

City of West Buechel
Special Council Meeting
City Council Chambers
3705 Bashford Avenue
Louisville, KY 40218
March 1, 2022, 6:30 PM

Present: Mayor Brenda Moore, Attorney Mark Hall, Councilwoman Linda Cook, Councilwoman Danielle Wood, Councilwoman Evelyn Saldana, Councilwoman Ashley Stewart, Councilwoman Kim Richards, City Clerk Debbie Batliner and Deputy Clerk Sherri Osbourne. Councilman Toby Clark was absent.

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

Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood and second by Councilwoman Cook to approve the minutes of February 10, 2022, with changes. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Department Reports:

Police: Chief Tyler informed the city council as of February 26, 2022, the midnight shift is temporarily suspended due to attrition and Metro Louisville Officers will be covering the area for now. Chief Tyler stated that they now have 8-9 officers and should have 12-13. He also said that the starting salary that we were offering was good enough to get the troubled officers with a bad past. Assistant Chief Hibbs stated that other departments were offering better incentives for new officers including sign on bonuses and higher beginning salaries. Assistant Chief Hibbs stated that there will be service limitations with LMPD responses. LMPD will not show up for theft, non-injury collisions, hit and run non injury, criminal mischief, loitering, trespassing, 2nd and 3rd degree burglaries and reckless driving and speeding. Chief Tyler stated that they needed help in recruiting. He is requesting \$2.08 more on the hour for new hires and incremental steps for Officer 2.

Councilwoman Richards questioned Chief Tyler what was needed to bring the department where it needs to be. Councilwoman Wood said to "throw all at them to make them successful, back them up." The remaining council agreed. Attorney will do an ordinance, but the police can proceed with hiring under the new rates to be determined by funds available. Emergency Ordinance which only requires one reading.

Administration: City Clerk Batliner informed the council that there were no financial reports because the meeting was held on the first day of the month and the information was not there to complete the information needed for the reports.

Attorney Mark Hall:

Attorney Hall stated that the Waste Management contract will be expiring on June 30, 2022. He also stated that it was not worth trying to get out of the contract because it would cost more to get out of the contract than to just wait until it ends in a few months. Attorney Hall told the council that their

current contract has a one-year renewal clause, and they should consider renewing the current contract because of inflation. He said he did not think they could get a better deal with rising gas prices and everyone having a problem getting employees.

Councilwoman Wood agreed with waiting until June. Councilwoman Richards requested that Attorney Hall send a letter to see if Waste Management would go back to twice a week. Councilwoman Cook stated that \$15.16 is reasonable for once a week. Mayor Moore also stated that recycling is extra on other companies.

Councilwoman Richards said that we could consider two garbage receptacles instead of twice a week pick up, because larger families need the twice a week pick up. Councilwoman Cook agreed with the two receptacles. Attorney Hall stated that Waste Management may push back on the twice a week pick up and not renew the contract. Councilwoman Wood agrees with negotiating rate for additional receptacles. Attorney Hall will check cost and get back with the council next month.

Code Enforcement Board discussions will be deferred until the next council meeting.

Council Request:

Attorney Hall held first reading of Ordinance 295-2022 to increase the number of council members from 6 to 7.

Councilwoman Wood motioned to vote on the ordinance. Councilwoman Richards second. Councilwoman Saldana, Councilwoman Wood, Councilwoman Cook voted yes and Councilwoman Stewart voted no. Councilwoman Stewart stated that she opposed the ordinance because she thinks this council is good at voicing opinions and democracy is working well. She also stated that the only tie breaker vote was on the budget.

Councilwoman Wood stated it would be beneficial for things to run smoother. She also stated the mayor would still be the deciding vote. Councilwoman Saldana agreed with rationalization. Councilwoman Wood said that this council does a wonderful job but need to think about the future and what happens if we get a new mayor. Councilwoman Richards stated that Councilwoman Stewart had a valid point but looking at the past council meetings she is in favor of the ordinance.

Councilwoman Stewart requests a Town Hall meeting to discuss events for seniors at the community center. Councilwoman Stewart stated that there was unfinished business when the Community Center Board was dis-banned. Mayor Moore thought there were already events for seniors.

Councilwoman Stewart wants residents to come together and for the community to have their voices heard. Councilwoman Wood agreed and stated that she did not think everyone had been heard and that there were only four to five residents that used the facility. Clerk Batliner suggested instead of a town meeting to have a special council meeting with only one thing on the agenda and the meeting will be focused totally on the Community Center. Councilwoman Stewart said to focus on moving forward. Councilwoman Stewart suggested a special meeting in mid-April. It was agreed upon that the special council meeting regarding the community center will be on Wednesday, April 20, 2022, at 11:00 AM.

Rose Shouse, resident, stated that the police department does a wonderful job, and she fully supports giving them whatever they need to stay safe and do the job.

Closed Session:

A motion to go into Executive Session regarding KRS 61.810 (c & f) citing litigation and personnel matters was made by Councilwoman Saldana and second by Councilwoman Stewart. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Mayor Moore adjourned meeting for a break at 7:45 PM.

A motion to return to regular session at 7:50 PM was made by Councilwoman Wood and second by Councilwoman Stewart. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

A motion was made for Justin Schaeffer to have settlement authority pertaining to mediation for a class action suit was made by Councilwoman Stewart and second by Councilwoman Richards. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

A motion was made to accept the term of the settlement agreement between the City of West Buechel and Kentucky League of Cities pertaining to satisfaction of the Armstrong judgement was made by Councilwoman Stewart and second by Councilwoman Cook. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the special council meeting at 9:05 PM was made by Councilwoman Wood and second by Councilwoman Cook. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.



Mayor Brenda Moore

ATTEST:



City Clerk, Debbie Batliner