

ORIGINAL



FALMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes Regular Meeting June 20, 2024

After pledge and invocation, Mayor Price called the Meeting to order.

Amy Hurst	Present	Joyce Carson	Present
Sabrina Hazen	Present	Bob Pettit	Present
David Klaber	Present	Brian Reid	Present

Present: Attorney Sebastian Torres

After the pledge of allegiance and invocation, Mayor Price called the meeting to order.

GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Laurie Wolsing with NKY Community Head Start was present with co-workers to speak to the council on their project to build a new facility. She had drawings of what the proposed building would look like and stated they would be able to enroll up to 80 children. They had spent several weeks since they last attended a meeting looking for suitable building sites. There were none available and wished to pursue with the council the purchase of land next to the new construction of the dentist and pharmacy. Ms. Wolsing confirmed they had added additional infrastructure costs to their budget. They were asking for a vote of confidence from City Council and possible letter of intent of support in purchasing the needed land. Council instructed Attorney Torres to reach out to the NKY Head Start attorneys to draft a letter to include all items needed. It was asked the letter be ready by the next regular meeting on July 18th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for approval: May 2, 2024 Special & Caucus Mtg, May 16, 2024 Regular Mtg, and June 6, 2024 Special & Caucus Mtg.

MOTION: Amy Hurst made a motion, seconded by Joyce Carson to approve the minutes as submitted. All aye; motion carried. 6-0-0

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/MUNICIPAL ORDERS

Ordinance 2024:4 Attorney Torres gave a 1st reading of an ordinance for the FY 24-25 Budget.

It was then decided to hold a Special Meeting on June 25th for a second reading.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Price began discussion of the ball field located at the old school center. The lighting is very poor and most need to be replaced. Several members stated they felt the fields could be utilized and their were organizations asking to do so. The concession stands had been upgraded and bleachers needed to be repaired. Mayor said he would reach out to Epp Electric to get a quote to set new poles and get new lighting installed. Sabrina Hazen stated it would be nice to have someone in charge of reserving the fields and get rules/regulations together that could be posted on our website/facebook pages.

There is now a need to review the water and sewer tap ordinance in relation to raising those tap fees. Currently, the charge is \$650 each for a total of \$1300 for both. Most taps are for residential purposes, but it was felt with new commercial buildings going it, now was the time to consider increasing for such. A fee schedule of both water districts had been received and Council felt we needed to increase the fees accordingly. The discussion was to plan on a first reading to amend the tap fee ordinance at the Special Meeting on June 25th.

The Mayor then informed Council he had set aside \$20,000 in the new budget for the possibility of creating and awarding a Small Business Grant with part of the surplus in General Fund. He felt it was an opportunity to give back to those small businesses who stay and attempt to maintain operating a small business in the City Limits. He would like to form a committee that would establish the criteria for the grant, an application for said grant, and then scoring of applications based on criteria. He would like to have 2 (two) residents and 2 (two) Council members serve as well as potentially the City Clerk and himself. A notice would be put on the City website for those interested parties.

CLOSE SESSION PER KRS 61.810(1)(c) LITIGATION

MOTION: Dave Klaber made a motion, seconded by Bob Pettit to retire to closed session per KRS 61.810(1)(c) for litigation. Roll Call: Hurst, yes; Hazen, yes; Klaber, yes; Carson, yes; Pettit, yes; Reid, yes. All aye; motion carried. 6-0-0

ORIGINAL

MOTION: Dave Klaber made a motion, seconded by Brian Reid to return to open session. All aye, motion carried 6-0-0

MOTION: Sabrina Hazen made a motion, seconded by Brian Reid to authorize expenditure of funds to pursue litigation to enforce council's removal of Sebastian Ernst from Mayor's Office. Roll Call Vote: Hurst-aye; Hazen-aye; Klaber-aye; Carson-aye; Pettit-aye; and Reid-aye. Motion carried vote 6-0-0.

A contract with a fee schedule was presented for Council review and discussion on retaining Attorney Tom Collins to assist Code Enforcement with legal action regarding liens and title searches. Attorney Brandon Voelker agreed this was a wise move as he does not have the time to be in Falmouth for such work. He felt having someone local would be more production.

MOTION: Sabrina Hazen made a motion, seconded by Bob Pettit to approve the contract and fee schedule as submitted by Attorney Tom Collins for legal services. All aye, motion carried 5-0-0.

Kenny Gibson with the Pendleton County Search and Rescue was present to again request a donation to help offset the cost of insurance. He thanked Council for their past support, and asked they consider the request. No decision was to be made at this meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bob Pettit announced he had submitted, via email, his letter of resignation as Council Member of the City of Falmouth, effective at the close of this meeting. Due to the fire at his property, they will be moving out of the city limits of Falmouth and will not be able to serve out his term. He appreciated all the support that has been shown to him, but felt he had to do what was best for his family.

It was also announced that due to the 4th of July Holiday, there would NOT be a caucus meeting held that night. The next meeting would be a Special Called meeting on June 25th and then Council would not meet again until the regular meeting on July 18th, unless business arose that would necessitate a special meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dave Klaber made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Sabrina Hazen. All aye; Motion carried 6-0-0.



Luke Price



Attest: City Clerk