

City of Crescent Springs
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2009
7:00 P.M.

Those in attendance included the following:

Council Members:

Christie Arlinghaus- present
Mike Daugherty- present
Dale Ramsey- present
Scott Santangelo- present
Tom Vergamini- present
Matt Zeck- present

Jim Collett, Mayor was not present

Joe Baker, City Attorney - present
George Ripberger, Pub Serv Dir- present
Sue Hill, City Clerk - present

In Mr. Collett's absence, Mr. Vergamini called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Santangelo made a motion to adopt the minutes of the **April 13, 2009 Regular Council Meeting**. Ms. Arlinghaus seconded and upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SERVICES/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- Mr. Ripberger reported that **HB413** 2008-2009 revenues of \$16,000 were not issued to us by the Ky. Finance Cabinet because we missed a filing date of August 1, 2008. A form letter sent to all local governments in May 2008 concerning reimbursement for contracted Police was either not sent, not received, or overlooked due to the Police contract with Erlanger not being finalized at that time. Mr. Baker has been consulted and there is apparently no appeal process, however, it is the opinion of the Council that Mr. Baker and Mr. Ripberger should pursue this further. Everything is set up for us to receive funds for 2009-2010 Fiscal Year.
- The **Buttermilk Pike Bridge Expansion** work is on hold. Mr. Ripberger talked to Greg Kreutzjans, the KDOT Site Supervisor, about this. The steel was set according to plans engineered by KDOT and approved by the RR, but now is measuring 5 inches too close to the track. The RR has requested copies of all design plans from the beginning of the project, and will do a full-plan review. This could take 3 to 4 weeks to complete and will delay the project considerably.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Zeck reported that the Finance Committee met May 7th and developed the Budget **Revision** numbers on the handouts. Notable Revenue adjustments: 1) Real Estate tax revenue down, had budgeted for a 4% increase that we did not take. 2) PILOT payment down by ½. We will only get \$50,000 this FY with the rest next FY. 3) Payroll/Gross Receipts taxes are down perhaps because of being overly optimistic on last years expected increase. 4) A line item of \$51,250 was added to capture the credit of sales of equipment to the Erlanger Police

due to the merger. 5) Revenues were up \$24,283 because of FEMA reimbursement from Hurricane Ike expenses. Notable Administration Expense adjustments: 1) Increased expenses of \$17,650 for Small Area Study. 2) Increased \$5,000 Equipment and Maintenance costs due to IT conversion, back up improvements and web-site redesign costs. 3) Increased Health Care costs. 4) Savings of nearly \$20,000 in reduced payroll. 5) Lower Meetings, Travel and Dues costs. 6) Removed the budgeted \$65,000 transfer to Capital Improvements. Notable Public Works Expense adjustments: 1) Increased expenses of \$14,302 directly related to Hurricane repairs. 2) Increase in cost of Road Salt. 3) Increase of \$2,800 non-budgeted for traffic light radio transmitter for Clock Tower Way. 4) Savings of \$4,500 from Maintenance and Supply categories. 5) \$3,000 savings because anticipated Storm Drain Project did not happen. Mr. Zeck noted the potential 'noise' in the budget due to the significant changes that took place last year (police consolidating, Ms. Gant leaving, change in banking relationship) and reiterated that we are in sound financial shape. We are happily "break-even" in this uncertain economic climate. We will be working on 2009-2010 Proposed Budget for the next meeting, taking into account potential falling revenues due to the economic downturn.

FIRE AUTHORITY REPORT

Mr. Daugherty and Mr. Vergamini reported that the Fire Authority is bidding out its EMS **billing and collections** contract. Currently are with a West Virginia company that provides adequate service, but have been contacted by a company that may be able to provide better service (specifically, increased collections) at the same price. The EMS run last week is credited with a 'save' for reviving a cardiac arrest person. Great job team!

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Ms. Arlinghaus reported that the **newsletter** went out on Friday. Nexigen Communications has started the web re-design process and should have something in a month. Also note the Armed Forces Day Military Cup **5K Run/Walk** will be held this Saturday May 16th with an 8:30 start. Letters to Country Squire residents reminding them of the road closures went out last week. There will be a pot-luck at the Park at 5:30 in honor of the 24 or so Military & family members who will be here for the Run. The **Old Fashioned Picnic** for the Veterans Memorial Fundraiser will be held Sunday May 24th. Mr. Ripberger reported that he is lending his assistance in the process of filing the ABC license for the group as well as soliciting sponsors for the fireworks display (has \$2,200, needs \$3,500 or it will not happen). The Memorial Service will be held at 3:00. Any questions can be addresses to Lou Hartfiel or Janie Terrell, the chair persons of the event.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Collett was not present to make a report, Mr. Vergamini brought to Council's attention the May 21st Northern Ky. Municipal Government League meeting at 6pm at Independence, concerning Fire Authority topics, and requested that someone from the City attend.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Ripberger reported that he has met with several people to get quotes on replacing the front door of the City Building, and upgrading to a card reader of some sort. Another option is to keep the existing doors and sidelights, and replace key parts such as hinges and openers. A card reader could be added as well. He is also working on quotes for an electronic sign for the City Building. There are some potential grants available from Homeland Security (through the

ADD district) and Kentucky Emergency Management for signs to disseminate emergency information during times of disaster and to buy generators to keep them, and other City functions, running if there is a power outage. Installed prices for a suitable sign is in the \$27,000 to \$31,000 range.

POLICE REPORT

Captain Jansing requested approximately 15 minutes at the June 8th Council Meeting to present the findings of the Thomas More College survey recently conducted to determine “customer satisfaction” of the Police Unit. It was also noted that the emergency phone at the outside door of the City Building is now functional as a speaker phone directly to Erlanger Dispatch.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Baker read Municipal Order 2009-5 Accepting the Appointment of Robert F. Green to the Northern Ky Regional Ethics Authority Enforcement Committee. Mr. Zeck made a motion to approve the Municipal Order, Mr. Daugherty seconded, and upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.
- Mr. Baker gave the first reading of Ordinance 2009-1 Amending the Crescent Springs Zoning Ordinance to Permit Changeable Copy Signs in Certain Zones. These signs would be allowable only in certain commercial zones with restrictions on brightness, animation, copy change speed, and size. No flashing, scrolling or distracting signs would be allowed, and the ordinance does not allowing billboards of any type. The wording of the proposed ordinance is based on the text of the Model Sign Ordinance recommended by the Kenton County and Municipal Planning and Zoning Commission (KC&MP&ZC). A brief discussion followed.
- Mr. Santangelo inquired about the opening of the Japanese steakhouse in the old Bob Evans location. Mr. Ripberger responded that the final inspections are due tomorrow, and if all is well, they hope to open on Wednesday.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to adjourn the Meeting. Mr. Santangelo seconded and all agreed. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:02 pm.

ATTESTED BY:

Susan G. Hill

James Collett

City Clerk

Mayor

June 8, 2009

Approved: _____