

SPECIAL MEETING
ERLANGER COUNCIL
August 7, 2007

Mayor Thomas L. Rouse called the special meeting of the Erlanger City Council to order in the City of Erlanger Council Chambers at 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, July 10, 2007.

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 Bill Scheyer, Police Chief Marc Fields, Fire/EMS Chief Tim Koenig, City Clerk Linda Carter, Chief Finance Officer Greg Engelman, Economic Development Director Dave Hahn, Information Technology Administrator Becky Hopkins, City Engineer Jim Viox, and City Attorney Frank Wichmann

MINUTES - M/S, Dunhoft-Kyle, that the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 10, 2007, be approved as read. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT - "The Month of August is the season of preparations" Mayor Rouse stated. The Public Works Department is preparing to paint crosswalks, and pick-up leaves. They are working on resurfacing projects and preparing for winter road treatment.

The Mayor reported the Administration Department along with representatives from Police, Fire/EMS, Codes, and the City Attorney's office held a code enforcement meeting to discuss the desires of many citizens who have asked the City to enforce our codes more vigorously. Mayor Rouse announced the results of meeting and this administrations intention.

1. Speed up the process, without infringing on the legitimate rights of the property owners.
2. Start using the criminal sections of our law to enforce our codes, where appropriate. Offenders will have to pay the civil fines, explain themselves to a Kenton District Judge and face additional penalties under the penal code.
3. The City will be collecting the fines already assessed against properties in this city, even to the extent of filing foreclosure suits to have the lands sold to collect what we are owed.

Our Code Enforcement officer has been assured the full support of the Administration and Council in performing these duties.

Mayor Rouse said he was pleased to announce that our Chief Administrative Officer, Bill Scheyer, has been named City Administrator of the Year by the Northern Kentucky Area Development District. The Mayor congratulated Bill.

Mayor Rouse stated the 2007 Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) Conference is being held in Covington, Kentucky in October. He said it is important for elected officials to participate in the KLC conventions. He urged Council Members to participate. Please contact Linda Carter or Sandra Schweikert if you intend to go.

Mayor Rouse reported City Clerk Linda Carter has been working hard in the process of setting our tax rates for the next year. He thanked her for her effort.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Public Safety - Police - Mr. Dunhoft read a letter regarding a report from Lieutenant Colonel Shelby Lawson Jr., State Control Terminal Officer, and Law Information Network of Kentucky. In this letter, Lieutenant Colonel Lawson reported the LINK staff, that does simulation, training and evaluation, has completed the 2007 LINK Audit of the Erlanger Police Department. The 2007 LINK Audit Data Quality Review resulted in a 0.00 percent Serious Error Rate. The compliance review portion of the 2007 LINK Audit determined the Erlanger Police Department is in compliance with all LINK and National Crime Information Center (NCIC) guidelines.

Mr. Sandel reminded everyone that tonight is National Night Out in Erlanger. It is being held from 6:00 to 9:00 P.M. at Silverlake Park.

Police Chief Marc Fields reported that, the Police Department has started to make preparations for the needed changes. He said the department will be creating a new position whose assignment will to be in charge of the dispatchers. We have also been working on the job description and duties.

Public Safety - Fire/EMS - Ms. Pitts read the July 2007/Activity Fire/EMS Emergency Activity report:

<u>Department</u>	<u>July 2007</u>	<u>Year-to-date</u>
Fire Only	48	442
Fire & EMS	73	328
ALS Only	135	961
BLS Only	79	495
EMS Cancels	77	545
Total Responses for month	412	2,771
Average Responses per day	13.3	13.1

Public Works - Mr. Burke reported the Public Works Department has repaired catch basins on Erlanger Road and on Mistywood. They have completed patching on Crestline and Sunset Avenue. The play surface has been replaced at Mistycreek Park and new borders have been installed. Mr. Burke said the waterline that supplies the restrooms at Silverlake Park has been replaced and the restoration work is underway.

Mr. Hahn reported that Dave Hahn met with representatives from Terrace Holdings. Negotiations are ongoing as they relate to the acquisition of the Globe Insurance building and the park improvements. He said representative from Terrace Holdings would like to attend the August 21, 2007 Committee meeting to discuss different approaches.

Administration - Ms. Kyle asked if Council could meet for a Special Council meeting at 7:00 P.M. after the Committee meeting on August 21, 2007 to have the first reading of the 2007 tax rate; then at the September 4, 2007 meeting we will have the second

reading. Mayor Rouse set the first reading of the 2007 tax rate at the Special Council meeting on August 21, 2007 and the second reading on the Regular Meeting September 4, 2007.

Ms. Kyle reminded everyone of the upcoming City events:

- 3rd Erlanger 5K Walk/Run being held on August 26, 2007 at 8:00 A.M. Applications are at the City Building or online at www.runningtime.net. Besides walkers and runners we could use some volunteers for our event.
- Heritage Day, Sunday September 9, 2007; 12:00 to 6:00 P.M.
- Fall Festival, Sunday October 13, 2007; 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. at the Erlanger Branch of the Kenton County Library.

Administration - Ms. Kyle stated the Administration Committee will be meeting on August 21, 2007 at 6:30 P.M. At 7:00 P.M. on that date Council will hold a Special Council Meeting to have the first reading of the 2007/2008 tax ordinance. The second reading will be held at the Regular meeting in September of the Erlanger City Council

Ms. Kyle congratulated Kathy Cahill, Community Development Director and Rick Bogard along with the Public Works Department for the great job they have done with the parks and the Summer Parks program this year.

Linda Carter reported that Sandra Schweikert has completed the Kentucky Municipal Clerks Institute and now is a Certified Municipal Clerk. Mayor Rouse congratulated Sandi on this accomplishment.

Finance - No report.

Connect Erlanger - Mr. Howard stated there is an article in the Nation's News Weekly concerning a City Platform for Strengthening Families and Improving Outcomes for Children and Youth. The Connect Erlanger Committee would like to meet August 28, 2007 at the end of the scheduled Committee meeting to discuss and study these issues.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Human Resources - Ms. Suedkamp stated she would like the Committee to meet on August 21, 2007 to discuss Grade Step Matrix changes.

Ms. Suedkamp stated the Employee Insurance meeting will be held August 9, 2007.

Ms. Suedkamp stated there are three employees out on workmen's compensation. We will be trying to get them back as soon as possible.

Revenue Generation - Mr. Cahill said the Committee will be meeting August 14, 2007 at 6:30 to discuss the Emergency Services Ordinance.

Local Government - Mr. Hahn stated the Committee will have a Code Enforcement Board meeting on August 9, 2007 at 4:00 P.M.

M/S, Burke-Pitts, that the Reports of Special Committees be adopted as presented. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Historical Society - Mr. Hahn reported the Historical Society will be meeting August 8, 2007, at 7:00 P.M. We will be making preparations for Heritage Day.

Mr. Hahn said the Historical Society would like anyone that ever rode on the Southern Railroad and boarded the train at the Erlanger Depot or received Freight from the Erlanger depot to contact Pat Hahn at 859 727-8959. She wants your stories and photos for the upcoming Heritage Day. Photos and stories of family and friends at the Depot are also wanted to copy and make a display.

Mr. Hahn asked Council Members to help distribute Heritage Day signs around the City. He said he has ten signs.

Mr. Hahn said many new items have been donated to the museum. We now have a uniform from the Gulf War donated by a Gulf War veteran and his son. The Iraq War uniform was donated by the American Legion. It was worn by a young man that is now serving his second tour in Iraq. Jim Owen donated many articles from his parents and grandparents who owned Forest Lawn Cemetery around 1950. Jim Gronefeld donated an Arial map of the city he received from a friend who worked at the Erlanger depot. We are thankful for our generous citizens.

Erlanger/Elsmere Renaissance - Ms. Suedkamp stated Rebecca Volpe is not a full time employee yet. She is working 20 to 24 hours per week. We will talk with her about the need to get a report for each Council meeting and about the sign issue for the Farmer's Market.

Over the past week Rebecca has been working on the following projects:

- Completing a building inventory along Dixie Highway.
- Verifying the required historic design details for the Transportation Cabinet to prepare for our TEA-21 Streetscape Grant.
- Working on the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) feasibility/revenue forecasting project for possible use for The Dixie infrastructure improvements.
- Coordinating a new market study for The Dixie corridor.
- Visiting businesses within The Dixie corridor.
- Reviewing Requests for Proposals (RFP's) for potential new grants.

Ms. Suedkamp left the meeting to attend the Erlanger Night Out Event at Silverlake Park.

REPORTS OF CITY OPERATIONS

City Engineer - No report.

City Attorney - Mr. Wichmann said there was a 30 day waiting period to file but he will be filing liens and file actions to seek foreclosure the unfinished house on the corner of Cowie and

Commonwealth (3414 Cowie) and other homes that are in violation of the property maintenance ordinance.

Mr. Wichmann said we have a recommendation by the Northern Kentucky Area (NKAP) ordinance that amends the zoning ordinance. This will create a recreational zone. It is ready for the first reading if Council approves.

M/S, Burke-Hahn, to have the first reading of an ordinance amending the zoning ordinance that creates a recreational zone. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Mr. Paul Hahn reported Dave Hahn talked with the Kentucky Highway and Transportation Department concerning the railroad trestle; it is in bad repair. The railroad does not want to do anything to improve the trestle. Mr. Paul Hahn asked if our property maintenance ordinance may apply. Mr. Wichmann said the City enjoys several leases with the railroad, any action by the City carries the risk of losing these leases.

Mayor Rouse said let's see what we can do administratively.

City Administrator - Mr. Scheyer reported the Drees Company has donated four (4) additional acres of hillside green space property to Lakemont Park. This makes a total of 13 acres Drees and other developers have donated. We want to thank Drees and all the other developers who have contributed to our park.

Mr. Scheyer reported the proposed combined dispatch project has moved ahead fast. The Cities have remained steadfast in wanting this merger. They did a side by side comparison with Kenton County Dispatching. There is a \$230,000 difference in costs; Erlanger came out lowest. Next we will finalize the local agreements. It will take approximately one (1) one year to get all the cities implemented. This merger and Covington merging with Campbell County has two advantages.

- Joining in a larger group will lower the overall costs.
- There will be one organization in each county doing the dispatching in Northern Kentucky.

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

CORRESPONDENCE - Mayor Rouse reported he received an email from Mr. Robert Rabe asking questions about the dispatch merger on these very same lines. There will be no perceptible change in service or costs. When all is complete we can work with our state legislators to come up with a more stable funding system.

Letters and notes received:

- From Jeff Barabour and Judy Carpenter of the Erlanger Baptist Church - To Sergeant Greg Pohlman, thanking him for participating in their Summer Kick-Off Community Block Party on June 29, 2007. This event provides a free evening of fun, food, and entertainment for area families and children that may not otherwise get to enjoy this type of activity.
- From Luanne Kohl to Chief Marc Fields regarding Sergeant Greg Pohlman - He is an excellent police officer who is compassionate and understanding.

- From Sheila Prather - To Chief Fields regarding Sergeant Shawn Sims and Sergeant Troy Vines. They recovered her belongings after a robbery and captured the suspect all within 40 minutes of the robbery.
- From Chief Bill Martin of the Hebron Fire Protection District - To City Administrator Bill Scheyer. Chief Martin thanked Mr. Scheyer for allowing Fire/EMS Chief Tim Koenig to assist during the Captain promotional process at the Hebron Fire Protection District.
- From Irene Roberts and Family to Chief Marc Fields. Mrs. Roberts, widow for a former State Trooper thanked the City for all it's done since her husband's death.

CITIZENS/PUBLIC COMMENTS - No citizens wished to speak.

BIDS - No bids.

WORK IN PROGRESS - Nothing to report.

BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE CITY - Mayor Rouse said he had a meeting with Mr. Harrell regarding safety issues with children playing in the street. We are following up with this administratively.

LEGISLATION - Mr. Wichmann read an ordinance in regard to alcoholic beverage licenses, fees and regulations. This was the second reading.

M/S, Dunhoft-Sandel, to approve and order published an ordinance in regard to alcoholic beverage licenses, fees and regulations. The motion was answered by 11 ayes, Patty Suedkamp was absent. Motion carried.

Mr. Wichmann read an ordinance regarding the adoption of the 2006 International Residential Code including the second edition of the 2007 Kentucky Residential Code Amendments. This was the first reading.

Mr. Wichmann read an ordinance amending the Erlanger Zoning Ordinance to change the zoning map thereof to re-classify thereon an approximate 8 acre area located along the west side of Kenton Lands Road, between Riggs Road and Crescent Avenue, approximately 525 feet north of Crescent Avenue, from the R-1F and 1-P zones to the Recreation (Rec) Zone. This was the first reading.

Mr. Wichmann read an ordinance of the City of Erlanger, in Kenton County, Kentucky, amending the text of the Zoning Ordinance to add the text for a new REC (Recreational) Zone

ADJOURNMENT - M/S, Dunhoft-Burger, to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 P.M. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

APPROVED:

Thomas L. Rouse
Mayor

Respectfully Submitted:

Sandra Schweikert
Administrative Assistant

ATTEST:

Linda Carter
City Clerk