

REGULAR MEETING
ERLANGER COUNCIL
March 4, 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, March 4, 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, Bill Howard, Vicki Kyle, Corine Pitts, Greg Sandel, Renee Skidmore, and Patty Suedkamp. Council Member Keith Henry 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, and City Attorney Frank Wichmann.

MINUTES - M/S, Pitts-Burger, that the minutes of the regular meeting, held on, February 5, 2008, be approved as read. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Mayor Rouse introduced Council Member Renee Skidmore. Ms. Skidmore stated tonight is the completion of City Government Month 2008. We are very excited to have over 400 participants in our various projects. We would like to thank the schools and teachers for supporting us in this endeavor.

Our State Representative Adam Koenig has issued certificates of appreciation at the state level. These were issued to all of the students who received a ribbon for their coloring entry and to each student who received recognition for their essay. All of those students have received their certificates except Mrs. Coltrane's class and the essay writers. The essay writers were:

Third Grade Class - Noah Ryan and Lucas Kreige from Saint Henry;

Fourth Grade Class - Sydney Fitzpatrick and Emily Walter from Saint Henry

Fifth Grade Class - Hannah Blackburn from Saint Henry; and Evan Frankman from Arnett Elementary

Mrs. Coltrane and her class were in the audience. Their class project was to compose a city ordinance. As the winners of this project a class certificate was presented to Mrs. Coltrane. The students received a pizza party, and each class member received their own individual certificate and U.S. Flag Etiquette book. Those receiving awards were: Ree Bradley, Rikki Branch, Jordan Gross, Kristin Hemingway, Briana Himes, Kylie House, Jeremy Kammer, Ravyn Kerr, Maya Lane, Eduardo Leon, Ann Lillie, Aisha Payne, Phil Richardson, Michael Spenlau, Monica Villagomez, Joey Von Bokern, and Raela Whatley. Mayor Rouse congratulated everyone; Council and audience applauded.

Mayor Rouse stated the City of Erlanger believes that strong families form the backbone of strong communities. Therefore, the City of Erlanger joins cities and towns across America in a nationwide initiative to promote family and youth friendly communities. Mayor Rouse read a proclamation declaring March 2008 as

Erlanger City Platform Month. Mayor Rouse presented the proclamation to City Administrator Linda Carter.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Rouse reported last Saturday, Erlanger played host to the Northern Kentucky legislative caucus. Many leaders and citizens from this region were present to share their thoughts and concerns on issues facing our state legislature. Mayor Rouse thanked everyone that participated.

Mayor Rouse thanked our public works employees for the outstanding job they did with snow and ice emergencies. He also thanked the Police, Fire/EMS/ALS employees, and volunteers for a job well done during the last snowstorm.

Mayor Rouse said the City receives requests from time to time for contributions to worthy causes. He said he felt the need to re-state the position this city government has maintained for years - The City of Erlanger will not use tax money to donate to charities or other worthy causes. Charitable contributions are an important part of our society, but we have always believed that those decisions are for individuals to make - not City government.

We have received the new model sign regulations from the Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission (NKAPC.) Mayor Rouse thanked Dennis Gordon and his staff for the hard work and patience involved in this process.

Mayor Rouse reported that at the February Kenton County Mayor's group session, the group resolved to oppose the use of tolls to finance the replacement of the Brent Spence Bridge.

Mayor Rouse said he continues to be given many thanks by leaders of our neighboring communities for jobs well done, for promises delivered, for outstanding customer service, and prompt and efficient responsiveness.

Mayor Rouse stated the City has many projects under way - the dispatch merger, the possibility of police service expansion, the budget process, and much more. We welcome your comments and thoughts.

He then wished Council Member Renee Skidmore a "Happy Birthday."

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Public Safety - Police - Mr. Dunhoft reported all six Sergeants participated in the written Lieutenants exam on March 3, 2008 to fill the opening left by Lt. Todd Rice's retirement. Oral interviews will take place on March 19, 2008. A Sergeant should be promoted by the end of March. An eligibility list will be put in place and will remain valid for one year to cover any Lieutenant opening that may occur.

Mr. Dunhoft said the Police Department announced the implementation of a Law Enforcement Explorer Post. This program is designed to acquaint young people with the nature and complexity of Law Enforcement. Mr. Dunhoft said it would bring the explorer into direct contact with the "Police Officer" on a one-to-one basis through its meetings, projects, social functions, and ride-along program. This program is for young people ages 14 to 21. Explorers must have good moral character, and maintain at least a "C" average

in their school studies. The Police Department will be providing an open house meeting on March 6, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. Applications should be picked up at the Police Department.

Mr. Sandel reported the Erlanger Police Department received a request from the City of Edgewood to explore the possibility of collaborating with them to place a School Resource Officer at Dixie High School.

Mayor Rouse placed this request in committee for review along with the request to review park ordinances on March 18, 2008.

Mr. Sandel announced the Erlanger Police Department is hosting its Tenth Citizen's Police Academy beginning May 12, 2008. Classes will include topics such as traffic stops, use of force, firearms, and investigations. There will also be demonstrations by the Erlanger K-9 officer, as well as the SWAT team. Apply at the Erlanger Police Department or online.

Public Safety - Fire/EMS - Ms. Pitts reported the passing of Bob Tholmeyer. Bob has been a loyal volunteer member of The Erlanger Fire Department for the last 38 years. He will be missed.

Ms. Pitts reported Fire/EMS Emergency Activity for the month of February 2008.

• Advance Life Support (ALS) runs -	157
• Basic Life Support runs -	83
• Fire/EMS Cancels -	58
• Fire Incidents -	116
• Total Responses -	414

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

• Erlanger -	55
• Elsmere -	28
• Point Pleasant -	12
• Crescent Springs -	31
• Edgewood -	13
• Other -	10
Total -	144

Ms. Suedkamp reported there were 4 Building Permits issued for February 2008 totaling \$397.00 in collected fees; 53 inspections were made by Building Zoning Administrator Mark Stewart.

Public Works - Mr. Burke reported the McAlpin Avenue Storm Sewer Repair Project has started and work will continue as weather permits with full restoration planned for the spring.

Mr. Burke stated the Public Works department continues to check each area of town on a routine basis and patch potholes as they are found. They have patched 65 locations during the last month. Mr. Burke said the Public Works Department asks citizens to call the City building if they observe potholes or areas that need attention on city maintained streets. Once reported, they will address as promptly as possible.

Mr. Hahn reported that to date, the Public Works Department has used 982.5 tons of salt to make our streets safe this winter. They have done a remarkable job.

Administration - Mr. Burger reported the Administration Department has collected \$59,858 in delinquent property taxes for the month of February 2008.

Mr. Burger stated the Administration Department has placed advertisements in all Northern Kentucky Community Recorders for the Assistant City Clerk's position.

Ms. Kyle stated the Committee has recommended approving the request for a text amendment change to the zoning law to include churches in Neighborhood/Commercial Zones.

Dates to remember:

March 14 Last day to turn in Scholarship Applications

March 16 Easter Event at the Erlanger Branch of the
Kenton County Library

April 5 Ice skating at the Northern Kentucky Ice Center
from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. Admission free to the
first 75; includes skates.

Finance - No report.

Connect Erlanger - Ms. Skidmore stated the Erlanger Platform Committee will meet on March 19, 2008. The next edition of the Whistlestop newsletter will be out the end of March.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Human Resources - No report.

Revenue Generation - Mr. Cahill reported the committee is meeting March 18th to review rental properties and studying cost recovery.

Public Safety - Police - Mr. Dunhoft said the Committee will meet with the Public Works Committee on March 18th to review park ordinances.

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

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Renaissance - Ms. Suedkamp reported the University of Cincinnati Design Project final report and presentation is Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at 6:00 P.M.

Kenton County Mayors' Group - Mayor Rouse said the Mayors' Group had discussed the issue of charging a toll on vehicles using the Brent Spence Bridge. The toll revenue would help to pay for a new bridge to replace the Brent Spence Bridge. The Mayors' Group did not think this idea was very practical. Mayor Rouse asked that a resolution be drawn up reflecting Council's view on this issue.

M/S, Suedkamp-Kyle, to have Mr. Wichmann draw up a resolution against toll revenue to finance the replacement of the Brent Spence Bridge. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.

Northern Kentucky Municipal Government League - Ms. Carter said the next meeting for the Northern Kentucky Municipal Government League is on March 20th at Crestview Hills City Building.

REPORTS OF CITY OPERATIONS

City Engineer - No report.

City Attorney - No report.

City Administrator - Ms. Carter asked everyone to call the state legislature message line to urge the state representatives and senators to pass HR 600, which deals with the County Employee Retirement System (CERS).

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

CORRESPONDENCE - Captain Tim Thames received a note from Sergeant John Lonaker of the Independence Kentucky police Department expressing his gratitude to Sergeant Tony Wilson, Sergeant Mike Leming, and Officer Todd Mitchell for their help in apprehending a suspect who attempted to steal a vehicle in their city.

The City received a note of thanks from Council Member Vicki Kyle for the beautiful plant, cards, prayers, and visits during a recent illness.

CITIZENS/PUBLIC COMMENTS - No citizens wished to speak at this time.

BIDS - No Bids.

WORK IN PROGRESS - There was no work in progress to discuss at this time.

BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE CITY - There was no business for the good and welfare of the City at this time.

LEGISLATION - Mr. Wichmann read an ordinance repealing ordinances 2053, 2169, and all other ordinances approving policies of the Erlanger Police Department. This was the first reading.

Mr. Wichmann read Resolution 03-04-08-01 supporting the passage of House Bill 600 of the Kentucky Legislature that will provide much needed fiscal relief to local governments that participate in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS).

M/S, Dunhoft-Kyle, to support House Bill 600 of the Kentucky Legislature that will provide much needed fiscal relief to local governments that participate in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS).

ADJOURNMENT - M/S, Dunhoft-Kyle, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

APPROVED:

Thomas L. Rouse
Mayor

Respectfully Submitted:

Sandra Schweikert
Administrative Assistant

ATTEST:

Melissa Andress
City Clerk