (4 months) in a twelve month period is considered neglect of duty and that the member should resign. City Attorney Hackley shared that our ethics ordinance does address neglect but does not specifically outline a set number of meetings that can be missed and be considered as neglect. The ethics ordinance can be amended to address this concern. Councilman James asked that we be cautious as to how we define neglect strictly in function of attendance. Councilman Miller made the point that this would apply to all city committees that are elected or appointed. Motion was made by Councilwoman Hester (2nd by Councilman Deatherage) to amend the ethics ordinance to state that if any elected or appointed member misses 1/3 (4 or more) regularly scheduled meetings in a twelve month period, that absence be defined as neglect and is cause for dismissal. All in favor, motion carried.

VII. Present Department Reports

Chief Middleton shared the changes in his staff in this last month. Chase Marcum was made a full-time patrolman. Chief Middleton has since had one officer resign and one officer who is out due to medical reasons. Kyle Hester has been brought on as a reserve officer to be used in place of overtime. The PD staff has been stretched thin and there has been substantial overtime. The budget was looked at and it has been determined that the best solution is to hire another full-time officer. TJ Godbey has been offered the job and should start the Monday following this meeting.

Officer Linda Cook will be retiring soon and then the officers will be moved to cover all positions including the School Resource Officer position. The changes bring the department to 14 scheduled officers with 10 being full-time. Durango grants have not been awarded across the state, so that will be moved to next year's budget. Firearms are being traded in from the current 45's to 9mm weapons. Those are now in and training has begun. Councilwoman Givens commended the department for all their hard work. Councilman Miller asked that Garlan Vanhook be contacted to look at the basement of the L&N Depot for the possibility of the police department being moved and that he submit a cost estimate to be used for comparison. Councilman James expressed his appreciation to the police department for their community involvement.

Chief Maples shared that the fire department has had a busy month. There had been a rash of fires, the suspect has been apprehended and he commended the fire investigator, Chase Marcum, for his work in accomplishing this. There have been more emergencies this month than they have had in the department history. Councilwoman Givens asked about the possibility of a controlled burn being done at 234 Martin Luther King. Chief Maples stated that he has looked at the house and does not believe that it will pass EPA and State regulations to be approved to burn. Councilman James asked if the Fire Chief can condemn property due to conditions that go beyond planning and zoning. Chief Maples stated that yes, this is the case, when they pose a fire hazard due to electrical or structural or other unsafe issues.

Mayor Ernst asked that Chief Maples share the current condition of the parking garage. Upon recent inspection, the right hand side walls are in a position of collapse. The walls in between the concrete piers are bulging. Currently Chief Maples is closing the right-hand side of the garage and it is his recommendation to close the parking garage. In his opinion, it would be a major expense in the range of \$50,000+ to repair the walls alone. There was discussion concerning declaring the parking garage surplus. There are stipulations as to the sale of the garage. The maintenance of the Police Memorial was also discussed. Mayor Ernst asked what the council's feelings were in selling the garage, understanding that due to the grant monies received, the parking garage cannot be torn down and must remain open to public use. Councilman Miller made a motion (2nd by Councilman James) that the City sell the parking garage. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement Officer Jeff Knouse shared that beginning in January he and our City Attorney, John Hackley have begun several title searches and liens are beginning to be forced. 105 Second Street has been cleared, and more properties are being scheduled. The more they are able to research and move forward, the more a true budget picture can be developed. He shared that the ultimate goal of cleaning up these properties is getting them to a position for resale so that they can return to the city tax roll.

Aaron Miracle, Street Department Director, thanked the council for the purchase of the new truck. It has helped considerably to expedite collection during Clean-up week and allowed them operate a lot more efficiently. Cleanup has gone much smoother with the dumpsters in place behind city hall.

Larry Nunemaker reported from Planning and Zoning that the plat for the Five Star that is coming to Stanford has been approved. Construction should begin soon.

VIII. 1st Reading of the City/County Hazardous Materials Ordinance #112

Motion was made by Councilman Miller (2nd by Councilman Deatherage) to accept the first reading of the City/County Hazardous Materials Ordinance #112. All in favor, motion carried.

IX. 1st Reading of the Ordinance Setting the Speed Limit on Cannonade and Old Fort Road

Chief Middleton shared with the council that this ordinance is a clarification of what the speed limit on streets around Stanford Elementary should be. This ordinance sets the speed limit on these roads at 15 MPH.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hester (2nd by Councilman James) to have the first reading of the Ordinance Setting the Speed Limit on Cannonade and Old Fort Road. All in favor, motion carried. The first reading of the ordinance was done by the city clerk.

X. 1st Reading of Ordinance Amending the Ordinance Creating New Provisions to the City of Stanford, Kentucky Code of Ordinances and Authorizing the Use of Golf Carts on Certain Designated City Streets

Motion was made by Councilman Miller (2nd by Councilwoman Curlis) to accept the first reading of the Ordinance Amending the Ordinance Creating New Provisions to the City of Stanford, Kentucky Code of Ordinances and Authorizing the Use of Golf Carts on Certain Designated City Streets. All in favor, motion carried.

XI. 1st Reading of the Bond Ordinance Authorizing City of Stanford Water System Revenue Bonds, Series 2019 (System Wide Rehab Project) in the Principal Amount of \$350,000

Motion was made by Councilwoman Curlis (2nd by Councilman James) to have the first reading of the Bond Ordinance Authorizing City of Stanford Water System Revenue Bonds, Series 2019 (System Wide Rehab Project) in the Principal Amount of \$350,000. All in favor, motion carried. The first reading was completed by City Attorney John Hackley.

XII. Declare Surplus Equipment (2 Street Department Vehicles)

Following the purchase of the Ford F550 for the street department, Mayor Ernst asked that the council adopt a resolution declaring the 1998 Mazda B250 Pickup and the 2000 Chevrolet 2WD 3500 C/C Flatbed as surplus property.

Motion by Councilwoman Hester (2nd by Councilman Deatherage) to accept Resolution 2019-0404, Resolution of the City of Stanford, Kentucky Determining Street Department Vehicles Surplus Property. All in favor, motion carried.

XIII. Open and Award Sealed Bids (Lift)

Mayor Ernst opened the three sealed bids received for the Geanie Model Z-45/22 Serial #Z-45-003669 Lift. The results were David Floyd, \$360.00; Harmon Paving \$2,769.00 and Berry


Restoration \$1,500.00. Motion was made by Councilman Miller (2nd by Councilwoman Curlis) to award the bid to Harmon Paving. All in favor, motion carried.


XIV. Delinquent Property Tax Mailing

Motion was made by Councilman Miller (2nd by Councilwoman Curlis) that notice be published in the Interior Journal that the delinquent tax list will be published the first week of May and the list printed in the paper the following week.

XV. Adjourn

With no other business or citizen's comments, motion was made by Councilwoman Givens (2nd by Councilwoman Curlis) to adjourn. With all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:28pm.

Minutes submitted by: Jone Allen , City Clerk

 _____ May 7, 2019
Scottie Ernst, Mayor Date:
City of Stanford, KY