

City of West Buechel
Special Council Meeting
City Council Chambers
3705 Bashford Avenue
Louisville, KY 40218
June 24, 2021 6:30 PM

Present: Mayor Brenda Moore, Attorney Mark Hall, Councilwoman Linda Cook, Councilwoman Danielle Wood, Councilwoman Ashley Stewart, Councilwoman Evelyn Saldana, Councilwoman Kim Richards, Councilman Toby Clark, City Clerk Debbie Batliner and Deputy Clerk Sherri Osbourne. Visitors were Bonnie Manning, Lyn Gauthier, Liz Bierbaum, Samantha Blanton, Vivian Ridener, Paul Kubala, Virginia Marler, Jerry Embry, Randy Mullins, Andrew Fallen, Rick Richards and Rose Shouse.

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

Mayor Moore requested a motion to appoint interim Chief of Police Dwight Tyler as the Chief of Police. A motion was made by Ashley Stewart and second by Danielle Wood to appoint Dwight Tyler as the Chief of Police. Councilman Clark requested to speak. Councilman Clark stated that he thought this was a very important position and did research on Mr. Tyler and was given high accolades in favor of Mr. Tyler. Councilwoman Wood stated she received a memo regarding Mr. Tyler from Jeffersontown Police Department. She noted that he has had an impressive career; Master Police Officer; Role Model; 34 Letters of Recommendation. Great Choice.

Councilwoman Richards requested to ask Mr. Tyler questions. Her first question was for Mr. Tyler to define policing. Mr. Tyler's response was to take care of the citizens to protect and serve. Her second question was "if community policing is part of police putting people first, how will the officers be involved with the community? Mr. Tyler stated that they would interact with the community. Councilwoman Richards stated that she did not know him and was concerned.

Councilwoman Stewart stated that she has had the privilege of working with Mr. Tyler and he was very professional and swiftly took care of the issues.

Mayor Moore stated that there was a motion and a second on the floor to approve the appointment of Dwight Tyler as Chief of Police. Motion carries with majority vote.

Mayor Moore questioned if there were any public comments regarding the budget.

1. Mr. Paul Kubala requested that more money be spent on the police department so they can take care of the gun violence, to spend money on repainting the speed bumps and save money for a rainy-day fund.
2. Rick Richards reserved his comment for later.

3. Virginia Marler does not agree to spending \$350,000 on upstairs renovation and she also stated she did not approve of two full-time employees for the front office of city hall.
4. Bonnie Manning made a comment about the community center and was directed that the comments had to be regarding the budget.
5. Liz Bierbaum stated that the last council did not give anything to the community center, and she wants this council to direct funds to the community center programs and for raises. Ms. Bierbaum stated that she has not had a raise in three years and is requesting one this year.
6. Samantha Blanton requested that none of the funding go away from the community center.
7. Jerry Embry requested not to cut the police budget because they keep the community safe. Mr. Embry also stated that he was not in agreement with the renovations for upstairs of city hall that we had drainage issues that needed to be addressed first.
8. Attorney Hall called upon Rick Richards again for his comments. He stated that he was not ready. Attorney Hall informed him that it was now or never. He chose not to speak at that time.
9. Randy Mullins stated he was not in favor of the renovations for city hall upstairs. He also stated that we did not need to hire two people for the front office because this city was too small for that many employees. Mr. Mullins also stated that the police should be using someone other than Dave's Towing because they were too high.
10. Jerry Embry requested that the council do what the citizens want done.
11. Andrew Fallen is not in favor of the renovations for city hall upstairs. Mr. Fallen stated that the signs in the city needed to be replaced, paint the speed bumps, update the playground, and keep the city clean and looking good.
12. Rose Shouse wants funds spent on more drainage work and sidewalks on Selma Avenue.

Mayor Moore closed the floor for discussions.

Councilwoman Richards wants to make motions for amendments before second reading of the budget ordinance. Attorney Hall stated that we had to have second reading before a vote could be taken.

Attorney Hall read ordinance 294-2021 Fiscal Year 21-22 Budget.

Councilman Clark stated that he agreed with the speakers. He is not in favor of spending funds for the renovation of the city hall upstairs and he is also not in favor of hiring two employees for the front office at city hall. Councilman Clark also stated that he was not in favor of a 5% raise. He thinks that 2.5% would be enough. Councilman Clark urged the Council vote against the proposed budget.

Councilwoman Wood stated that this council has done some huge things for this community. She stated that this council had saved the residents \$200,000 on the insurance premium tax

that went from 15% to 7%. Councilwoman Wood stated that the changes will begin on July 1st of this year. That is when the residents will notice changes.

Councilwoman Stewart stated that this council has also saved on the property taxes by taking the compensating rate. Councilwoman Stewart stated she was in favor of at least one full-time person for the Code Enforcement Board. She also does not want to bother the police funding. Councilwoman Stewart also stated that she has no comments about the community center until the committee meets.

Councilwoman Richards made a motion to reduce the capital outlay under administration from \$350,000 to \$150,000 earmarking \$100,000 for resident programs and \$50,000 for community beautification and zero for the renovations of city hall upstairs. Councilman Clark second. Vote was not taken for Councilwoman Richards motion.

Attorney Hall stated that if you changed the usage of the money, it would require a different motion.

Councilwoman Richards made a motion to take the administrative capital outlay from \$350,000 to \$0.

Councilwoman Richards made a motion to reduce the administration capital outlay to \$1,346,000. Councilman Clark second.

Councilwoman Cook stated that she could not agree with the motion not knowing where the funding was going.

Councilwoman Richards made a motion to budget \$1,696,000 to administration with \$0 earmarked for the upstairs renovation, \$100,000 resident programs and \$50,000 to clean up the city. Appropriate \$1,696,000 for administration and \$1,496,000 for resident and clean up. Councilman Clark second. Councilwoman Richards, Councilwoman Saldana and Councilman Clark voted yes. Councilwoman Cook, Councilwoman Stewart and Councilwoman Wood voted no. Mayor Moore broke tie with a no vote. Motion failed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Richards to decrease payroll by 2.5% from 5%. Councilman Clark second. Councilwoman Richards, Councilwoman Saldana and Councilman Clark voted yes. Councilwoman Cook, Councilwoman Stewart and Councilwoman Wood voted no. Mayor Moore broke tie with a no vote. Motion failed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Richards to do away with hiring two new employees at City Hall and amend payroll, health insurance and CERS for Administration and Code enforcement employees. \$27,000 out of health insurance and \$22,000 out of CERS.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Richards to reduce administration payroll from \$210,000 to take out 2 employees. No second, Councilwoman Richards withdraws motion.

Councilman Clark motioned to reduce CERS in administration \$11,000, reduce health insurance \$13,500 and reduce code enforcement CERS by \$11,000 and reduce code enforcement health insurance \$13,500.00. Motion was second by Councilwoman Richards. Councilwoman Richards, Councilwoman Saldana and Councilman Clark voted yes. Councilwoman Cook, Councilwoman Stewart and Councilwoman Wood voted no. Mayor Moore broke tie with a no vote. Motion failed.

Councilwoman Cook stated that there were never any less than 4 or 5 full-time employees in administration.

Mayor Moore stated that the budget has been presented. A motion was made by Councilwoman Stewart and second by Councilwoman Cook. Councilwoman Richards left the room during roll call vote. Roll call vote as follows: Councilwoman Cook, Councilwoman Stewart and Councilwoman Wood voted yes. Councilwoman Saldana, Councilman Clark voted no. Councilwoman Richards returned to the meeting and voted no. Mayor Moore broke tie with a yes vote. Motion passes.

Councilman Clark made a motion to adjourn at 7:47 PM. Motion was second by Councilwoman Wood. Motion carried with unanimous vote.



Mayor Brenda Moore

ATTEST:



City Clerk, Debbie Batliner