

November 6, 2017

The regular meeting of the New Castle City Commission was held on Monday, November 6, 2017 at 7:00pm at New Castle City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis Benham and Commissioners Mitchell, Kurtz, Thompson and Gatewood. Also present was City Clerk Lynn Adams, Public Works Director Scot Treece, City Attorney Joe Yates, Assistant Fire Chief Lorry Hansen, Chris Brook of Landmark Newspapers, Magistrate Terri Cummings and citizens Dale Mahoney, Donna Samples, Rosie Dixon, Debbie & Tommy Pollard, Danny Holcomb, Leanne Yancey and Akacia Kurtz. Also present was Joe Durbin.

Mayor Benham called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Kurtz made the motion to accept all the minutes from the month of October and also approve all the disbursements. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

There were no deputies attending tonight's meeting.

The City Clerk advised that Spectrum has not replied since she sent them the physical addresses that had been requested. Mr. Ben U'Sellis is out of town until the 8th. Contact will be made and a report made at the December meeting.

A city sponsored "clean-up" day will be held on November the 16th. A dumpster will be located at the city parking lot on West Cross Main and will be open from 8am to 3pm. It will be monitored and proof of residency will be required. Prohibited items will be posted and appear in the local.

The grass has been mowed at 20 New Street, per Mayor Benham.

Regarding the rental dwelling ordinance, Joe and Scot will work on modifications and have a draft for the December meeting.

Commissioner Gatewood made the motion to have second reading of Ordinance # 17-07, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NEW CASTLE, KENTUCKY REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 87-01 (ENACTED MARCH 2, 1987) TITLED "CITY OF NEW CASTLE OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE FEE ORDINANCE". Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion which did carry unanimously.

Attorney Yates gave second reading of Ordinance #17-07.

Commissioner Mitchell made the motion to adopt Ordinance #17-07. Commissioner Kurtz seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

Richard Jaehnigen resigned his position as Code Enforcement Officer last month. Joe Durbin has agreed to take the position which is contract employment only. 5 hours per week at \$300.00 per month. There are no benefits.

Commissioner Thompson made the motion to contractually hire Joe Durbin as Code Enforcement Officer. Commissioner Gatewood seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Regarding the rehab project, two bids were received and opened on October 24, 2017.

\$538,715	Akins Excavating Co.
\$610,000	Hubert Excavating

Each bid was reviewed and HMB Engineers recommended that the City award the bid to Akins.

Commissioner Kurtz made the motion to award the project based on the \$538,715 bid, to Akins. The Mayor seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

Joe Durbin, past Director of the Help Center located in Eminence gave a brief history of the center which first opened on November 7, 2013. They now have satellite distribution locations around the county and have fed approximately 25% of the county residents. A donation of a walk-in freezer and refrigerator has been made but other improvements are needed and they are seeking donations. James Dills is the director now with Joe Durbin remaining the treasurer.

Scot wanted to know when the Commission wanted the Christmas decorations up. He was asked to put them up some time after Thanksgiving.

A pre-construction meeting will be held this month. It is unknown exactly when the project will start.

Lorry distributed the monthly financial report for the Fire Department and advised that the Christmas party will be held on the 9th of December beginning at 6pm.

Donna Samples addressed the Commission with concerns about conditions of select homes and yards in Castle Creek Subdivision, 4 wheelers being used at all hours on the farm adjacent to the subdivision and the condition of the old grocery as you enter town on highway 146.

Joe Durbin will look into the homes, yards and old grocery complaints.

Tommy Pollard had the same complaints along with a tree that has fallen on the Mason property and that he asked Scot to remove (which he did after he received permission from the land owner). The Pollard's like to mow there (it adjoins their yard) and they could not do so with the tree down. He also complained about a sewer smell. (no other complaints from the subdivision have been received) He also complained about some lumber that was being placed on the Mason property from a resident of Castle Creek and uncut/unkempt lawns.

Joe Durbin will look into all those issues which fall to his enforcement.

As there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Thompson made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Kurtz seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

We adjourned at 7:56pm