

REGULAR MEETING
ERLANGER COUNCIL
December 4, 2007

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, December 4, 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, Keith Henry, Vicki Kyle, Corine Pitts, Renee Skidmore and Patty Suedkamp. Council Members Paul Hahn, Bill Howard, and Greg Sandel were absent.

Also present were: Interim City Administrative Officer Linda Carter, Police Chief Marc Fields, Fire/EMS Chief Tim Koenig, Interim City Clerk Melissa Andress, Chief Finance Officer Greg Engelman, Economic Development Director David Hahn, Director of Public Works Rick Bogard, Information Systems and Telecommunications Becky Hopkins, Fire/EMS Assistant Chief Terry Allen, Police Captain Tim Thames, Building and Zoning Inspector Mark Stewart, City Engineer Jim Viox, and City Attorney Frank Wichmann.

MINUTES - M/S, Kyle-Dunhoft, that the minutes of the regular meeting, held on, November 6, 2007, be approved as read. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Mayor Rouse Introduced Coach Mark McGuire and the Mighty Wildcats baseball team. This Knothole baseball team had 24 wins and one loss prior to the Greater Cincinnati Knothole Championship game. They are the winners of the 2007 Class A Championship. Team members are: Mark McGuire, Dylan McGuire, Aaron Warren, Kyle Cottingham, Joe Neiheisel, David Carroll, Sam Banta, Brendan Gregory, Trevor Gregory, Seth Chappie, Charles, Jouett, and John Haake. Mayor Rouse presented the team with a proclamation naming December 6, 2007 to be Mighty Wildcats Baseball Team Day in the City of Erlanger.

Mayor Rouse introduced Fire/EMS Chief Tim Koenig. Chief Koenig has been an integral member and leader in the Erlanger Fire/EMS Department for the last 35 years. Mayor Rouse congratulated Chief Koenig, presented him with his 35 year Service Award and thanked him for his service to the community.

Mayor Rouse then read a proclamation to the Erlanger Fire/EMS Department for their many successes this year: their Advance Life Support (ALS) program, the \$193,372.00 grant from the Department of Homeland Security and the newest ISO rating of two (2). This rating places the department in the top one (1) percent of the nation. Mayor Rouse thanked Chief Koenig who has been making a difference for thirty-five (35) years.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Rouse invited everyone to the Open House being held in Council Chambers at the close of business on December 21, 2007, for food, refreshments and fellowship.

Mayor Rouse stated that one of the last projects he assigned Bill Scheyer, was to prepare an update on the progress the City made this year on the items this Council identified as priorities last January. In short, this Council has remained focused and on task. We

accomplished or made significant progress on each item identified last winter.

We received the official word last week that our City has received a fire rating of 2 from the International Standardization Organization (ISO). This makes us one of the highest rated fire departments in the Commonwealth and nation. Mayor Rouse said he is extremely proud of our Fire/EMS Department.

Mayor Rouse reported the Emergency Dispatch expansion is progressing on schedule. Our Police Department has done an exemplary job of planning and implementation.

The Public Works Department extended the fall leaf collection period one week due to leaves falling so late. Mayor Rouse said he was so proud of the department's flexibility.

Mayor Rouse said the Administration Department has obviously undergone a shuffle. We are in the process of examining what, if any structural changes need to be made to remain lean and effective. Nonetheless, it does not seem to me that they have missed a beat.

Please take a few moments next month to think about 2008. It's an election year so paperwork to become a candidate for election to this Council must be completed in January.

Mayor Rouse reminded everyone that our next meeting will be held on January 8, 2008 instead of January 1st.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Public Safety - Police - Mr. Dunhoft said the Municipal Order approving and authorizing the inter-local agreement for the Northern Kentucky Emergency Response Unit (NKWER) is prepared and is ready to be read and voted on tonight.

Public Safety - Fire/EMS - Ms. Pitts read the Building Inspector's report. Mark Stewart, made 11 inspections and issued 25 permits, generating \$2,925.00 in fees for November 2007.

Ms. Pitts reported Fire/EMS Emergency Activity for the month of November 2007.

- Total Advance Life Support runs 07 - 127
- Total Basic Life Support runs - 65
- Total Fire/EMS Cancels- 151
- Total Fire Incidents- 89
- Total Responses - 343; that amounts to 11.43 average responses per day.

Ms. Suedkamp reported the house on Erlanger Road behind the Erlanger Baptist Church is scheduled to be burned next Saturday by our Fire/EMS. A part of Erlanger Road will be blocked during that time.

Chief Koenig announced the Fire/EMS Department has been awarded a \$193,370 Homeland Security grant. This money will be used to upgrade radios, training programs, physical training equipment, and purchase three thermal imaging cameras. Eric Siebel and Dave McQuerry are responsible for writing the grant application.

Chief Koenig introduced Jenny Sands from United States Representative Geoff Davis' office, John Salyers from United States Senator Jim Bunning's office, and Adam Koenig Kentucky House Representative from House District 69. They presented Chief Koenig with a check in the amount of \$193,370.

Chief Koenig reported the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) inspection was very successful. We have gone from a grade 3 to a grade 2 classification. This is the top one (1) percent of the nation. We have many people to thank for their hard work in reaching this level: Fire Inspector Tim Deye, Training Officer Erik Siebel, Assistant Chief Terry Allen and Lieutenant Todd Schulkers. In addition, insurance rates will go down for our residents and businesses.

Public Works - Mr. Burke reported the Public Works Department is extending leaf pick-up for another week because the leaves fell late this year. Mr. Burke thanked Rick Bogard and the crew for being so flexible.

Mr. Burke announced Christmas tree recycling will start December 26, 2007.

Mr. Burke stated that at a previous Council meeting, we discussed working with the owner of the Globe insurance building and property to improve the appearance of his building and entrance to the City. According to Carter Dickenson from Jim Viox's office, this could be accomplished for around \$500. This was made in the form of a motion.

M/S Burke-Kyle, that Council spend \$500 toward the improvement of the entrance to the City by the Global Insurance building and property. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Administration - Mr. Burger stated the Committee recommends the approval of the appointment of Linda Carter as City Administrative Officer and Melissa Andress as City Clerk. This was made in the form of a motion.

M/S, Burger-Kyle to approve the appointment of Linda Carter to the office of City Administrative Officer and Melissa Andress as City Clerk. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Ms. Kyle announced the upcoming Erlanger sponsored events:

- January 19, 2007 - "Summer in Winter" at Silverlake Recreation Center
- February 10, 2008 - Valentine Party for families and children.

Finance - Mr. Henry asked for a Committee meeting to be held next Tuesday at 6:30 P.M.

Mayor Rouse reported we will have the first reading tonight of an ordinance to sell public project bonds.

Connect Erlanger - Ms. Skidmore said the deadline for Whistlestop articles is December 14, 2007. The committee discussed putting the Whistlestop on the City's website and getting residents to supply their e-mail addresses to receive the newsletter online.

Ms. Skidmore announced City Government Month is January. The committee discussed allowing junior and senior students from local high schools to shadow some of the city workers for a couple of hours after school.

Ms. Skidmore said that letters were sent out to notify organizations of the committee meeting regarding "A City Platform" on January 15, 2008. We received 100 percent participation/response/interest. Our first goal will be to have each contact make an inventory list of the services that their organization provides; compare lists, then apply for needed grants.

CGI Communications is currently in the editing stage for our website videos. They should be ready for review by mid December. Ms. Skidmore said CGI will be contacting local businesses soon to solicit advertising on the site.

Ms. Skidmore reported 305 people signed up for Walktober in Kenton County with 76 of the participants from Erlanger.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Human Resources - No report.

Revenue Generation - Mr. Cahill asked that since there is already a committee meeting set for next Tuesday, he would like to call a committee meeting on that evening to discuss Emergency Services Billing, and the Ohio/Kentucky/Indiana (OKI) impact study. The Property Advisors Consulting Firm will be discussed at a Committee meeting January 15, 2008.

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

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Erlanger/Elsmere Renaissance - Ms. Suedkamp stated we are currently in the middle of our traditional holiday promotion: "Light-up the Dixie". Businesses have been asked to decorate with a holiday theme by December 3, 2007. They will be judged on December 17th.

Ms. Suedkamp announced "The Twelve Days of Christmas" shopping promotion will take place on Dixie Highway at participating vendors. Shoppers can earn raffle tickets for visiting those businesses during the month of December, the prize being a gift basket.

Ms. Skidmore reported the Committee approved Rebecca Volpe's idea to work with professors from Northern Kentucky University and University of Cincinnati with planning experience.

Ms. Skidmore also reported the Renaissance logo has been modified to a more relevant theme to "The Dixie".

Kenton County Mayors' Group - Mayor Rouse reported that at the last meeting, Judge Drees and other Kenton County officials were also in attendance to discuss bad roads throughout the county. Cities do not want a bandaied fix; they want these roads fixed right the first time.

REPORTS OF CITY OPERATIONS

City Engineer - Mr. Viox stated we have a few problems on Bullock Pen and Erlanger Roads.

City Attorney - No report.

City Administrator - Mayor Rouse introduced Ms. Linda Carter as the new City Administrator.

Linda thanked everyone for support she has received every step of the way, the Management Team, Council, Mayor Rouse, and at every other level.

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

CORRESPONDENCE - A thank you card was received from Council Member Jim Burger for the basket of get-well cookies that were sent after a recent illness.

Kathy Cahill received thank you notes for hosting the Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 29, 2007 from Jane and Al Luessen and from members of the Monday Morning Book Club.

CITIZENS/PUBLIC COMMENTS - Mayor Rouse asked if any citizen chose to address Council. No one had signed up to speak.

BIDS - No Bids.

WORK IN PROGRESS - Ms. Suedkamp said that Erlanger's Shop with a Cop will be held December 20, 2007.

Ms. Suedkamp announced the Erlanger Police Department will be holding a canned food drive on December 15th in front of Kroger's and Aldi's Food Stores.

BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE CITY - Mayor Rouse stated the January meeting will fall on New Year's Day. He said that the meeting has been rescheduled for January 8, 2008.

LEGISLATION - Mr. Wichmann read an Ordinance Number 2295, imposing regulations and taxes on those engaged in franchises, trades, occupations, professions and other businesses; and repealing ordinances 1774, 1780, 1974, 1992, 2019, 2038, 2073 and 2087. This was the second reading.

M/S, Kyle-Dunhoft, to adopt and have published Ordinance Number 2295 imposing regulations and taxes on those engaged in franchises, trades, occupations, professions and other businesses; and repealing ordinances 1774, 1780, 1974, 1992, 2019, 2038, 2073 and 2087. Roll call vote, all ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Mr. Wichmann read an ordinance repealing Ordinance Number 2157 regarding the regulation of motor vehicle traffic on Watson Road. This was the first reading.

Mr. Wichmann read an ordinance amending the zoning map thereof to re-classify thereon an approximate 82 acre area located along the north and south sides of Dolwick Drive west of Erlanger-Crescent Springs Road, from the IP-1 zone to the BP-1 zone. This was the first reading.

Mr. Wichmann read an ordinance adopting the Erlanger Police Manual of General Orders, Policies and Procedures as revised and amended. This was the first reading.

Mr. Wichmann read an ordinance authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Public Project Bonds, series 2008 in the aggregate principle of \$2,100,000 (subject to a permitted adjustment increasing or decreasing the size of said bonds by up to \$210,000) for the purpose of financing the costs of the acquisition, construction and installation of a public project in the City of Erlanger, Kentucky; approving a form of bond; authorizing and directing the filing of notice with the state local debt officer; providing for the payment and security of the bonds; creating a bond payment fund; maintaining the heretofore created sinking fund; authorizing acceptance of the bid of the bond purchaser for the purchase of the bonds; and repealing inconsistent ordinances. This was the first reading.

Mr. Wichmann read Municipal Order 12-04-07-1 authorizing the advertisement for bids and distribution of preliminary official statement for the purchase of City of Erlanger, Kentucky General Obligation Public Project Bonds, Series 2008 in the aggregate principal amount of approximately \$2,100,000.

M/S, Suedkamp-Skidmore to execute Municipal Order 12-04-07-1 authorizing the advertisement for bids and distribution of preliminary official statement for the purchase of City of Erlanger, Kentucky General Obligation Public Project Bonds, Series 2008 in the aggregate principal amount of approximately \$2,100,000. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Mr. Wichmann read Municipal Order 12-04-07-02 approving and authorizing the attached inter-local agreement for the organization, operation and funding of the Northern Kentucky Emergency Response Unit. (NKERU)

M/S, Dunhoft-Kyle, to execute Municipal Order 12-04-07-02 approving and authorizing the attached inter-local agreement for the organization, operation and funding of the Northern Kentucky Emergency Response Unit. (NKERU) All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Mr. Wichmann read Resolution 12-04-07-01 supporting public safety improvements to Dixie Highway in the City of Erlanger, Kentucky.

M/S, Suedkamp-Pitts, to adopt and allow the Mayor to sign Resolution 12-04-07-01 supporting public safety improvements to Dixie Highway in the City of Erlanger, Kentucky. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Mr. Wichmann read Municipal Order 12-04-07-03 approving the appointment of Linda Carter to the office of City Administrative Officer.

M/S, Kyle-Skidmore, to execute Municipal Order 12-04-07-03 approving the appointment of Linda Carter to the office of City Administrative Officer. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT - M/S, Howard-Skidmore, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 P.M. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

APPROVED:

Thomas L. Rouse
Mayor

Respectfully Submitted:

Sandra Schweikert
Administrative Assistant

ATTEST:

Linda Carter
City Clerk