

City of West Buechel
Council Meeting
City Council Chambers
3705 Bashford Avenue
Louisville, KY 40218
February 10, 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, Councilman Toby Clark, City Clerk Debbie Batliner and Deputy Clerk Sherri Osbourne.

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Richards and second by Councilwoman Wood to approve the minutes of December 14, 2021. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Assistant Chief Billy Hibbs reported that Sgt. Brown and Officer Tipton stopped the theft of copper wire etc. from the businesses after hours. Assistant Chief Hibbs stated that all the businesses were incredibly happy and grateful to have the theft stop.

Clerk/Treasurer Batliner presented the Financial Reports to the Council. Councilwoman Saldana questioned why there is still a Code Enforcement Board if we are not doing code enforcement at this time. Clerk Batliner informed her that would be addressed at the next budget meeting. No actions will be taken at this meeting. Attorney Hall stated that the ordinance is in the process of amendments and should be presented at the March meeting. Councilman Clark requested that Attorney Hall have two different ordinances for next month; one to abolish Code Enforcement Board and one to just amend the Code Enforcement.

Councilwoman Wood said that most of the gross receipts comes in at the end of May because of the grace period. Clerk Batliner informed her that most of the income does not come in May and there is no grace period. Clerk Batliner also informed the Council that the Gross Receipts would be down because of the large credits that carried over and the Occupational taxes are down because stores had fewer hours affecting employee hours. Councilwoman Wood stated that every year when budget preparation starts, the Treasurer states that we do not have the money and thinks of things that could impact the upcoming budget. Councilwoman Wood also stated that the American Rescue funds would be easier to spend and have more options. Councilwoman Wood questioned whether we had caught up on delinquent property taxes. Clerk Batliner informed her that liens had been filed and we were no longer doing catch up. Clerk Batliner stated that each July 1st liens will be filed on properties that have not paid their taxes.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stewart and second by Councilwoman Saldana to approve the financials as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Clerk Batliner informed the Council that the budget process has started. She will be contacting department heads and the budget committee.

Clerk Batliner stated that we needed to have a special meeting on March 1st that would take the place of the regular scheduled meeting. All Council agreed they could attend.

Mayor Moore reported that we received two estimates for the sign in front of city hall. One of them was over \$50,000 and the other was over \$14,000. All Council agreed that the price was too expensive. Councilwoman Richards would like for the Economic Development Committee to research and see if they can find someone else. Mayor Moore stated that she would love for members or residents to bring information to City Hall to contact and get quotes.

Mayor Moore informed Council that MSD contacted her and if weather permits, their contractors will start the week of February 21st on Selma Avenue.

Mayor Moore reported the Community Center Committee was dis-banned at the February 8th meeting.

Mayor Moore informed the Council that the City has contracted with Sweep All to do the cleanup in the City. Clerk Batliner stated that Mr. Nelson was offered a part time job with no benefits to clean up the city and he declined. Clerk Batliner stated we could not justify full-time due to code enforcement not being active. Mayor Moore and Clerk Batliner informed the council that Sweep All would clean three times a week. Sweep all is charging \$210 a week and is going to start on February 15th.

Mayor Moore clarified that Waste Management remains every other week for recycling and yard waste. Councilwoman Richards questioned why we could not cut the bill in half because the service has been cut in half. She also wanted Attorney Hall and Attorney Chavin to look over the city's contract. Attorney Hall informed everyone that it was not that easy to just change companies. A letter to terminate will have to be drafted and would lead to litigation for breach of contract. Attorney Hall will review and respond at the March meeting.

Economic Development Committee Report:

Councilman Clark informed the Council that their one focus was to host a festival and have everyone working together. Councilman Clark suggested to have public restrooms instead of using port a potty. He is hoping that City Hall restrooms could be open to the public. Councilman Clark is asking for administration support. Councilwoman Richards stated they were looking for approval. Attorney Hall advised to make sure that Council Attorney is involved having specific detail and planning to protect the city. Councilman Clark questioned if anyone has any objections to the event happening. After discussions, Clerk Batliner suggested to get the plan outlined, have waivers for volunteers, check vendors for certificate of insurance, budget and work together.

Mayor Moore adjourned meeting for a 10-minute break at 8:28 PM.

Mayor Moore called meeting to order at 8:38 PM.

Councilwoman Richards wanted to discuss each ordinance on the agenda to see if there was any support before first readings. After Council discussion regarding the ordinance for health insurance for the Council, and the ordinance regarding council compensation, it was unanimously decided not to pursue issues.

After Council discussion regarding the ordinance to create a seventh council seat, Councilwoman Richards decided to pursue the issue.

Councilwoman Wood stated that she would like for the council members to discuss issues before requesting Attorney Chauvin to draft ordinances.

Attorney Hall stated that Attorney Chauvin's contract had not been signed and it was voted on and approved at a previous meeting. Attorney Hall said that after the contract was submitted, Attorney Chauvin will receive a \$1500 retainer fee and \$185 per hour. Mayor Moore stated that Attorney Chauvin had just recently presented the contract. Clerk Batliner said she would make sure he was paid.

Councilwoman Richards said it was unnecessary for Attorney Chauvin to attend council meetings unless legal issues were being addressed.

A motion was made by Councilman Clark and second by Councilwoman Stewart to adjourn the meeting at 9:32. Motion carried with unanimous vote.



Mayor Brenda Moore

ATTEST:



City Clerk, Debbie Batliner