

**APRIL 5, 2022
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MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VERSAILLES MUNICIPAL BUILDING/5:30 P.M.**

ROLL CALL: MAYOR BRIAN TRAUOGOTT PRESIDED OVER THE MEETING. ALSO PRESENT WERE COUNCIL MEMBERS MARY BRADLEY, LAURA DAKE, LISA JOHNSON, FRED SIEGELMAN, AND AARON SMITHER. CITY ATTORNEY BILL MOORE WAS ALSO PRESENT.

DEPT. HEADS: BART MILLER, MIKE MURRAY, ARIEL O'REEL AND T.A. RANKIN WERE PRESENT REPRESENTING THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public were present to voice their frustrations to the council about two houses in particular on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The houses mentioned were 114 and 108A Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Each person present stated that these homes are a discouragement to see on the street because of the accumulation of trash and rubbish that are present at each. The group is requesting that the city council do something about the homes. City attorney Moore explained the code enforcement process to the individuals present. He also stated how oftentimes things are not taken care of overnight because individuals always have the opportunity to appeal to the board once they are cited. Mr. Moore encouraged each of them to attend the next code enforcement board meeting that is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

One individual also mentioned that he was interested in the council looking into a flashing radar speed sign to be installed for Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. He claimed that the amount of vehicles that speed on the street is frequent and dangerous. Council member Bradley stated that she could sympathize with them in regards to the frequent speeding vehicles. Police Chief Murray stated that radar signs are a permanent fixture and they need to be placed in a strategic and safe place.

MOTION BY SIEGELMAN, SECONDED BY BRADLEY TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 15, 2022 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

The vote was as follows: Bradley, Dake, Johnson, Siegelman and Smither voting aye.

At the request of Council member Bradley, City Attorney Moore provided first reading of Ordinance 2022-6 Amending Section 51.32(J) of the City's Code of Ordinances to Clarify a Property Owner's Responsibility for Maintenances of the Sanitary Sewer System.

The council did not vote or discuss the Text Amendment to Amend the Text of Versailles-Midway-Woodford County Zoning Ordinance, Article VII – Micro-brewery/Class B Distiller Sections 714.2(C), 716.2(I), 717.2(P), 718.2(N), 719.2(A) and Article II – Definition 273A.

Mayor Traugott stated that he assumed since the council voted for the resolution regarding Micro-brewery/Class B Distillers then they could proceed with drafting an ordinance regarding the text amendment for first reading.

Mayor Traugott claimed that a representative with a group called Patriot Burials came down to City Hall recently and spoke with Assistant Public Works Director Dan Knight. He stated that the group would like to install a historic marker in Versailles Cemetery commemorating that there are at least six revolutionary war veterans buried there. Mayor Traugott stated that this would be done at the groups cost and not on the city.

MOTION BY SIEGELMAN, SECONDED BY SMITHER TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR THE HISTORIC MARKER FOR PATRIOT BURIALS AT VERSAILLES CEMETERY.

Council member Johnson asked if it would be one historic marker commemorating all six or six separate ones. Mayor Traugott stated that there was going to be one broad marker acknowledging all revolutionary veterans buried there without disclosing names.

The vote was as follows: Bradley, Dake, Johnson, Siegelman, and Smither voting aye.

Public Works Director Bart Miller discussed releasing a cemetery memorial fund that the city has had with Kentucky Trust Company in Danville. Mr. Miller stated that the city currently puts 20% of all

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grave sales to trusts with Kentucky Trust Company due to state statute. Mr. Miller claimed that there is currently \$97,305.64 and a small amount of interest that will be accrued currently in the memorial fund account. City Attorney Moore asked Mr. Miller if he was planning on using that money to buy the proposed equipment that is on the agenda item below. Mr. Miller responded yes.

MOTION BY SIEGELMAN, SECONDED BY DAKE TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE RELEASE AND DISTRIBUTION OF CEMETERY MEMORIAL FUNDS THAT ARE CURRENTLY AT KENTUCKY TRUST COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$97,305.64 AND ANY SMALL AMOUNT OF INTEREST THAT WILL ACCRUE.

Council member Johnson questioned if it was best to put the money where it currently is or elsewhere to bring the total up. Mayor Traugott noted that the rate of return far exceeds any other dollar the city has invested.

The vote was as follows: Bradley, Dake, Johnson, Siegelman, and Smither voting aye.

Mr. Miller also presented a quote from Boyd CAT which has a state price contract for a 305E2 CR mini hydraulic excavator in the amount of \$84,425.00. Mr. Miller stated that he would like to purchase this using the released cemetery memorial funds.

MOTION BY BRADLEY, SECONDED BY SIEGELMAN TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE QUOTE AS PRESENTED BY BOYD CAT FOR A 305E2 CR MINI HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR IN THE STATE PRICE CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$84,425.00.

Council member Dake asked Mr. Miller what he planned on doing with the current excavator or backhoe that the public works department owns and he stated that they would get use out of both pieces of equipment between water, sewer and the cemetery.

The vote was as follows: Bradley, Dake, Johnson, Siegelman, and Smither voting aye.

Mayor Miscellaneous

Mayor Traugott stated that the window replacement project at City Hall has begun and he is really excited about the project.

He noted that in the most recent update from Bluegrass Community Action's report, 20 households which included 45 residents were served. The total amount spent was \$8,691.25 in which electric was the majority and not rent. Council member Dake stated that it seemed more people were asking for help post COVID then during.

Mayor Traugott informed everyone that the Kickoff to Keeneland event that was originally scheduled for Saturday, April 9th, 2022 was now rescheduled to Saturday, April 16th, 2022 from 4PM to 8PM on Court Street due to upcoming inclement weather.

He noted that he had spoken with Sioux Finney and Rich Pictor regarding the Hometown Park and a grant application that they are working on. Mayor Traugott stated that they are wanting to build a park pavilion and bathroom in the future and they would like to request the city's support to pledge up to \$101,250.00 in fiscal year 2024 to go towards the first big project of many to come.

MOTION BY SIEGELMAN, SECONDED BY DAKE TO APPROVE TO SUPPORT THE HUNTERTOWN PARK GRANT AND TO SPEND UP TO \$101,250.00.

The vote was as follows: Bradley, Dake, Johnson, Siegelman, and Smither voting aye.

Mayor Traugott wanted to address everyone about the trees in the U-Haul parking lot being 'butchered' and how the city had nothing to do with that. Mayor Traugott noted that U-Haul indicated that it was not their intent to make the trees look that way and the landscaper was instructed to do differently but they messed up.

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Mayor Traugott addressed everyone by stating that he does not like to criticize other elected officials but he wanted to acknowledge the plea agreement in the murder of David Clark. He stated that the plea agreement that was reached with the commonwealth attorney amended the charge down to second degree manslaughter with a maximum of ten years. He stated that some public on social media thinks the case fell through the cracks due to the Versailles police department. Mayor Traugott stated that he has the upmost faith in our detectives and he wanted to thank them and the department for their work on the case. Police Chief Mike Murray stated that they were fully prepared to have gone to trial. Mayor Traugott claimed that the family of David Clark deserves better and he wanted to get that off of his chest because it reflects poorly on the community and it is an injustice.

Council Miscellaneous/ Committee Reports

Council member Siegelman stated that the windows that have been installed so far look great.

Council member Dake encouraged everyone to attend the Main Street Clean Sweep on Saturday, April 23rd, 2022 from 9:00AM to 12:00PM.

Council member Johnson noted that the Building Standards and Downtown Development Ad Hoc Committee has met eight times and they have two action items to bring to the next work session. One is a minor text amendment to the current article 11 landscape and buffer zone and an RFQ proposal for a transportation study on the corridors coming into the downtown area.

Department Directors

Public Works Director Bart Miller wanted to apologize to the public watching on Facebook live for the camera falling down and the meeting not being completely visible for the first part of the meeting.

Fire Chief T.A. Rankin requested to start the bid process for phase three of SCBA. Chief Rankin explained that they wanted to start the process now even though it is for the next fiscal year so they can lock in prices to help with the recent price increases.

MOTION BY BRADLEY, SECONDED BY SMITHER TO APPROVE SOLICITATING BIDS FOR THE SCBA PHASE THREE PROJECT TO BE PURCHASED IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

The vote was as follows: Bradley, Dake, Johnson, Siegelman and Smither voting aye.

Police Chief Mike Murray stated that he met with Council member Siegelman at Double D Farm where the owners have concerns as the Fourth of July nears and how fireworks have caused issues in the past to their horses. Chief Murray also met with different individuals who lived on Delaney and Scotts Ferry regarding the same issue. Chief Murray advised them that the fiscal court currently doesn't have an ordinance regarding fireworks and they abide by what the state says. Council member Siegelman stated that we should provide more patrolling particularly around areas that have horses during this time. Mayor Traugott stated that it is tough because people obviously need to be respectful but there is a bit of irony being overly restrictive on a holiday that celebrates freedom. Council member Smither noted that it is a challenging situation because the problem extends past animals but also individuals who suffer from PTSD and families with small kids.

MOTION BY DAKE SECONDED BY SIEGELMANTO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO KRS 61.810(1)(B) TO DELIBERATE ON THE FUTURE ACQUISITION OR SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND KRS 61.810(1)(C) TO DISCUSS PROPOSED OR PENDING LITIGATION AGAINST OR ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF VERSAILLES.

The vote was as follows: Bradley, Dake, Johnson, Siegelman and Smither voting aye.

MOTION BY BRADLEY, SECONDED BY JOHNSON TO RETURN TO THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION.

The vote was as follows: Bradley, Dake, Johnson, Siegelman and Smither voting aye.

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MOTION BY BRADLEY, SECONDED BY JOHNSON TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH U-HAUL FOR THE POTENTIAL PURCHASE OF THE OLD KROGER BUILDING.

The vote was as follows: Bradley, Dake, Johnson, Siegelman and Smither voting aye.

Mayor Traugott adjourned the meeting without objections.

APPROVED:

BRIAN TRAU GOTT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ELIZABETH C. REYNOLDS, CITY CLERK