

Stanford City Council
Regular Council Meeting
August 13th, 2020
6:30pm, Lincoln County Public Library

NOTE: This meeting was live streamed on the City of Stanford, Kentucky Official Facebook page.

I. Designation by Council of Person to Preside at Meetings per KRS 83A.130(10)

All councilmembers names were placed in a hat to choose the person who would preside at the meeting. KLC Municipal Law Attorney, Chris Johnson drew out Councilman Deatherage's name.

II. Call to Order, Welcome, Pledge and Prayer

Councilman Deatherage called to order the Regular Council Meeting of the Stanford City Council at 6:30pm, Thursday, August 13th, 2020. All recited the pledge to the U.S. Flag after which prayer was led by Tim Estes.

III. Roll Call

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

Also present were: John Hackley, City Attorney; Chris Johnson, KLC Municipal Law Attorney; Zach Middleton, Police Chief; Scott Maples, Fire Chief.

IV. Approval of Minutes

-07/09/2020, Regular Council Meeting. Motion was made by Councilman Miller (2nd by Councilman James) to accept the minutes as written. All in favor, motion carried.

-07/23/2020, Special Council Meeting. Motion was made by Councilwoman Curlis (2nd by Councilman James) to accept the minutes as written. All in favor, motion carried.

-07/30/2020, Special Council Meeting. Motion was made by Councilwoman Curlis (2nd by Councilman Miller) to accept the minutes as written. All in favor, motion carried.

V. Citizen's Comments

Herman Vickers, resident at 105 Sherwood Drive asked about the status of the creek and water runoff issue in his neighborhood. Chief Maples updated the council and homeowner. The state did come and look at the issue and determined that it is not going to be a state issue, but a city one. AGE Engineering is currently working up a plan for remediation and that will be submitted to the city once it is completed along with two other similar projects that the city is looking at on Eastwood Drive and Cannonade.

Chris Johnson, KLC Municipal Law Attorney stated that if this is a part of the Storm Water System for the city then it is the city's responsibility to repair. There will need to be some investigation as

to where the current easement is and where it will need to be extended out to in order to accommodate the repair.

Larry Nunemaker brought to council a request to contact the homeowner located at the end of Miller Street going in to Logan Avenue. He is requesting that the overhanging tree limbs that are making it difficult to see be cleared. It was determined that this property belonged to the Phillips Family and they would be contacted by Code Enforcement Officer Jeff Knouse.

VI. Council Comments

Motion was made by Councilman Miller (2nd by Councilman James) to name the new Police Department the Martin-Kidwell Law Enforcement Center in honor of two fallen police officers who made the ultimate sacrifice for our City. After council discussion it was determined that the motion would stand as long as approval was received from the Martin Heirs to accept the naming. Approval has already been received from the Kidwell family. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor, motion carried. (The following day an email was received by Joe Gilliland from the Martin family stating that they would be honored to have their grandfather's name associated with the City of Stanford. Copy is attached for reference.)

Councilwoman Hester Chief Middleton to share with the council once again the phone number for the KSP Detective covering the break-in at City Hall and also a report on her and another citizen's report of harassment by a fake Facebook account. Chief Middleton shared he has received no new updates from Detective Thornberry and will once again share his number with the council to contact with any questions. He also shared that he is currently working through Facebook's channels to subpoena information concerning the owner of the fake Facebook account and will report the findings when they are received.

At Councilwoman Hester's request a discussion was had by council concerning finding another platform to live stream the council meetings that did not allow public comment. Tim Estes shared that the Board of Education uses Youtube and then he is also able to stream that through the WPBK-FM site at the same time. Clerk Allen will ask Officer Ryan Kirkpatrick who serves as City IT support to research a solution before next month's council meeting that will not allow public comment.

Councilman Miller made a motion (2nd by Councilman James) that the new City Hall building be named for former Mayor Scottie Ernst, with the name being the Ernst Municipal Building. After some council discussion as to clear signage on the buildings denoting City Hall and Police Department, a roll call vote was taken with Councilmembers Curlis, Givens, Hester, James and Miller voting yes, and Councilman Deatherage voting no. Motion carried.

VII. Presentation by Tim Kitts, Stanford Housing Authority

Tim Kitts addressed the council on the updates and changes that have been accomplished since taking over the housing authority in September of 2018. Since then they have contracted out over

\$100,000 on floor repair, roofing repair and miscellaneous unit repairs. There have also been \$72,000 worth of repairs completed by the Danville Housing Authority Staff, \$20,000 in maintenance supplies, \$14,000 towards refrigerators and stoves, and almost another \$20,000 toward HVAC and plumbing repairs. They have contracted with a pest control service to do monthly pest control, to alleviate some issues, and a locksmith to have all locks replaced. Fifteen of the twenty-two payments towards the back PILOT owed have been made and they were able to pay the full 2019 PILOT.

In September of 2018 they had 13 vacancies, 6 of which were beyond living condition. In June of 2020 all 50 units were filled for the first time since 2013. They have also received some COVID related funding which is being used to install wifi and purchase laptops and ipads for the residents to complete school work and other activities.

Councilwoman Hester asked about the position of the Mayor on the Board of the Housing Authority. Mr. Kitts shared that the Mayor is automatically a board member based upon his position. She also asked about the attendance and participation of past mayors. Mr. Kitts and Boardmember Jerry Wilkinson shared that Mayor Ernst was very active on the board and supportive of the Housing Authority. Mr. Kitt's also shared that Mayor Ernst was a huge advocate for seeking ways to add to the available low-income housing in our city.

VIII. David Gambrel, Property Valuation Administrator

Mr. Gambrel began his presentation by first requesting that the City confirm that the street previously named Jay Street in honor of J.C. Dawson was still marked appropriately. He then presented information to the council concerning setting the real and personal property rates for the City of Stanford. He passed out a history of the rates in years passed and stressed the fact that passing up a 4% increase each year can never be recovered. He shared that the real estate market in the City of Stanford is healthy, that the business inventory since 2009 has nearly tripled and these are very positive signs for the City of Stanford. He explained to the council the difference between the compensating rate and the 4% increase. This difference was shown in the rate sheet shared with the council by the City Clerk. On a \$100,000 home, the proposed increase to the 4% rate would add \$2.00 to the 2020 Property Tax bill. He stated that property values would be reassessed next year based upon the new sale price of property sold within the city. He discussed the definition of personal property (which is actual business inventory) and the assessment of property tax to franchise inventories such as telephone companies, banks, and railroads which are billed separately by the City Clerk. There are currently 391 residents of the City of Stanford who qualify for the Homestead Exemption; there are 54 who qualify for the exemption due to total disability.

IX. Presentation and 1st Reading of the Ordinance Setting 2020 City of Stanford Tax Rates on Real and Personal Property T2020

A motion was made by Councilwoman Curlis (2nd by Councilman James) to have the first reading of the Ordinance Setting 2020 City of Stanford Tax Rates on Real and Personal Property T2020. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor, motion carried. City Attorney John Hackley made the first reading of the Ordinance.

X. Set Date and Time of Public Hearing to Inform the Public of Rate
Proposed date of 09/10/2020, 6:00-6:15pm was presented and accepted.

XI. Set Date and Time of Public Hearing to Hear Comments Concerning the Proposed 2020-2021 Street and Road Project Schedule for the City of Stanford
Proposed date of 09/10/2020, 6:15-6:30pm was presented and accepted.

XII. Discussion of Mayoral Vacancy and Possible Appointment

The floor was opened for anyone who wished to speak on the position of Interim Mayor. Joe Gilliland spoke to the council addressing the question of why he was not in attendance at the previous council meeting when he was being considered as a candidate for Interim Mayor. He also serves on the Planning and Zoning Committee and was attending a meeting at the beginning of last month's City Council Meeting. In response to the question of why he was interested in the position, he stated simply because he was asked and wanted to support his community. On the question of what he would do, he said that when he previously ran for Mayor he wanted to do all the things that Mayor Ernst did during his term. He would just seek to continue on with those. He had previously stated that he was no longer interested in the position, but would reconsider if he had the support of the council to move forward without causing more conflict or division.

Councilman Miller made a motion that Joe Gilliland be appointed Interim Mayor (2nd by Councilman James). A roll call vote was taken with Councilmembers Curlis, James and Miller voting yes, and Councilmembers Deatherage, Givens and Hester voting no. Motion failed.

Jerry Wilkinson then addressed the citizen's and council. He stated that he had been approached by some citizen's and council members concerning the position of Interim Mayor. He is retired from the railroad, is a pastor who has served in many different leadership positions as moderator, and has lived in Stanford since 1967. He stated that he loves this city and would be willing to do anything to help out during this interim period. Jerry also serves on the Board of the Stanford Housing Authority.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Curlis (2nd by Councilman Miller) to appoint Jerry Wilkinson as Interim Mayor of the City of Stanford. After some discussion the motion was withdrawn and other persons interested in the position were invited to speak.

Councilman Deatherage addressed the council concerning his vision for long term plans for the city and highlighting his previous experience with the school system and six (6) years on the council. He addressed his role in implementing the free lunch program for Lincoln County students, as well as his experience as transportation director, interim principal and his work with various budgets. He has been an administrator for the school system since 1993. He graduated in 1974 and has raised his family in Stanford.

The original motion by Councilwoman Curlis (2nd by Councilman Miller) to appoint Jerry Wilkinson as Interim Mayor of the City of Stanford was reintroduced to the floor. A roll call vote was taken with Councilmembers Curlis, Deatherage, James and Miller voting yes, and Councilmembers Givens and Hester voting no. Motion carried by a 4/2 vote.

XIII. Daffodil Day Contribution

Councilman Miller made a motion (2nd by Councilwoman Curlis) to contribute \$250 toward the purchase of bulbs by the Lincoln County Library for the Daffodil Day Project. All in favor, motion carried.

XIV. Swearing in of Interim Mayor


Following the vote, City Clerk Jone Allen swore in Jerry Wilkinson to the position of Interim Mayor of the City of Stanford, effective immediately.

New Interim Mayor Jerry Wilkinson expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve. He voiced his hope that each person would be available to assist him and that each department head would continue on with the job they are doing knowing that he will be available to assist them in any way they need. To the council he prayed that as we go forward we could do it in decency and order and love one another.

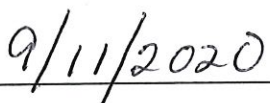
Before the adjournment, Councilman James wished to commend Councilman Deatherage for helping the council to move past their impass and for the leadership he showed.

XV. Adjourn

With no other business, motion was made by Councilwoman Givens (2nd by Councilwoman Hester) to adjourn. With all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:24pm.



Jerry G. Wilkinson, Mayor
City of Stanford, KY



Date:



Jone Allen, City Clerk

1:59

LTE 

< 438



Phillip Mattingly

1:14 PM

To: bk11@roadrunner.com >

Re: Thomas Dewey Martin

Dear Officer Gilliland,

What a kind and thoughtful offer from the Stanford Police Dept. and City officials. The family would be honored to have Grandfather's name associated with the City of Stanford.

With Dreadful Regards

Phillip Mattingly

FYI

Please correct our email address to pmattingly1@woh.rr.com Without the 1 these go to our son Patrick. Thank you!

