

REGULAR MEETING
ERLANGER COUNCIL
May 6, 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, May 8, 2008.

Members of Council and citizens pledged allegiance to the flag.

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

Also present were: City Administrator Linda Carter, Police Chief Marc Fields, Fire/EMS Chief Tim Koenig, City Clerk Melissa Andress, Chief Finance Officer Greg Engelman, IT Director Becky Hopkins, Director of Public Works Rick Bogard, Fire/EMS Assistant Chief Terry Allen, Building/Zoning Administrator Mark Stewart, and City Attorney Frank Wichmann.

MINUTES - M/S, Suedkamp-Henry, that the minutes of the regular meeting, held on, April 1, 2008, be approved as read. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Mayor Rouse stated that May 11-17 is Police Week; a time to observe and commemorate law enforcement officers past and present and that Wednesday May 15 is Peace officers' Memorial Day; a day to honor law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice to their community. He then read a proclamation proclaiming these dates in the City of Erlanger. Mayor Rouse presented the proclamation to Police Chief Marc Fields.

Mayor Rouse introduced Council Member Patty Suedkamp to present the first service award of the evening to Mark Jolly. Police Chief Marc Fields was asked to join them. Chief Fields said that during the twenty years Officer Jolly has worked for Erlanger, he has held several positions: Patrolman, Detective, School Resource Officer, Dare, and most recently, Codes Enforcement. Officer Jolly is eligible for retirement, but Chief Fields expressed that he hopes he stays a while longer.

Mayor Rouse asked Council Member Patty Suedkamp to present the last service award of the evening to Jan Cassidy. City Clerk Melissa Andress was asked to join them. Melissa Andress congratulated Jan on her ten years of service to the City of Erlanger. Ms. Cassidy began her career with Erlanger as a receptionist in Administration and now works as the Administrative Assistant in Payroll. Because of this position, it enables Ms. Cassidy to work with all departments. Everyone enjoys working with her. Ms. Cassidy is the first one to work in the morning and usually the last one to leave at the end of the day.

Mayor Rouse congratulated Officer Jolly and Ms. Cassidy and thanked them for their service to the community.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Rouse opened by expressing the City's sympathy to the families of the two Colerain Township firefighters who lost their lives while serving their community. He also offered the City's sincere thanks to all who serve their communities in emergency service.

Mayor Rouse announced that the 2008-2009 budget was presented to Council with the help of CFO Greg Engleman. He hopes to have it on-line for our residents and upon request from the city staff. The budget was prepared with the assistance of the entire city leadership.

Mayor Rouse attended, along with Chief Fields, Ms. Carter, and Mr. Engleman, a public hearing conducted by the Mayor and Council of Crescent Springs to discuss the proposal that Crescent Springs obtain its police services by contracting with the City of Erlanger. This proposal looks like it will be adopted and Crescent Springs will disband its police department. This will benefit both cities by improving Erlanger's manpower shortage and enabling Erlanger to implement plans otherwise put aside due to budget constraints.

Mayor Rouse reported that the City hosted the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ICS-300 training. President Bush ordered local government leaders to obtain this training as a condition of receiving federal government disaster relief in the wake of September 11 and Hurricane Katrina. Over 37 people attended, including many from our own departments. The presenters were Lt. Todd Schulkers and former Erlanger Fire Chief, Bill Martin.

Mayor Rouse attended, along with Ms. Carter, the Kenton County Mayors' group meeting. He gave an update on the dispatch merger to Judge Drees and the assembled multitude.

Mayor Rouse announced that Council received a presentation from CarMax on their intention to locate a facility on the Berling/Zalla property just this side of Showcase Cinemas.

Mayor Rouse expressed his sadness regarding the closing of Showcase Cinemas. The Cinemas served Erlanger well over the years and we thank its parent for the participation in our city's business community and all the movies we got to see.

Mayor Rouse attended the announcement of 170 new jobs being created by Toyota Boshoku, one of our newest corporate citizens. We value Toyota Boshoku's presence in our city.

Mayor Rouse was unable to attend the open house for the new communications center due to the KBA strategic planning conference he attended in Frankfort.

Mayor Rouse participated in the interviews for the Assistant City Clerk position.

Mayor Rouse spoke to the senior class at Lloyd Memorial High School about law day, the Rule of Law in this Country and their duties as young members of our community. He congratulated the Erlanger Elsmere Board of Education, Superintendent Mike Sander and all involved for their beautiful and functional new building.

Mayor Rouse thanked his compatriots at Wallace Boggs Rouse for allowing him to be away from the law office to attend to these civic duties.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Public Safety - Police - Mr. Dunhoft read a letter received by Chief Marc Fields from Michael Bischoff, Chief of Police retired and Executive Director of the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police. This letter advised that the Erlanger Police Department has fulfilled all the Accreditation Standards as established by the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police and will be nominated for a third five year Accreditation certification. Congratulations were offered to Chief Fields, Accreditation Manager, Sgt. Michael Bianchi, and all members of the Erlanger Police Department.

Mr. Sandel announced that on May 16th, Peace Officers' Memorial Day, a memorial will be held at the Northern Kentucky Police Officers' Memorial in Covington, Kentucky at 10:30 a.m.

Public Safety - Fire/EMS - Ms. Pitts called Fire/EMS Chief Tim Koenig to the floor. Chief Koenig stated that Channel 9 promoted a "Firefighter Appreciation Day" in memory of the two Colerain Township Firefighters that died in the line of duty. The Erlanger Fire/EMS Department received many cards, letters, e-mails, cookies, pizzas, and lunches from citizens expressing their appreciation.

Chief Koenig reported Fire/EMS Emergency Activity for the month of April 2008.

- Advance Life Support (ALS) runs - 143
- Basic Life Support runs - 53
- Fire/EMS Cancels - 58
- Fire Incidents - 93
- Total Responses April- 347
- Total Responses Year to Date- 1548

Chief Koenig read the Advance Life Support (ALS) report for April 2008:

- Erlanger - 52
- Elsmere - 26
- Point Pleasant - 6
- Crescent Springs - 17
- Edgewood - 22
- Ft. Mitchell - 1
- Ft. Wright- 1
- Kenton- 2
- Total Completed ALS - 127

Chief Koenig announced the Fire/EMS Department's most recent accomplishment. Thursday, May 8, 2008 the department's final group of officers and senior firefighters will complete the Fire Officer Development Course (FODC). It is an eighteen week course. The Erlanger Fire/EMS Department and the Hebron Fire District are the only two departments to have every officer complete this program.

Chief Koenig stated that the Technical Rescue team (TRT) went to Southern Campbell County for a successful water tower rescue. The Technical Rescue Team consists of the following departments/associations: Erlanger Fire/EMS, Point Pleasant Fire District, Covington Fire Department, Alexandria Fire Department, Hebron Fire District, Walton Fire District, Union Fire Department, Sanitation District No. 1, and the Northern Kentucky Horse Network. The Erlanger Fire/EMS Department just received notification on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 that the Technical Rescue Team was awarded a

grant in the amount of \$376,000.00 to be used towards training and equipment.

Chief Koenig announced that the Building Department had their ISO inspection in December 2007. In February 2008 they received their rating from ISO. The Building Department's Residential rating was 3 (up from a 4 in 1997). Only 2 out of 81 departments ISO rated in Kentucky received a rating of 3 and there are no other departments rated higher. The overall score went up from 69 to 80. The Building Department's Commercial rating remained a four (the same as in 1997). The overall score went up from 69 to 74.

Chief Koenig read a letter written to his attention from Mac McArthur, Executive Director for Transitions, Inc. The letter discussed the success of their 2nd Annual Duke Energy Heroes Game that raised funds for Transitions. Chief Koenig added that the fire fighters team beat the police team for the second year in a row. A personal note written by Mr. McArthur congratulated the firefighters on another victory.

Chief Koenig asked Council Member Patty Suedkamp and Lieutenant Todd Schulkers to come to the podium. Chief Koenig introduced Lt. Schulkers by giving a brief review of his career with Erlanger. In 1988, Lt. Schulkers was hired as the first paid full-time Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) on the Erlanger Rescue Squad. In 1992, the Erlanger Rescue Squad and the Erlanger Fire Department merged to form the Erlanger Fire/EMS Department. At this time, Lt. Schulkers became a career FF/EMT. Over the years he has served in several officer positions within the volunteer organization. In 2002 he was promoted to Shift Lieutenant and in 2004 he became Administrative Lieutenant. Chief Koenig commented that Lt. Schulkers' dedication to the city and the fire department is unsurpassed and that he is recognized across the region and the state as an outstanding fire service instructor. Chief Koenig further commented that Lt. Schulkers was the driving force during the ISO inspection. At this time Chief Koenig announced that Lieutenant Todd Schulkers was being promoted to Captain. Ms. Suedkamp received the honor of replacing Captain Schulkers' Lieutenant's badge with his new Captain's badge. Captain Schulkers took this time to thank everyone and stated that he has the best job in the world. Council Member Vicki Kyle added that the St. Henry District High School is indebted to Captain Schulkers for his performance as the "Grim Reaper" each year.

Public Works - Mr. Hahn reported that there was some movement with the Terrace Holdings proposal. The Director of Economic Development, David Hahn, contacted Viox and Viox to design a plan that would enhance the appearance of the Globe Insurance Building area. More information will be provided prior to the June 2008 Council meeting.

Kevin Burke reported that the grounds are being maintained on city property and in the parks. Three mowing rotations have been completed to date, remaining landscaping projects are being prioritized, and the first rotation of right of way bush hogging will be completed by the end of May.

The storm sewer project has been completed off of Ridgewood Drive and Spring Valley Drive. Two storm sewer issues are being investigated off of Delphi Drive for needed repairs.

The sidewalk project is nearing completion in the Hallam Avenue area.

Concrete repairs have been completed in house on Commerce Drive, Riggs Avenue, and Spring Valley Drive.

Blacktop repairs have been completed on Misty Creek Drive and Pond Hill.

Miscellaneous curbs have been patched throughout town.

The new John Deere tractor/mower has been purchased and received as part of the new park project.

Council Member Patty Suedkamp commented that the sidewalks along Hallam Avenue look phenomenal. She has a concern about a fence down at Rainbow Park. It is a temporary situation due to the sidewalk installation and will be replaced upon completion.

City Administrator Linda Carter announced that our graffiti artist is back and asked all citizens to keep an eye out for any mischief.

Mayor Rouse asked that everyone please report any crime noticed.

Administration - Mr. Burger congratulated Sherry Hoffman, a sixteen year employee with the City of Erlanger, on her recent promotion to the position Administrative Assistant II with the intent to have her fill the position of Assistant City Clerk after she has been able to receive some certified training.

Ms. Kyle discussed more on CarMax. She recommended a committee meeting scheduled for May 20, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Kyle would like to see more feedback. That same evening map amendment and Villa Springs expansion will also be discussed.

Dates to remember:

May 24 Florence Freedom Baseball game. No tickets are left.

June 2 New this summer, tennis clinics begin at Silverlake Park. Applications can be picked up at the City Building or accessed on-line.

June 10 Erlanger's Summer Park Program begins. Schedules are available at the City Building. This program runs six weeks.

Ms. Kyle reported an update on property taxes for the month of April. Total amount collected in April was \$8,815.40. A total of \$61,988.04 is still due. 641 passports have been processed to date.

Ms. Skidmore and Ms. Carter are reviewing the zoning for the Showcase Cinemas.

Finance - Mr. Henry said the committee is scheduled to meet on May 20, 2008 to discuss the financial statements for April 2008.

Connect Erlanger - Ms. Skidmore reported that the C.G.I. promotional video project is close to being finished.

Ms. Skidmore announced that the next meeting of the City Platform Committee Will be May 7, 2008 at 10:30 A.M. at the City Municipal Building. She reported progress.

Ms. Skidmore presented the May 2008 Wednesday schedule for the Kenton County Parks and Recreation Department, since Erlanger does not schedule events on Wednesdays.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Human Resources - No report.

Revenue Generation - Mr. Cahill requested a draft ordinance of the inspection and licensing of rental properties. He recommended doing a test area.

M/S, Burger-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 first week of the Dixie Farmers Market began April 24, 2008 and will run through October 30, 2008 from 2:00 to 6:00 P.M. at the Erlanger Baptist Church east-side parking lot. Currently there are ten vendors signed up. Items that can be purchased at this time are spring related, such as flowers. More will become available as crops are harvested.

KLC - Mr. Howard reminded Council that if they were interested in attending the KLC convention this fall, that they need to get with Sandra Schweikert to register. This year the convention will be held in Louisville, Kentucky.

Kenton County Mayors' Group - Mayor Rouse stated that the next Mayors' Group Meeting will be held at the City of Erlanger on Saturday, May 17, 2008.

REPORTS OF CITY OPERATIONS

City Engineer - No report.

City Attorney - Mr. Wichmann made a motion for the Inter-local Dispatch Agreement to be approved. It had been recognized in the past, but not formerly.

City Administrator - Ms. Carter reported that CERS is requesting Legislators to have a special session. It is recommended that something happen this year in order to get new employees in the new system.

Ms. Carter announced that Erlanger will be attending the Chamber of Commerce Job Fair. The City will be recruiting in certain areas, such as Public Works. The Job Fair will be cheaper than advertising.

M/S, Kyle-Burke, that the reports of the City Operations are adopted as presented. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE - Police Chief Marc Fields received a thank-you note from the Stone family on Sunset Avenue. They appreciated the Police Department's dedication and they are sleeping better knowing we have such a great Police Department; in particular Captain Thames, Lt. Gilpin, Detective Aylor, and Officer Fern.

Police Chief Marc Fields received a letter from Don Wiles, thanking Officers Pat Collura and Dan Fern for their help when his wallet was stolen. They discovered the thief's identity, the money was recovered, and Officer Fern personally returned the money to Mr. Wiles. Mr. Wiles enclosed a check in the amount of \$50.00 to use toward our officers. Chief Fields replied to Mr. Wiles by thanking him for the kind words and donation and explained to him why he had to return the donation. Chief Fields said if Mr. Wiles wished to, he could donate the check to the Erlanger/Elsmere Fraternal Order of Police lodge to be used for their family Christmas party.

Police Chief Marc Fields received a letter of appreciation from Colonel Paul Toth, Chief of Police in the City of North College Hill, Ohio. Chief Toth expressed his most sincere appreciation to Lt. Kevin Gilpin and the entire Police Department for taking the time to assist in apprehending two individuals who were responsible for injuring one of the North College Hill Police Officers.

CITIZENS/PUBLIC COMMENTS - Mr. Elza Harrell from Hillwood Court expressed his concern regarding children playing baseball in his cul-de-sac and painting baseball diamonds on the street. He asked for a sign to be placed in the cul-de-sac in fourteen days that read no ball playing is allowed. Mr. Harrell also expressed his concern over the noise level in his neighborhood. He wants the noise ordinance to state that loud noise should not be allowed after 8:00 p.m. Mr. Burke stated that the City will check it out.

Ms. Sharon Norberg from Fir Tree Lane thanked Erlanger for their help in a recent incident with her husband. Ms. Norberg's husband has Alzheimers and went for a walk one night by himself. Mr. Norberg did not return and Ms. Norberg could not locate him. The Erlanger Police Department and the Technical Rescue Team searched for Mr. Norberg. He was located in Ft. Mitchell unharmed and safe.

WORK IN PROGRESS - Mayor Rouse commented that he has spoken and met with Mr. Harrell in the past regarding the neighborhood kids. The Mayor stated that he tried to handle in house.

Mr. Sandel stated that Mr. Harrell should contact the Police Department, that it doesn't need to go anywhere else and the Police Department can handle the disorderly conduct.

Mr. Dunhoft commented that Mr. Harrell needs to contact the Police Department for the loud noises.

Mr. Cahill reported that Lakemont Park is progressing nicely. He also asked citizens to keep an eye out for any mischief since the security system isn't connected yet.

Ms. Suedkamp reported that the VIPS patrol all the parks in the city. Their volunteers receive a lot of training and continue to do so. The VIPS patrol is also looking for graffiti throughout the city.

Ms. Suedkamp also complimented the Police Department on their new state of the art dispatch center

BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE CITY - No report.

LEGISLATION - Mr. Wichmann read Resolution No. 05-06-08-01 by the Erlanger City Council related to the Safetea-Lu Federal reimbursement agreement for the Dixie Highway Pedestrian Facilities and Scenic Beautification Project.

Mayor Rouse asked for a vote of approval. All ayes, no nays.

Mr. Wichmann read Resolution No. 05-06-08-2 by the City Council of Erlanger, Kentucky requesting Governor Steven Beshear to call a special session of the General Assembly to reform the CERS Pension System.

Mayor Rouse asked for a vote of approval. All ayes, no nays.

Mr. Wichmann read Resolution No. 05-06-08-03 adopting and approving the execution of a Municipal Aid Coop Program Contract between the Incorporated Area and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Transportation Cabinet, Department of Governmental Relations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, as provided in the Kentucky Revised Statutes and accepting all streets referred to therein as being streets which are a part of the Incorporated Area.

Mr. Wichmann read Municipal Order No. 05-06-08-01 of the City Council of the City of Erlanger, in Kenton County, Kentucky, approving the Inter-Local Agreement.

M/S, Howard-Hahn, that Municipal Order No. 05-06-08-01 be accepted as read. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Mr. Wichmann read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2300 of the City of Erlanger, in Kenton County, Kentucky, amending Erlanger Ordinance No. 2285 and the budget adopted thereby for the City of Erlanger for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008.

Mr. Wichmann read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2301 of the City of Erlanger, in Kenton County, Kentucky, adopting a budget for the City of Erlanger for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2008, and providing that no monies shall be expended by or on behalf of the City of Erlanger except in accordance with that adopted budget.

Mr. Wichmann read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2302 of the City of Erlanger, in Kenton County, Kentucky, establishing regulations for the use of public parks in the city; and providing penalties for the violation thereof.

Mr. Wichmann read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2303 of the City of Erlanger, in Kenton County, Kentucky, establishing regulations; in regard to the possession and discharge of air or gas guns in the city; and providing penalties for the violation thereof.

Mr. Wichmann read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2304 of the City of Erlanger, in Kenton County, Kentucky, closing a portion of Pacific Avenue to public use, except for easements and franchises therein for utilities.

Mr. Wichmann read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2305 of the City of Erlanger, in Kenton County, Kentucky, amending section 2.0 of Erlanger Ordinance 2255 to increase the monthly surcharge levied and imposed in that section for 911 emergency telephone services from \$2.76 to \$4.25 per month.

Mr. Wichmann read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2306 of the City of Erlanger, Kenton County, Kentucky providing for a credit of its Occupational License fee for new employees as part of an economic development project Toyota Boshoku America, Inc. under the Kentucky Jobs Development Act (KRS 154.24.010-.160, KRS 141.120, KRS 141.350 and KRS 141.407).

Mr. Wichmann read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2307 of the City of Erlanger, in Kenton County, Kentucky, amending the Erlanger Zoning Ordinance to change the zoning map thereof to re-classify therein from NC(RB) to R-1F an approximate 3.1 acre area that is located along the southeast side of Home Street, between Commonwealth Ave. and Bartlett Ave. and being all of the property owned by the Erlanger United Methodist Church and the Erlanger Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Mr. Wichmann read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2308 of the City of Erlanger, in Kenton County, Kentucky, amending the Erlanger Zoning Ordinance to change the zoning map thereof to re-classify thereon from IP-1 to REC an approximate 2 acre area that is located approximately 400 feet west of Kenton Lands Road, approximately 300 feet southeast of Hulbert Ave., immediately east of the Silverlake Recreation Center.

ADJOURNMENT - M/S, Dunhoft-Kyle, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 P.M.
All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

APPROVED:

Thomas L. Rouse
Mayor

Respectfully Submitted:

Sherry Hoffman
Administrative Assistant

ATTEST:

Melissa Andress
City Clerk