

ORIGINAL



**City of Falmouth
September 19, 2023**

City Council Regular Meeting

Minutes

City Council Convened at 7:00 p.m., Mayor Sebastian Ernst presiding and calling the meeting to order. Present were Councilmembers Darryl Ammerman, Joyce Carson, Sabrina Hazen, Amy Hurst, Bob Pettit, and Luke Price. Also in attendance were City Attorney Brandon Voelker and City Clerk Susan L. Bishop.

Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and observed a moment of invocation presented by Councilmember Amy Hurst.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting from August 15, 2023, and the special meeting and caucus from September 5, 2023, was made by Councilmember Darryl Ammerman, second by Councilmember Luke Price. All aye. Motion passed.

Visitors:

Tyson Hermes with Hermes Construction Company was present. He opened by giving Council a brief overview of his company. He then made his recommendation for the roof renovation on the Falmouth School Center. Mr. Hermes recommended Council accept the bid from American Home Tech of \$125,460.00 plus an additional \$20,000.00 for the removal and capping of the chimney and replacement of windows and flashings. He stated that weather conditions have been ideal to start now, and it should take approximately two weeks. Councilmember Luke Price stated that he believes this to be Council's best option, regardless of plans for the building in the future, we own it now and the roof needs to be fixed first.

Motion to accept bid totaling \$145,460.00 from American Home Tech was made by Councilmember Luke Price, second by Sabrina Hazen. Roll call vote: Councilmember Darryl Ammerman – yes, Councilmember Joyce Carson – no, Councilmember Sabrina Hazen – yes, Councilmember Amy Hurst – yes, Councilmember Bob Pettit – yes, Councilmember Luke Price – yes. Motion passed.

Mark Stephens was present to present his findings in the water rate study. He provided copies of his report to Council, informed them how he took his measurements, explained the report, and opened the floor to questions from Council. He also stated that 85% of the water produced by the City of Falmouth is sold to the water districts Pendleton County Water and East Pendleton Water. Bulk water rates haven't been raised in 20 years. Mr. Stephens recommended that a rate study should be done atleast every 2-4 years. City Attorney Brandon Voelker recommended a meeting with himself, Mayor Ernst, Mark Stephens,

Pendleton County Water and East Pendleton Water to explain the findings and intentions. The three entities would then need to inform the PSC.

Jacqueline Owens requested to speak at this Council meeting about permits for livestock but did not attend.

Ordinances/Resolutions/Municipal Orders:

The first reading of Ordinance 2023:4, Setting the 2023 Tax Rates, was read by City Attorney Brandon Voelker:

There is hereby levied on all real property subject to taxation within the City of Falmouth, an ad valorem tax of \$0.553 dollars for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of the value thereof assessed pursuant to the terms hereof; and there is hereby levied on all personal/tangible property, other than motor vehicles, subject to taxation within the City of Falmouth, an ad valorem tax of \$0.653 dollars for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of the value thereof assessed pursuant to the terms hereof; and there is hereby levied on all motor vehicles subject to taxation within the City of Falmouth, an ad valorem tax of \$0.204 dollars for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of the value thereof assessed pursuant to the terms thereof.

New Business:

Councilmember Bob Pettit added "Campers on Properties" to the agenda on behalf of Code Enforcement Officer Steve Groh. Mr. Groh requested some guidance through an ordinance regarding campers being on properties and people residing in them. Council agreed to draft specific wording to be added to an ordinance.

Old Business:

City Attorney Brandon Voelker informed Council he would have an ordinance ready by next meeting regarding requesting bids from Owen Electric, Bluegrass Energy, and Kentucky Utilities.

Announcements:

September 21 at 6:00 will be a Special Meeting for a second reading of tax ordinance 2023:4

September 22 will be the Fall Into Autumn Festival.

September 25 is the last Monday of the month, large trash pick-up.

October 3 will be the next caucus meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Darryl Ammerman, second by Councilmember Joyce Carson. All aye. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned.


Sebastian Ernst, Mayor


Attest: City Clerk