

May 1, 2017

The regular meeting of the New Castle City Commission was held on Monday, May 1, 2017 at 7:00pm at City Hall. Present were Mayor Benham, Commissioners Mitchell, Thompson, Gatewood and Kurtz. Also present was City Clerk Lynn Adams, Public Works Director Scot Treece, City Attorney Joe Yates, Melissa Blankenship of Landmark Newspapers, MSM/EDC Jeff Thoke, Magistrate Terri Cummings, Richard and Dani Jaehnigen and citizens Dale Mahoney and Danny Holcomb.

Mayor Benham called the meeting to order.

The minutes from the April meeting and the disbursements from April were reviewed. Commissioner Thompson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented and the disbursements as issued. Commissioner Kurtz seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Sheriff Cravens was unable to attend. He will submit his monthly report to the Clerk later in the week.

Richard advised that he has worked or is working on 6 mowing issues, 1 junk/debris problem, 1 parking issue in Castle Creek, some other vehicle issues and a few dog complaints that are now being addressed by the dog warden. He was advised that 20 New Street is not in compliance with the grass ordinance. He will address this issue as well. His written report was submitted.

Regarding the awning at A-1, Joe advised that it was removed on Good Friday by a group of volunteers. Roy Lyons brought his crew of 6 and completed approximately \$5,000 worth of work for free. Jeff Perry also provided a dump truck and hauled away at least three loads of debris. Now, the slow process of façade restoration begins.

Joe also advised that regarding the cable franchise with Charter Communications (Spectrum) it is his opinion that the franchise should be let out for bid.

Commissioner Mitchell made the motion to advertise for bid the cable franchise. Commissioner Gatewood seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

There was brief review of the 16/17 amended budget.

Commissioner Thompson made the motion to have first reading of Ordinance #17-02, FISCAL YEAR 2016/2017 AMENDED BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF NEW CASTLE, KENTUCKY. Commissioner Gatewood seconded the motion and it did carry unanimously.

Attorney Yates gave first reading of Ordinance #17-02.

There was brief review of the proposed 17/18 fiscal budget. Road Aid Funds proposed for use consist of \$19,900 of paving for Spring Street-south, Berry Street, C. Harrison Court and Carter Street (S. Main to Center). It is proposed to use up to \$5,000 of LGCAF for street signs.

Commissioner Kurtz made the motion to have first reading of Ordinance #17-03, FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NEW CASTLE, KENTUCKY. The Mayor seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

Attorney Yates gave first reading of Ordinance #17-03.

There was review of a resolution that establishes a city façade grant program.

Commissioner Thompson made the motion to adopt Resolution #17-01, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NEW CASTLE, KENTUCKY ADOPTING AND IMPLEMENTING A FAÇADE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE CITY'S NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT. Commissioner Kurtz seconded the motion which did carry unanimously.

Joe advised that private donations are also being sought for this program.

The Mayor made the motion to direct the City Clerk to file the 2016 delinquent property tax liens. Commissioner Gatewood seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Jeff Thoke reported that he and Harry had decided on lights/fans that are historically accurate to address lighting issues in the locker. They will be purchased from Lowes and be placed first in the "pit" area. Scot has talked with the electrician.

Two more benches have been installed, one by the bank and the other by the office formally occupied by the Chamber. There are two more to go, so far.

The Oddfellows historical marker has been approved by the State and the \$2500 has already been raised by the organization.

The Mayor requested that Jeff check into the issues regarding the hardware failure on the banners to see if anything different can be done.

Scot advised that "last years" paving will begin this month and that the 8<sup>th</sup> graders were out at the sewer plant last week for their annual field trip.

No one was present to submit a report for the fire department.

Commissioner Gatewood advised that she is attending a monthly meeting with a group of other representatives from Henry County (state and other local offices as well) regarding opiate addiction. They are discussing options to help the issue which needs to be focused on school age individuals. She will continue to keep the Commission advised.

Danny Holcomb stated that he agrees with the statement that the children should be the "target" of drug education. It was also noted by Melissa that Project Recovery is addressing these issues with the youth on Tuesday nights.

Danny also stated he is appreciative that the awning issue was pleasantly resolved. That he now agrees that the City cannot afford a full-time police officer but he thinks a night watchman should be hired.

The Mayor stated that he and Commissioner Thompson have met with Sheriff Cravens to revise/rework the contract to allow for different hours of patrol, etc. He will keep the Commission advised. He also reported on a lunch program that will be provided by Kentucky State University this summer. There will

be no financial requirements to be met to participate. The meal will be provided as well as a few activities.

Terry Cummings advised that she is securing information regarding the "Drug Free Clubs of America" program that was started in the Grant County School System recently.

Dale Mahoney stated that he is pleased with the Sheriff's Department's recent activity.

As there was no further business to be addressed, Commissioner Gatewood made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

We adjourned at 7:55pm.