

City of West Buechel
City Council Meeting
Assembly Hall
3705 Bashford Avenue
Louisville, KY 40218
August 13, 2020 7:00 PM

Attending: Mayor Brenda Moore, Councilman John Campbell, Attorney, Mark Hall, Councilwoman Bonnie Manning, Councilwoman Danielle Wood, Councilwoman Ashley Stewart, Councilwoman Evelyn Saldana, Councilwoman Wilson, Attorney, Mary Hall and City Clerk, Debbie Batliner.

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood and second by Councilwoman Saldana to approve the minutes from June 11, June 12, July 23 and July 29th. Councilwoman Stewart was absent for vote. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Councilwoman Manning introduced Ordinance 285-2020 adopting the Jefferson County Kentucky Ad Valorem Tax for the City of West Buechel and Levying Ad Valorem Tax for the General Operating Purposes of the City for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 20, 2021. Attorney Hall read ordinance. A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood and second by Councilman Campbell to open the floor for discussion. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Councilwoman Wood stated that she thinks it is wrong to raise taxes. She requested that instead of raising the taxes to discount the taxes from .213 to .209. She stated that with a budget of several million dollars, we could rearrange funds to make this work. She thinks this would help citizens and small businesses.

Councilwoman Manning said she agrees to keep the delinquent fees in the ordinance and questioned about sending out notices before penalties are added. Clerk Batliner said that we do send out notices before the penalties are added and that we have offered payment plans to anyone that has delinquent taxes.

Councilman Campbell questioned whether \$756 was going to help the general fund that much? He thinks it is the wrong time to raise taxes.

Councilwoman Saldana said she thinks this is the wrong time to raise taxes.

Attorney Hall stated that there was some mis-information going around about the tax increase. He said that the \$756 was for an entire year and not daily as some residents had stated.

A motion to take a vote was made by Councilwoman Stewart and second by Councilman Campbell. Roll call vote: Councilwoman Manning, no; Councilwoman Stewart, no;

Councilwoman Wilson, no; Councilwoman Saldana, no; Councilwoman Wood, no; and Councilman Campbell, no. No vote by all Council Members, motion fails.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stewart and second by Councilman Campbell to keep the same rate as last year. Motion carried unanimously.

First Reading of amended ordinance 2020-285 Ad Valorem Tax Rates for 20-21 was conducted by Attorney Hall.

A Public Hearing is set for Friday, August 21, 2020 at 10:00 AM for public comment. A special meeting of the council will be conducted on August 21, 2020 at 10:30 AM for second reading of Ordinance 2020-285.

Liz Bierbaum, Community Center Director, told the Council that the people wanted to hear what was on the reports that were in the council packets. Liz informed the council that her and Jeanie are working with students and helping citizens by working with Dare to Care to get food to needy families. They are also working with the Jefferson County Board of Education getting breakfast and lunches for children. Liz wants to sit down with seniors to see what they want or need after we get a handle on the Covid crisis.

Chief Sherrard states that crimes are tripling – carjacking, drive by shootings, shootings in general. Chief Sherrard stated that residents could get hold of the police and officers at any time. Chief would like to conduct some classes for residents.

Clerk Batliner stated that the city is keeping expenses as low as possible and we still have no idea how the covid pandemic is going to affect our revenue. A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood and second by Councilwoman Manning to approve the financial reports. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Clerk Batliner informed the council that we should have all audit troubles cleared and be in good standing with the Department of Local Government by March 2021.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stewart and second by Councilwoman Wood to approve the audit proposal. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stewart and second by Councilman Campbell to declare a 2013 Dodge Charger, a 2014 Dodge Charger and a 2014 Dodge Durango as surplus property. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mayor Moore informed the residents and council that the Census will be coming to City Hall and using Assembly Hall on August 18th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM to assist anyone with their paperwork. Mayor Moore also stated that the information from the Census assists with the city being able to apply for additional funding through grants etc.

A motion was made by Councilman Campbell and second by Councilwoman Wood to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Brenda Moore

Mayor Brenda Moore

ATTEST:

Debbie Batliner

City Clerk, Debbie Batliner