

REGULAR MEETING
ERLANGER COUNCIL
February 5, 2008

Mayor Thomas L. Rouse called the regular meeting of the Erlanger City Council to order in the City of Erlanger Council Chambers at 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, February 5, 2008.

Members of Council and citizens pledged allegiance to the flag.

The following Members of Council were present: Jim Burger, Kevin Burke, John Dunhoft, Paul Hahn, Keith Henry, Bill Howard, Corine Pitts, Greg Sandel, Renee Skidmore and Patty Suedkamp. Council Member Vicki Kyle was absent.

Also present were: City Administrator Linda Carter, Police Chief Marc Fields, Fire/EMS Chief Tim Koenig, City Clerk Melissa Address, Chief Finance Officer Greg Engelman, Director of Public Works Rick Bogard, Information Systems and Telecommunications Becky Hopkins, Police Captain Bob Arens, City Engineer Jim Viox, and City Attorney Frank Wichmann.

MINUTES - M/S, Suedkamp-Pitts, that the minutes of the special meeting, held on, January 8, 2008, be approved as read. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Mayor Rouse introduced Ms. Sylvia Lovely Executive Director/CEO of the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC), and State Representative Adam Koenig.

Ms. Lovely talked about the importance of city government. She said that she works with 380 cities around the state. She said citizens need to:

- Become informed of what your city is all about.
- Learn and relearn to engage with each other.
- Look inside yourself to see what you can do to make a difference. Be a hero; believe you can make a difference.

Mayor Rouse reminded everyone that January was City Government Month in our schools. He asked Mr. Howard and Ms. Skidmore to preside over the awards for the coloring and essay contests. Mr. Howard explained that for the month of January, students in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade were taught about City Government, the services it provides to all residents in the City, and how they (residents) can make a difference. Over 400 students participated in the contests. Mr. Howard then called the names of the winning students:

Kindergarten Coloring Contest winners.

First Place: Molly Christiansen and Jill Tolle - Miles Elementary; Mackenzie Conrad and Abigail Blanchard - Linneman Elementary; Kelsey Schmid - Saint Henry Elementary; Caleb Gillum and Raven Boggs - Arnett Elementary.

Second Place: Grayson Winan and Ava Winstel - Miles Elementary; Leslie Amazendes and Evan Corsmeier - Lindeman Elementary; Jessica Gunner - Saint Henry Elementary; Bryanna Alread and Katelyn Smith - Arnett Elementary.

Third Place: Josh Underwood and Madilyn Dickens - Miles Elementary; Tristan Iles and Abby Isaacs - Lindeman Elementary; Allisa Ferguson

- Saint Henry Elementary; Jacob Davis and Kayleigh Osbourne - Arnett Elementary.

First Grade Winners:

First Place: Peyton Bowen, and Isabella Schatzman - St. Henry Elementary; Ethan Bedel - Arnett Elementary; Jared Sears, Evan Molitor, and Dyllan Steffens - Miles Elementary

Second Place: Sydner Painter and Kameron Kraus - St. Henry Elementary; Dalton Childs - Arnett Elementary; Aiden Rauf, Mackenzie Ray, and Emily Halpin - Miles Elementary.

Third Place: Regan Beach and Scott Robinson - St. Henry Elementary; Noah Gabbard - Arnett Elementary; Adrianna Cruz, Elijah Decker, and Morgan Mitchell - Miles Elementary.

Second Grade Winners:

First Place: Lindsey Heisel and Jasmine Taylor - Lindeman Elementary; Ehmet Thornton-Ayres - Miles Elementary; Olivia Staverman and Kate Minzer - Saint Henry Elementary;

Ms. Skidmore explained the third, fourth, and fifth grades had to write an essay on the topic: "I can make a difference in my community by..." There were two winners for each grade.

The Top Two Third Grade essays were written by Noah Ryan and Lucas Kriege from Saint Henry Elementary.

The Top Two Fourth Grade essays were written by Sydney Fitzpatrick and Emily Walter from Saint Henry Elementary.

The Top Two Fifth Grade essays were written by Evan Frankman from Arnett Elementary and Hannah Blackburn from Saint Henry Elementary.

The Sixth Grade Class Winners were Mrs. Asha Coltrane and her students from Tichenor. This class will be recognized at the March meeting of City Council.

The Seventh Grade Class Winners were: Mr. Barry Mauntel and his students from Saint Henry. Their assignment was to write a city ordinance. The class chose the topic "Indoor Smoking Ban in Public Places" A group of six students from this class shadowed the five committees that make up City Council. The six students are: Griffin Gardner, Lenny Ivey, Logan Krey, Justin McKnight, Ross Pritchett and Zach Schunder.

Our Ninth Grade Student Winner was Jacob Fessler from Saint Henry High School. Jacobs's project was on the individual level. He wrote a city ordinance about camera-monitored intersections. He shadowed the Mayor at the council meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Rouse stated February means we begin in earnest to develop the 2008/2009 budget.

The Mayor said Paul Hahn will be retiring at the end of the year from Council after 38 years of service to this city. Council and the audience gave Mr. Hahn a standing ovation of gratitude.

Mayor Rouse reported that some of our programs are receiving attention. In January, this Council unanimously passed a Municipal Order permitting the administration to charge fees to negligent drivers for a small portion of the true cost of the residents of Erlanger in sending emergency personnel to vehicular accidents.

Mayor Rouse stated this issue has caused quite a stir from some neighboring cities, and the news media. This new program is bold, new, different, and out of the box thinking. Mayor Rouse read some of the emails he received from residents of neighboring cities and city officials. Mayor Rouse stated that he has yet to receive a complaint from Erlanger citizens or businesses.

Mayor Rouse then went on to thank Council and staff for the hard work last weekend establishing spending priorities. He thanked one of our corporate partners, Shinwa USA Corporation for the \$1,500 donation to our fire department, and he thanked everyone that filed to be a candidate for public office, including council. "Your efforts will make a better America."

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Public Safety - Police - Mr. Dunhoft read a letter of resignation from Officer Gerald Giles beginning February 9, 2008. He has accepted a position with the Oldham County Police Department.

Mr. Sandel reported Sergeant Troy Vines has been invited to attend the 233rd Session of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy, March 30, 2008 thru June 6th, 2008.

Public Safety - Fire/EMS - Ms. Pitts reported Fire/EMS Emergency Activity for the month of January 2008.

- Advance Life Support (ALS) runs - 137
- Basic Life Support runs - 57
- Fire/EMS Cancels - 81
- Fire Incidents - 88
- Total Responses - 363

Ms. Suedkamp read the Advance Life Support (ALS) report for January 2008:

- Erlanger 50
- Elsmere 22
- Point Pleasant 7
- Crescent Springs 24
- Edgewood 13

There were twenty-one (21) Building Permits issued for January 2008 totaling \$3,350.00 in collected fees.

Public Works - Mr. Hahn reported progress on the Terrace Holding Proposal.

Mr. Hahn reported the Public Works Department has contracted with Lonkard Construction on two storm sewer-line replacements. The first project will be off McAlpin Avenue; work will start as soon as weather allows. The second site is on Ridgewood Drive. Work on this project will commence after the McAlpin sewer-line replacement is completed.

The department continues to check each area of town on a routine basis and patch potholes as they are reported. We ask citizens to call the City Building to report potholes. Once reported, the Public Works Department will address as promptly as possible.

Mr. Hahn reported the Public Works Department have had twenty-four (24) call-outs for service, and have used 524 tons of salt at \$45.70 per ton.

Administration - Mr. Burger reported that delinquent tax bills were sent out last Friday. Those still owing taxes can pay them in person at the City municipal Building or by mailing their check to the City offices at 505 Commonwealth Avenue, Erlanger, KY 41018. Please make sure to include the Property Identification Number (PIDN) on the check.

Mr. Burger reported the revenue from the execution of passport applications by the Administration Department has exceeded our expectations. From January 1, 2007 thru December 31, 2007, the Administration department has earned \$43,159.70. Before applying for a passport, it is wise to visit travel.state.gov to view the latest updates.

Mr. Burger reminded everyone of the Valentine Party for families and children on February 10, 2008.

Finance - Mr. Henry reported the Finance committee meeting to review the budget will be changed from February 19, 2008 to February 26, 2008.

Mr. Henry said that the December 31, 2007 financial statement will be presented to Council for review at the February 26th meeting.

Connect Erlanger - Ms. Skidmore reported the CGI streaming video and the City Platform are progressing nicely.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Renaissance - Ms. Suedkamp reported the Renaissance Committee is asking for your assistance in providing input this Wednesday, February 6, 2008 between 2:00 and 7:00 P.M. The students from the University of Cincinnati's School of Design, Art, Architecture, and Planning will be conducting a community visioning session for us at that time.

Human Resources - No report.

Revenue Generation - Mr. Henry reported progress.

M/S, Burke-Skidmore, that the reports of the standing and special committees be adopted as presented. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Kentucky League of Cities - Mayor Rouse reminded Council that if they are planning on attending the Kentucky League of Cities City Night in Frankfort, to please contact Missy Andress.

Northern Kentucky Area Development District - Mayor Rouse reported he had been elected Vice President of this organization.

REPORTS OF CITY OPERATIONS

City Engineer - No report.

City Attorney - No report.

City Administrator - Ms. Carter stated she has been discussing possession of firearms in parks with Colonel Marc Fields.

Ms. Carter also reminded everyone about the Legislative Caucus that is being held here at the City Municipal Center, March 1, 2007 from 10:00 A.M. until noon. The purpose of the caucus meeting is to provide a forum for constituents to offer input on issues during 2008 Legislative Session of the General Assembly.

M/S, Dunhoft-Sandel, that the reports of the City Operations be adopted as presented. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE - No correspondence.

CITIZENS/PUBLIC COMMENTS - Bob Martin from the United Methodist Church made a request for a text amendment change to the zoning law to include churches in Neighborhood/Commercial Zones.

Mayor Rouse asked that this be assigned to the Administration Committee.

BIDS - No Bids.

WORK IN PROGRESS - No work in progress.

BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE CITY - Ms. Suedkamp announced an invitation to an open house being held in the new office complex next door by Illusions Hair Salon on February 24, 2008.

LEGISLATION - No legislation

ADJOURNMENT - M/S, Sandel-Dunhoft, to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 P.M. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

APPROVED:

Thomas L. Rouse
Mayor

Respectfully Submitted:

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Minutes 01/8/08
Erlanger Council

Sandra Schweikert
Administrative Assistant

ATTEST:

Melissa Andress
City Clerk