

City of West Buechel
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Assembly Hall
3705 Bashford Avenue
Louisville, KY 40218
April 11, 2024, 6:30 PM

Present: Mayor Moore, Attorney Keller, Councilwoman Cook, Councilman Bierbaum, Councilman Embry, Councilwoman Blanton, Councilwoman Manning, Councilwoman Wood, and Deputy City Clerk Brown.

Absent: Attorney Hall, Councilwoman Saldana, and City Clerk Batliner.

Visitor: Keenan Foy

Deputy City Clerk Brown confirmed that we had a quorum.

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Embry and second by Councilwoman Cook to approve the minutes of March 11, 2024 – Special Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Department Reports:

Police:

Chief Tyler provided the police department report in the council packet. Assistant Chief Hibbs gave us an update on the level of crime that is hitting other areas and not so much in West Buechel. Assistant Chief Hibbs also noted that we have lost 3 officers in 3 weeks. Assistant Chief Hibbs stated that the police department will be going on a hybrid schedule.

Mayor Moore stressed that when the insurance premium tax rate was cut from 10% to 7%, we are now seeing the effect and are unable to maintain wages for the police department.

Councilwoman Cook asked if we can amend the budget and Mayor Moore stated that we will have to due to financial overspending. We will receive our preliminaries on the property taxes on April 26th and will be able to figure out the property tax ordinance for the 2024-2025 budget.

Financials:

Two months of reports were provided in the council packet. A motion was made by Councilwoman Blanton and second by Councilwoman Manning to approve the financial reports. Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy City Clerk Brown announced to council of all the delinquent businesses that are not submitting taxes. Certified letters are being mailed to delinquent businesses to try and collect past due occupational taxes.

Attorney Keller stated that if the businesses are not complying then the next step is litigation. We would have to file a complaint, start a court case against them to collect what is owed to the city.

Attorney Keller announced that as of today, April 11, 2024, I am withdrawing from council due to an increase in his private practice.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Moore introduced our contractor, Keenan Foy, who has been repairing the damages at city hall. Mr. Foy noted that the repairs at city hall are pretty much completed. Mr. Foy spoke of some delays that took place due to miscommunication.

Committee's Report:

Councilwoman Cook provided the March 5, 2024, approved minutes in the packet. Ms. Bierbaum stated that they are working out some issues with the 501 3 (C). She and the Mayor have been in contact with Chris Johnson for KLC, to make sure they are not in violation once they switch over from a committee to a board. Ms. Bierbaum stated that they needed to list a few things in their bylaws, but they are getting closer for the 501 3 (C). Councilwoman Cook spoke of a possible community event on June 22, 2024. They will have a food truck, bouncy houses, and music from 2:00pm to 6:00pm for a fun day outside.

Mayor Moore stated that we will be having the summer lunch program again this year.

Chief Tyler spoke about an influx of immigrants coming into Louisville and shoplifting and panhandling is starting to increase. There are organizations that will help facilitate housing for them but there is a waiting list. The organization are only able to outfit and help 250 for housing.

Councilman Embry asked if there are any surrounding areas that could possibly be annexed. Mayor Moore explained that Watterson Park and Louisville Metro are the only areas that touch our border, and they will not annex. Councilman Embry stated that if we cannot annex then how are we going to maintain our police department. Mayor Moore explained that we will have to raise taxes.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the council meeting at 7:44 PM was made by Councilman Embry and second by Councilwoman Cook. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.



Mayor Brenda Moore

ATTEST:



Deputy City Clerk, Gwen Brown