

**CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, March 10, 2014**

Pastor Randy Pace, Family Worship Center gave the invocation  
Pledge of Allegiance was recited  
Mayor Ellis called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Council members present: Bernie Brown, Jose' Cubero, Dana Bischoff James, Clinton Kline, Faith Portman and Gloria Taft.

Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the 2/24/2014 regular meeting. Clinton Kline made motion to dispense with reading. Bernie Brown 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the 2/26/2014 special meetings. Jose' Cubero made motion to dispense with reading. Clinton Kline 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to approve minutes as written from the 2/24/2014 regular meeting. Gloria Taft made motion to approve 2/24/2014 minutes as written. Clinton Kline 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to approve minutes as written from the 2/26/2014 special meetings. Clinton Kline made motion to approve 2/26/2014 minutes as written. Gloria Taft 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Ellis announced that everyone keep Claude Middleton in their prayers; his mother passed away early this morning. Also, Chief Troutman had surgery on his neck today. He experienced some problems while out of town last week. He's probably going to be out he says three weeks, I say no way, and I don't want him back until he's 100%! Assistant Chief Whittaker and Assistant Chief Hampton will be able to answer anything questions fire related. At this time I'll call Chief Puckett up. Chief Puckett: I'd like to introduce two of our new Police Officers. First is Curtis Hockenbury. Curtis has 25 years law enforcement experience. He actually started out in Shepherdsville; he was a Sergeant here and a DARE Officer before leaving to go to Louisville Metro Police Department where he retired. He's going to serve as our School Resource Officer for the elementary schools. He was a Medal of Valor recipient in 2010; he resides in Shepherdsville with his wife Tonya. Curtis is going to be a great asset to the Department and is going to work great with the elementary schools. Next meet Myra Minton. Myra has 16 years' experience in law enforcement. She's a former Captain with Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. She received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Ohio Northern University; a graduate of the Southern Police Institute in Administrative Officers Course. She resides in Bullitt County with her husband Mike who is a former Shepherdsville Police Officer. Myra is another great officer; she's going to be in Patrol. She's filling Mike Miller's place. We've got another officer that's in the process and hopefully at the next Council meeting we'll be introducing them to take over Bullitt Central High School; Ken Bernardi will be at Bullitt Lick Middle School. Myra is another great asset to the Department. Col. Puckett introduced Captain Richard Timey with the United States Coast Guard to present Officer Minton with an award. Thank you for the time this evening to take up your official business with recognition for Myra Minton. Let me first answer the question why is the United States Coast Guard here in Shepherdsville. The Coast Guard and our office actually oversees the rivers from Pittsburgh to Cairo to Nashville; includes the Ohio, Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee, Cumberland, Wabash, and in doing our mission which includes safety, security and stewardship on those waters, he have to rely on our local and state partners to do that. In executing our security mission on the Ohio River Myra Minton while she was with the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife served as the Chair or Co-Chair of our Louisville Area Maritime Security Committee which was responsible for the security measures on barges, tow boats, facilities on our rivers at all times and particularly during marine events like Thunder Over Louisville or the Great Steamboat Race. She was an integral part of that and served as a volunteer on that Committee. I'm going to read a formal write up here that is a little ribose and I apologize for that but what I'm really here to say is Thank You and to reinforce to you how unfortunate I am and how lucky you are to have hired her as an Officer here. I would have done this at our regularly scheduled meeting but your transition was a little quicker than

we had all anticipated and I didn't get to do this in front of the people that you served there for so many years; so now I get to do it in front of the folks that you will now serve in your new role.

### **Old Business:**

City Attorney Wantland had second reading and public comment of Ordinance 014-(number to be assigned) confirming Annexation of unincorporated territory of 2.15 acres by written consent of all property owners of record. Mayor Ellis asked for any comments from the audience. There were none. Mayor Ellis asked for any discussion from the Council. Bernie Brown: Have the landowners signed? Faith Portman made motion to accept. Clinton Kline 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 6-0.

City Attorney Wantland had second reading of Ordinance 014-(number to be assigned) amending Ordinance 009-778 relating to the sale of distilled spirits, wine and malt beverages at retail, by the drink, on Sunday at restaurants and dining facilities located within the City. City Attorney Wantland stated the purpose of this is to correct a prior Ordinance; that's the only thing it does. There is an Ordinance in place and this corrects some of the language in that Ordinance. It is underlined as we read this; you will see that is the addition to this Ordinance. Faith Portman made motion to accept. Clinton Kline 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 6-0.

### **New Business:**

Tom Givhan addressed the Council: Thank you Mr. Mayor, ladies and gentlemen of the Commission I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you. It's been awhile. The Apartment complex on Saltwell Drive is about to get satisfied with HUD. Apparently HUD is requiring the developers to complete the road and do a number of other small things here and there to fine tune before the advance the final money on the project. The Management asked me to appear before the Commission to see if the Commission would be willing to make a Resolution or issue a written document of some kind that would say that if they build the road to the City's specifications that the City will accept it and that there is not any other outstanding thing that's known now; I don't think they are trying to get by with something that might turn up later, but there is no claim or anything floating around that would come up later on and make it look like they hadn't complied with everything the City wants. So I would hope that someone could make a; I don't know how Mr. Wantland how the City would want to handle that. City Attorney Wantland: Get a motion for the Mayor to issue a letter to Mr. Givhan. Mayor Ellis: I don't know that you need a motion on it. City Attorney Wantland: We treat everybody that way but we put it in the minutes. Faith Portman: You did say after the roads are brought up to standards? Right? Mr. Givhan: Yes. Faith Portman: I thought that way in our agreement in the first place. Mayor Ellis: It is. Once it's brought up to the standards, Claude goes out and inspects them and they come back to the Council and ask they be taken over. Mr. Givhan: I think you have to take it if it's brought up to standard but I'm trying to accommodate people who don't live here who have concerns. Mayor Ellis: You just need a letter to send to the folks with HUD? Mr. Givhan: Yes. Jose' Cubero: I would send something with it that outlines what needs to be done. Mr. Givhan: Send the specifications with it. Bernie Brown: Has it ever been inspected and establish a list of what is necessary to get it up to standards? Mayor Ellis: It's been six months or a little longer since the last time Claude went out and looked at it. Bernie Brown: Do you have a list of what is necessary to bring it up to standards? Mayor Ellis: Yes we have what the Ordinance says that has to be done. Bernie Brown: Do you have that Mr. Givhan? Mr. Givhan: No. Do you have what the inspection revealed? Josh Edwards: The last time the gentleman came in; when they were done with that section of the road, we met with him and told him exactly what needed to be done and we were under the understanding that at that point they were going to go ahead and do it and they didn't. But we have gone through it several times with them telling them exactly where their road needs to go for us to be able to take over and put it all together and us having the whole street instead of just to the point it is now. Mr. Givhan: It should be connected to where you are now. They should connect it. Josh Edwards: You go from driving on a road that's pretty decent to driving on a section of the road that is going to rip out the bottom of your car if you're not careful; then to a part that's perfect. Our thing was by the Apartments and going out toward Blue Lick we told him if you make it up to our line look like that we would take it in a heartbeat and they didn't do it. Mr. Givhan: But have you ever notified them with written specifications that you have to do this and we will accept it. City Attorney Wantland: We can do it again but that's been done. We'll do it again. Mr. Givhan: The other thing that I had when I called down here was in 1986 I was County Attorney and the University of

Kentucky had a program, its Landscape Architecture School had a program where they were helping communities in Kentucky, make five year comprehensive plans where they had planning and zoning and they were doing one up in Northern Kentucky. I read about that, contacted them and they took Bullitt County as a project for that class of students in 1986 to make a study of Bullitt County's needs for the future and to make a plan recommending how to do it. The plan that we've got here now is dated of course but you can see; one of the values I see in it is you can see what they suggested that we do, where they suggested that we do it and then look and see what's sitting there now. It gave me more confidence in experts being able to predict where something ought to be because all this industrial development over here on 480 is in place and the Shepherd project here with that shopping center is in place and that was two main things that they recommended we do. They prepared a master plan for Shepherdsville. In it they did a lot of landscaping work. They prepared a plan for downtown renovation. Took the buildings you can recognize the buildings to hide the wires. You go around other places, Taylorsville in particular, and down on their main street they put the wires underground. It makes a huge difference on how your community looks. On parking they did things. They made drawings involving a downtown master plan which showed a historical district being developed around the Court House with bricks going down and walking trails; they was also a plan for a river park. I presented this to the Planning Commission and they grunted once and that was the end of it. Of course we've only had three five year comprehensive plans since the 1960s when this came about. We're working on the third one now. This had a lot of good stuff in it. I've given it to Mr. Lee at the Planning Commission, I'm going to as part of our plan for the County, to recommend a historical district be established around the Court House where the old jail is. I saw a write up about Nancy Strange's old home place in today's paper that showed there was some history involved there with that train wreck and all that. (Mr. Givhan handed out a copy of the 1986 Master Plan of Bullitt County.) It does deserve some study. But you'll see that they recommended closing some streets down by the Court House and the streets that were recommended were not the ones that were closed but they did close one. Notice that the concept of closing a street in downtown Shepherdsville was considered then and was done recently. There's an interesting thing in there on Second Street. When this town was laid out they had 80 foot wide streets. Buckman Street is still 80 feet wide. First Street, Second Street, Third Street, Fourth Street were all 80 feet wide. Down on Third Street where the Baptist Church is that's the Street between the Court House and the Baptist Church that's only a 40 foot street and the General Assembly passed a Bill way back and they cut that street in half running east and west so had 40 foot lots. These lots show on there where they are 40 feet and we regressed when we had ancestors had enough sense to put an 80 foot street downtown and the General Assembly at the request I'm sure of the local people divided that street; now instead of having an 80 foot street there we have a 40 foot street; but there is some stuff built there, the new Judicial Center actually sits on some of that ground and I had a plat of Shepherdsville that showed the old Court House at the center of Second Street and Buckman that sat right in the middle and then you came up the street and you could see where this new Court House was being built. This thing was dated 1893. There's a lot of history here in this community and there is a lot that can be done to improve living conditions and I hope that we can all work together and get a comprehensive plan that means something. You can draw a plan out there that is just hanging out there loose and then come back and everybody just do what you want to do. Or you can have a plan and a community that's behind it and require the plan to be reasonably followed. I don't mean 100% followed because there are mistakes that are going to be made in it and have to be corrected. But if you have a plan and the people are working on the concept to improve Bullitt County as a place to live for family and a place to work and a place that welcomes industry and wants to protect residential from that and with this plan we somehow solve some of these sore spots where industry is conflicting with residential and you have people feeling like they have to go to battle to try to protect their home or their business. I'm hopeful that we can locate some place in Bullitt County for a large area of industrial zoning to occur where they can be sent out there to build these big warehouses and the only place that I see so far that looks to me like its suitable for that much of space, I'm talking about a large space not 100 acres. I'm talking about a space that runs from I65 West to Fort Knox at Belmont Road. Part of that land is in the floodplain but it would be a perfect place if you wanted to build huge warehouses to back them up on Fort Knox; nobody would complain. The nice thing about this plan is it does not change anybody's zone. If you've got a farm because your farm is put in an industrial area as part of the plan, you can farm that for 1000 years nobody can come in there and make you change the use of your property. That's one area, the old dump; there is 90 plus acres out there that there shouldn't be anybody building any housing around. That should be an industrial

zone. Mr. Flynn has 700-800 acres or more at Lebanon Junction that the railroad runs through. Of course there is a railroad that runs completely through this area and there is a problem in some areas with the flood but we've learned in Shepherdsville that you can build properly and establish useful ground in a flood zone. We've got a problem with that plan that's been offered that attempts to make the floodplain appear on the land use map which would have the legal effect of making the floodplain a zone without saying it. If you're going to use it as a floodplain and it doesn't show underneath there any other use more than half of Shepherdsville I think is in it and in this present plan that the experts offered requires that no building be made there. That's going to be changed. We're going to change that some way or other but those kind of things is what we need to do and try to work together on it. I'm a member of the Planning Commission; some of you may not know that, in fact I'm the senior member of the Planning Commission. I've always had a special interest in Shepherdsville. I don't vote here but I lived here in the City of 20 years and it concerns me because I don't think these young people have the same opportunity that I had when I came to Shepherdsville. I feel like there's work to be done some way on it. Now I didn't plan to bring this up at all because I didn't know about it but down at the apartment house on Saltwell Drive last night a serious thing happened with some people who came over there and accosted the people who live there and the police were called and I must report that there has been a continual nuisance type crime wave going on down there for months and it's known where some of these people live, there's kind of a gang of juveniles that are down there apparently with this festering. The police are unable to effectively do much about it because by the time they get there they are gone and it's hard to be on scene all the time. But last night they had a fight down there and the people who live down there want the Police force in the City to see this 20 year old that was down there drunk threatening that woman, I don't even know his name, they want to see that he gets his day in justice. They want to see a warrant issued for those people and they don't know how to do it but when they come down here the police say you have to have a warrant and you can't go on hearsay you've got to have a witness but the police can take out a warrant if they have reasonable grounds to believe that some crime down there has been committed if they've got witnesses to prove it. So this is a chance for the City to come to bat now and knock and home run and go down there and stir that place up pretty good. I talked to the Mayor some time ago and I had two excavator buckets one of them weighed over 4000 pounds and the other one weighted over 6000 pounds, one was worth about \$4000-\$5000, the other between \$6000-\$7000, they were new, sitting out. They were stolen. Now you know somebody didn't slip down there in a pickup truck and load them with two guys. Somebody had to have heavy equipment to load that kind of stuff. They stripped out a complete excavator down there at night over a long period of time and sold the parts out as used parts for a reasonable good excavator, a \$20,000 excavator reduced to scrap. So that area down there needs police attention badly. You'll see one woman here says she moved here from out of state. She got on the internet, loved the apartment, loved the buildings, and they've had so much breaking in of their cars, throwing rocks through their windows, these kinds walking from school cussing and everything and they can't seem to control it and she said in here if she had known what was going on down there she would not have rented that nice building. So we have got something to lose if that situation is not corrected. So I told them that I was coming down here tonight on something else but I would bring that up for them and they wrote these letters and are blaming me for it. I don't know what they think I'm supposed to do about it. It is not good for the community to have a reputation develop that they can't control gangs, or they can't control petty crime, breaking in houses and automobiles, and that kind of thing. Jose' Cubero: Chief, what kind of reports do you have from that area? Chief Puckett: I'll have to check. Mayor Ellis: We can do a directive patrol over there but it's the simple fact that they watch the guys when they drive through in the cars. Faith Portman: Don't we have an officer that lives over there? Comment from the audience there are quite a few from different agencies. Mayor Ellis: The thing is with guys working different shifts they sleep during the day if they work late watch. Hopefully the juveniles aren't missing school so they can go out and steal stuff but you never know with children in today's society how they are. I know most of us can sit up here and say if we had ever done that it would have probably been the last thing we ever did in life because our parents would have gotten hold of us! Mayor Ellis: Mr. Givhan is there security cameras over there? Mr. Givhan: No sir. The cost of buying the cameras is one thing but then how do you monitor them. I came in to talk to you about trying to get cameras. Mayor Ellis: We met with you and I remember us talking about it and we were going to try and do something together and nobody did anything. Mr. Givhan: I thought the police force was going to get a design and talk to experts and come and back. Mayor Ellis: We had experts but those camera systems for the stop lights at 44 and 61 and Adam Shepherd; the cameras alone were going

to be close to \$150,000. Then once you set them up on the network you're looking at 2 or 3 hundred thousand dollars for those cameras. Mr. Givhan: I know there is a cheaper way to do that. Mayor Ellis: For one camera you're looking at \$8000-\$10,000 per camera and that starts adding up when you put two on each pole and putting them at every intersection. Bernie Brown: I think that would be a good thing to look in to. Gloria Taft: Our Homeowners Association worked closely with the Chief and a couple other officers to institute a neighborhood watch where we patrol our own streets. I know Chief got sick and tired of us calling on these yahoos that were walking around throwing rocks through windows in the vacant houses but when you have a car stop and you see somebody calling; I'm calling the cops on you, they do quickly find another neighborhood to go to. I know that's not the right answer but sooner or later they leave Shepherdsville; so check with your Management to see about working with the police to get a neighborhood watch established. That's free. Mayor Ellis: We can look at some more camera systems but you're going to be up there in price and I don't know if there is any kind of a SAFER grant out there that we can look for. Mr. Givhan: This thing that happened last night, they've got witnesses that are ready and want a police investigation. They are not supposed to come down here and solve crime for the Police Department. Dana Bischoff James: Have they gone to the Police because if we don't know what's going on we can't correct an issue? Mr. Givhan: I don't want to bad mouth the police, we've got some new police coming in here but over time, I've been out here a number of times and they will tell you after you come back they don't tell you at first but they come back and tell you there is nothing we can do about it. Well there is something you can do about it. You can investigate it and I know that you're not going to solve much of it but where you know the source of it and police know where these guys are coming from don't you. Chief Puckett: There is a big difference in knowing and being able to prove it. I have no idea, you kind of caught me off guard, I wish you had come to me first and told me about it, I don't know the incident. I'll look in to it but lots of times you might know who has committed a crime but in order to get enough evidence, you know as well as I do, when you go to court, you've got to have the evidence and you've got to be able to prove it in court to get a conviction. And on a misdemeanor the only thing we can do is have the victim take a criminal complaint out on the people. Mr. Givhan: You've got the names of witnesses on this letter. Chief Puckett: Like I said you caught me off guard, I'll look in to it. Mr. Givhan: Everybody knows about it now, the light is on; I'm going to see what happens.

City Attorney Wantland had first reading of Ordinance 014-(number to be assigned) concerning the Agenda for the conduct of meetings of the City Council. Mayor Ellis stated the second reading and discussion will be March 24<sup>th</sup>. City Attorney Wantland: If anybody wants to make any additions; anything between now and the 24<sup>th</sup> just call.

**Daryl Lee:** No report.

**Duane Price:** No report.

**Sign in Speakers:**

**Deborah Hansen:** I am the topic of conversation from last night. I initiated the whole thing with the attack on myself with calling the Police when our lives were threatened with a gun we immediately called the police. There were 4 from 17 to 21 year old; one girls and a couple boys, came through, threw something at the side of the house, stood on my back patio area; they were messing around with something, I'm standing at my kitchen window watching them; the one boy comes by and hauls off and punches the side of my vehicle and then kept walking away. I walked outside and say "what are you doing, that's my vehicle get off of this this is private property. Go that way." The one boy comes up to me, gets up in my face, pushes me and says expletive, expletive, expletive, shut up you expletive; luckily my neighbor was outside, he's a pretty big guy and got in between us and told him stop, don't you dare talk to her that way, don't you do this, it came down to everybody, they were stoned, they were drunk, whatever they were they were not in their right mind. Two weeks after I moved into that place I was verbally assaulted and spit on by a woman parked in my drive way trying to pick her daughter up from Bullitt Lick Middle. I tried to explain to her when I pulled up that this is private property please get out of my driveway. I'm picking up my daughter it doesn't say its private property, that's when I had to call the Sheriff's Department. I was told by the Sheriff's officer that we dead set in the middle of what they call "the problem area"; the trailer parks, the free apartments, government subsidized housing, is where they see most of the trouble from that side of the area. That's

what we get. We get people walking by, we all have a least four of us have windows that are bent where they tried to break in to the windows. Every single person since I've been there and there are ten units has either had something stolen from their vehicle, their garage, they've had cars vandalized; something has happened to every single tenant and I've only been there less than four months. Faith Portman: Do you live up toward the front? Ms. Hansen: I live at the very first unit between Bullitt Lick and ... Brittney and Johnny live next door to me and that's going toward that way. Dana Bischoff James: Is there a little walking trail from your property to Bullitt Lick? Am I in the right area? Faith Portman: There shouldn't be but there is. Ms. Hansen: I have taken out so many boards, so many pallets and cleaned that up. You are in the correct area yes. And every single time a new board or pallet goes up. Tom and I have talked about this before. I clean out that area every single time. I have tried No Trespassing signs, I have bought Private Property signs, twice they were stolen, and once they were vandalized—they were spray painted. I've got letters here from all the tenants saying we've had, and the police were called for this one, we've had two people sitting on the front area and they are snorting coke right in somebody's front doorway. It's getting to the point where it's out of hand. I'm the one that said, I moved here from out of town, and had I known all this trouble was going to be there, I would have reconsidered all my options. I don't pay the amount of rent that I pay to have to deal with all these issues. They are kids, some young adults, that; the comment we got last night is these kids are trouble and they are always going to be. I have 25 down to 12 and like you said earlier, if we did this when we were younger we wouldn't be here to talk about it right now. It's not how we were brought up, it's not how I raised all four of my children and it's not the right thing to say they are trouble and they always will be. The kid last night, he threatened us all four with a gun, and then walked away and said I'll come back to take care of all of you. What did he do? He went and got his mommy. Then when he was confronted by the Police Officer he cried like a baby. They know who he is. He denied knowing the other kids but they know who they are. They know where the trouble is coming from? Faith Portman: Did you all identify them to the Police Officers? Ms. Hansen: Yes. The one guy we did. He's the one who initiated the physical altercation with one of the guys. He was 17 because mom was pitching a fit that he got into a fight with an adult when he's the one that initiated the fight and all the guy was trying to go was hold him down because he sucker punched him so he said he was holding him down until the Police got there. We waited a good 10-15 minutes for the Police to get there and finally his buddy started jumping on him and everything and the girl they were with came and got them and pulled them off. Faith Portman: I will tell you I do know this for a fact, our Police Department is having problems with dispatch dispatching out to them. I had a neighbor call me and I had to call 911 myself and identify who I was to even get a police officer to come to our street. This happened several times. Dispatch is just not dispatching to our Police Department in their defense. We have good officers and they are very professional and I know that they would be there. Chief Puckett: We've had some problems with Dispatch. I don't know if that's the case this time. If you've got three officers out at night. Ms. Hansen: Eventually four people showed up. There were four cars, two of them because we walked across the street to talk to the first officer and when we were there another officer showed up and then two more about five minutes after that. Dana Bischoff James: Were they Sheriff's Department or Shepherdsville Police? Faith Portman: Blue and white or brown? Ms. Hansen: Sheriff's because his thing had Sheriff on it. Faith Portman: Did any of ours come; any blue and white cars? Ms. Hansen: I did not see any blue and white cars. The two that pulled into Bullitt Lick parking lot were also Sheriff's officers. Chief Puckett: I don't understand why the Sheriff was there. Faith Portman: They are not dispatching to us, I'm telling you. I had a person call Dispatch and Dispatch took it upon themselves to tell them that our officers were too busy to come to that call. Ms. Hansen: The original Sheriff's officer that came out when I got spit on I came here and asked to speak to an officer and I was told go home and they'll send somebody out there to see you and it ended up being the Sheriff's officer that came out to talk to me. LTC Dan Patchin: It could just be that address is coded in their CAD wrong. I'll check in to that because if they address is wrong in their system they could just be sending the Sheriff's Deputies because of that. I'll look into it. Ms. Hansen: There are ten units and I know for a fact I'm speaking for six of them tonight that this continues to be a problem. No offense Tom but he's going to start losing tenants and nobody is going to want to go back there because of the area because of what we were told as I'll coin the phrase "riff raff". Faith Portman: Can we have them ride through? Chief Puckett: We're going to have a directed patrol and we'll get in touch with Dispatch and find out why the Sheriff are making runs in the City; we should be making the run not the Sheriff's Department. We'll find out about that. Jose' Cubero: Deborah one of the things that your group can do is get all the information for patterns; we're not always going to be right there at the right time but at least

get some incidents and sometimes so they can at least come and maybe prevent some of this stuff and when they start seeing these police cars when they are out running around like that that may discourage it. That's the best way to start and I know Gloria mentioned eyes and ears, taking notes, getting car, taking pictures, anything you can do. Mayor Ellis: Do you know what direction they are coming from? Ms. Hansen: They come generally from the trailer park area, the one behind us, they'll come through there and then when people walk through you can always tell when they are coming from the liquor store because they always have their bag or their bottles and half the time they end up right next to my house and I have to clean them up along with the syringes that I've cleaned up and other stuff. So the liquor store and the trailer park back and forth. Bernie Brown: I think some security cameras would go a long ways to helping. Mr. Givhan did you say anything about paying for cameras? Mr. Givhan: Yes. I put a plan out on this. They wanted to put cameras down there on their property and I would make a contribution to share the cost of it and when they got ready to move; if it was left in workable condition that I'd make a refund of some kind to them. Mayor Ellis: Not to us. We can't pay for the cameras on private property but we can put them on public roadways. That's where we had talked to him about a cost share at one time at different intersections throughout the City. That way if someone is stealing you can see them. Bernie Brown: Right now it sounds like there is a problem area and I would suggest we look in to getting cameras there. Mayor Ellis: We're going to have directive patrol starting tonight over there. Jose' Cubero: Deborah start with the Police Chief. Get him all the information you have on what you've seen in the four months you've been there and let's start with that first and get a little more high frequency attention over there. Faith Portman: Get a Block Watch going. Ms. Hansen: That's the other thing we were talking about, all the signs that I've put up with Private Property and No Trespassing and Violators Will Be Prosecuted, they are gone. I've done it three times. Gloria Taft: Get with the Chief about starting the Neighborhood Watch Program because it was like 25% reduction right away.

**Alex Wimsatt:** I just wanted to come up and introduce myself. My name is Alex Wimsatt; I'm a Candidate for State Representative for the 26<sup>th</sup> District. I'm sure a good portion of you are familiar with me but those who aren't I just wanted to let you know that I'm here, I'm available, I'm accessible, my private cell phone number is on all of my business cards. If you guys need absolutely anything or have any questions, want to voice any concerns, have any policy ideas, please feel free to reach out to me because as a Candidate I feel like that's what I'm here for and if I'm so fortunate to serve the 26<sup>th</sup> District in the House of Representatives I will definitely remember that it was this community that got me there. And with that I just wanted to thank you guys for your service and to commend you all for the exemplary job you do here in Shepherdsville. I am Bullitt County born and raised and I love this community a great deal. I think that Bullitt County has a lot to offer; a lot to be proud of; and I just hope that I'm so fortunate to serve but even if I'm not I'm not going anywhere, I'm the Assistant Director of Tourism for the County and if there is anything I can do for you guys in that capacity as well please feel free to reach out to me. Thank you guys.

#### **Department Reports:**

**Asst. Chief Whittaker, Asst. Chief Hampton, and Sergeant Heath:** It's been quite a long time since I've been before this esteemed panel and had to give any kind of recommendation or presentation. As you know Chief Troutman is going to be out of service so it looks like Assistant Chief Hampton and I will be doing the best we can to stir the boat in his absence. Two things we need to bring before you all; we have two projects, neither of which are we looking for any kind of vote tonight; however we just want to bring these two projects to your attention for your consideration for the upcoming weeks. (Gave a handout to the Council to review.) The paperwork you have before you is concerning an engine company that the City of Shepherdsville is in a unique position to get, to be quite honest, immediately. We are currently operating with a fleet that is aged. The newest truck in the fleet is sitting crunched in Wisconsin and who knows if and when that truck is going to be back in our house. The next newest piece in the fleet I believe is a 1996 with over 100,000 miles; and it goes down dramatically after that. The paperwork you have before you is on a Ferrara; as a matter of fact that engine company is sitting in our Fire House now. I not only invite but encourage all of you to come look at it. I think one or two of you looked at it when it was here before. It will be here until about 4:00 tomorrow. You'll see from the paperwork that it is a multi-purpose engine company. It is actually a rescue engine. That particular apparatus will handle about 98% of our run volume and if you take the opportunity to look at the truck you can tell that when you walk down and check each compartment

each compartment pretty much handles a different facet of our firefighting business, obviously fire suppression being the number one job; it's got a pump, it's got a 1000 gallons of water and it's got all kinds of hose on it. In walking around the truck it's got a compartment for EMS equipment, we're making more and more EMS runs in the City doing the best we can to assist EMS and be basically a better service to the taxpayer; moving down the truck there is heavy rescue equipment; there is water rescue equipment; there is confined space equipment; hazardous material response; high angle/low angle; so to be quite honest this truck will handle about 98% of our runs. It is constructed a little different than the engines that we have in that it is so multi-purpose. This engine should carry us for 15-20 years easily especially based on the history we have with maintaining the fleet we have anyway. We generally get barring some unknown circumstance we generally get 15-25 years out of a piece anyway. You'll also see that it has been priced out, we're looking at about \$664,000 and that's everything. It backs in; just add water and fuel and it's ready to roll. That is very unique in the firefighting industry in that typically you would spec a truck and it would take upwards of a year before it would finally be built; you'd finally go down and look at it and say yeah it's good; and it finally gets shipped to you and then when you get it back you have to start ordering equipment to put on it. This one comes in and it's ready. Literally the day you get delivery you get a run, flip on the lights and you're rolling. I spoke to Councilwoman Taft today, she had mentioned that she had been to some kind of event in Covington and spoke to a Ferrara dealer and they had a truck, it was a Ferrara truck, I'm not sure if we're comparing apples to apples here but that one was upwards of \$800,000. This one is approximately \$200,000 cheaper than that particular model. Jose' Cubero: It is state of the art. In the price difference you guys were able to negotiate there was some equipment not much that was going to come off there that we had already. Was that part of the original deal on that? Asst. Chief Whittaker: Part of the issue is that when Ferrara builds these they put Scott air packs on their equipment; we don't use Scott we use MSA so those would come off. We would buy or own MSAs to put on. Ferrara uses a different set of rescue tools that we use. We want to continue to use similar equipment, it's what we have all our other truck equipped with; we want to stay with the same product. So we took those off and we will buy our own. Jose' Cubero: That's part of the total cost? Asst. Chief Whittaker: The total I gave you, yes. One thing I am looking for obviously is not a vote of yes let's buy it even though that would be awesome! I understand. What I am looking for is if the Council is okay with the idea of at least negotiating getting this, a letter of intent saying yes we're willing to negotiate with Ferrara and authorize the Mayor to issue a \$10,000 check as just a holder. If we don't buy it we get the money back no harm no foul, everything is good. Dana Bischoff James: Why do you have to have a check to negotiate? Asst. Chief Whittaker: Because there are other fire departments interested in this truck and if we don't do something to say we are interested we may lose it. Dana Bischoff James: I wasn't quite impressed with the company; I didn't quite like the pressure tactic. Asst. Chief Whittaker: To be quite honest they are all like that. Buy, buy, buy please but mine. I will tell you that in our trip we made to Baton Rouge we did stop by Ferrara on the way back. I was fortunate enough to; I have been to one other fire truck company and just comparing the two I was very impressed with Ferrara. I think they build a good product. They've got a good company. We actually met the President and he's a very personable guy. We walked through every step of the line. We were shown basically, these are the parts we use on building the trucks and I like them. Dana Bischoff James: I would think though that they would negotiate without a check. I don't like the idea of putting a check out to negotiate. Asst. Chief Hampton: The point behind the check is that this truck specifically is still open on the market. So if another department looked at it we would lose it. And they guy that was down here does not make commission off of selling this individual truck. He works for the company itself not for selling the truck. This truck today if we purchase it is that price; if they have to build another one for us, the chassis that they are building now are more expensive. Its \$20,000 already before we even get started more. He's saying that if you want this truck today for that price you will no longer get that price unless you want to buy this truck this is in our fire house currently. Gloria Taft: Kind of like earnest money when you buy a house. Before you do a bunch of negotiation, before you get your inspections, you put money down to say I'm interested in this, hold it for me for a specific period of time and let's talk about it. Dana Bischoff James: One other thing that's came up from the public because this is obviously caught wind with them, that there was a statement that was made when we bought the past two fire trucks that those truck would last us the next 20 years. So I understand the needs to the Department as we grow we want to have stability within that but going back just a couple months ago; I just wanted a statement from you all stating that when it says these truck will last us the next 20 years just so that the general public understands why we are looking at another truck with that past statement. So I'm going to let



you all handle that. Asst. Chief Whittaker: We do expect these trucks to last 20 years or more hopefully. But we have to continue to add to the fleet because this Council in particular continue to expand the City's boundaries. I don't know if a few months ago some things have changed, we continue to expand and without talking about anything specific we know the City's growing. So I think just over the last few months it is conceivable to believe that what we thought we needed a few months ago we're already finding out we need more than what we thought we needed a few months ago. Dana Bischoff James: So this would be a proactive approach? Asst. Chief Whittaker: Absolutely. Asst. Chief Hampton: Each piece of equipment can be different. We've got two different ladder trucks; this truck is not the same as the ladder truck; it serves a different purpose. Even though they'll both last 20 years they do different jobs. Asst. Chief Whittaker: If there is anything we've learned from all this shucking and jiving with vehicles is that we need a backup piece or two because when one goes down we're scrambling trying to figure out what are we going to put on line to cover. As Asst. Chief Hampton just said, ladder trucks aren't your first truck out. They are heavy, they have a huge turning radius, and they are specific for really aerial operations. You want an engine company on most of your runs. And we really need to make sure that we are Engine Company sufficient. Dana Bischoff James: So do you all want to switch everything over to this particular company as far as that goes? I know I understand you want uniform equipment is this the company from this point forward that you're looking to work with or is there another truck company? Asst. Chief Whittaker: From the conversations we've had with people who have this company as their equipment provider; I spoke to one this morning in Grayson County, they have a Ferrara tanker which is something we don't have and we collectively have spoken to people with engine companies and ladder companies that are very satisfied and happy with the Ferrara and after talking with the Chief we see this as the direction the Department needs to go. They are still a young company but they are doing a lot of work. FDNY is getting 98 ladder companies built for them. Faith Portman: So there are no other trucks here in the County, no other fire department has this brand of truck? Sergeant Heath: Jeffersonville, Indiana has two of those. Asst. Chief Hampton: Anchorage Fire and EMS in Jefferson County has an engine company from them. Asst. Chief Whittaker: Nobody in Bullitt has Ferrara, no. Dana Bischoff James: And this is something you all feel like is definitely needed. I wasn't impressed with the company I've got to be honest. I wasn't impressed with the people who we spoke to. I don't like the pressure. Asst. Chief Hampton: I never personally felt pressured by them; the only pressure was if we were considering this one then this is what we need to move on. If not they are willing to wait however long and we can look at building whatever they want to build us? They are more than willing to build whatever it is we want. But for the money and for what it is if we want that price and that truck then we'll have to move on that particular truck itself which meet the needs that we see fit. Dana Bischoff James: Most importantly though this is something that you all feel is a need. Asst. Chief Whittaker: Yes. Faith Portman: How are we going to pay for this? Are we going to pay payments on this or is there money somewhere? Mayor Ellis: I would like to secure this thing and see where we are at the end of the year with any kind of overage on revenue. If we are you just pay for it. Faith Portman: How long is our money secure for though? Mayor Ellis: We can do it for two weeks. I want to get the Council to say okay if we do this we go until the 27<sup>th</sup>. That way we can discuss it in passing or however and then on the 24<sup>th</sup> we can talk more about it and say yay, nay and we get our money back. Clinton Kline: Dana touched on you want to consolidate equipment manufacturers; for the rest of the equipment what make of equipment do we have? It seems silly to make the statement we want to have all one type of equipment and then go buy a completely different brand than we have. Dana Bischoff James: I think that's eventually over time. I didn't mean to misinform. Clinton Kline: Even if we're going to eventually do it buying something we don't have anything to match to is not a good way to start. Mayor Ellis: We don't have anything that matches to anything. We have a KME, a Pierce. Asst. Chief Whittaker: We're kind of limited on manufacturers for this type of vehicle. To the best of my knowledge Pierce offers a model called a PUCK which is similar to this, it's called an MVP and that is the only similarly manufactured vehicle. Clinton Kline: Was this a solicited sales call they made? Asst. Chief Hampton: We've been actively looking at other manufacturers every day. Clinton Kline: I'd be interested in hearing what the other manufacturers had to offer and what their price range was before we start writing checks to people. Sergeant Heath: The thing is nobody offers a truck like this. The Pierce PUCK has the pump panel in the rear of the truck. Asst. Chief Whittaker: We do not want that truck. Under any circumstance we don't want that truck. I will tell you that. Asst. Chief Hampton: It's not set up the way we operate. Sergeant Heath: We looked at all the companies but Ferrara, like with maintenance issues, that truck has a five year warranty. If a light bulb goes out they are going to replace it for five years. The only

thing our cost is oil changes every year. The training for us to go to learn how to operate that truck is free; Pierce and Seagrave is \$300-\$500 per class. Faith Portman: How many firemen can go to that training? Sergeant Heath: As many as we want. Jose' Cubero: Let's just do this by putting the money down, obviously we're not losing the money, give everybody a chance to check the truck out and then we'll look at where we are revenue wise; we have a couple weeks; we're not going to do anything tonight, but at least can we put the money to at least hold it to maybe make this a possibility? Gloria Taft made motion that we put the earnest money down of \$10,000 to hold the truck so that we can find the money to see if Shepherdsville can afford to purchase the truck. Jose' Cubero 2<sup>nd</sup>. Clinton Kline: Can we do 30 days and have two more meetings? Mayor Ellis: What do you think they would do? As long as you're writing them a check I don't think they would be able to do much of anything. Asst. Chief Whittaker: I don't know what the policy is with Ferrara. I knew we were good until the next Council meeting. Mayor Ellis: If they can find out something tomorrow I'd ask Craig or Terry to send an email out. Bernie Brown: I guess the arrangement you're talking about is giving the company a \$10,000 deposit. What about putting that money in an escrow account instead of giving it to the company? Mayor Ellis: They can't cash the check. I don't know that they would go for an escrow account. Bernie Brown: We come here not knowing anything about what's going to be brought up and then we're expected to make decisions impromptu and I just don't think this is the way to run the business. This is the people's business. We need better communication. Mayor Ellis: They have the \$10,000; it's not going to come out of the General Fund budget, it's going to come out of the Firefighter Mitigation. Asst. Chief Whittaker: Mr. Brown what could we have done to make this better for you? Bernie Brown: This wasn't even on the Agenda but apparently it had been planned to be presented tonight. I don't know about the rest of the Council but I sure didn't know anything about the truck being here until tonight. Jose' Cubero: This is just holding it. There is no obligation for the truck. It's just if we have a chance to look at this truck a little longer. Motion carried 4-2.

Asst. Chief Whittaker: I have one more thing I would like to bring up. (Handed out information to Council for review.) Again we are not asking for a vote of any kind on this tonight. Currently the Fire Department uses four command cars issued to the command staff that respond ahead a fire apparatus so that basically we can instruct responding companies what we have and what to do when they get there. This proposal is to replace two of our command cars. The two that we would like to replace, one is assigned to Assistant Chief Hampton, the other assigned to Major Calvert. The Chief's car is a newer vehicle, mine is in fine shape. Major Calvert's vehicle and Asst. Chief Hampton's vehicle are incurring a lot of maintenance costs. Asst. Chief Hampton's vehicle actually was wrecked even before we got it back during a prior administration. So it's had a few issues here and there ever sense. Although I have looked at our budget and I feel confident the money is there I cannot make a commitment as to where this particular money would come from so all I'm doing is putting this out to you all for informational purposes that I will in the future be asking for Council approval for us to purchase and replace two command cars and it is my understanding from talking to the Chief that he previously had budgeted to replace these two command cars anyway. Jose' Cubero: The two cars, how old are the cars and how long have we had them? Sergeant Heath: One is a '03 and the other a '07. Mayor Ellis: Craig's is actually the old Code Enforcement Vehicle that Mac drove when he was here. Jose' Cubero: I know we have a lot of sensitivity about conversations about purchasing things. It seems like that is obviously a big topic today. I just want to go back and make really clear that we've had many years we didn't have anything. And I just want to make sure that we're spending money within budget lines. The one think I will suggest to you, get with Chief Puckett and Bob on how that needs to be proposed to the Council. You need to look at your budgets, show us where you're looking at where that money is coming out of and let us take a look at that. We're not in a hurry but that's what we'd like to have by the next meeting. You show us through your budget where that money is going to be allocated so we can all see that is something that is justified. We can all look at it and say yes it's budgeted. Again it goes back to our job is to monitor what you're saying you are going to do with that money. That's what we want to do. To think you've got it isn't going to work, we just need to have it on paper like we've done so we can see where than money is being allocated from. The other thing like I said, I just want to make sure, we've obviously and you guys and all the departments have done a good job with what you got but it is coming time some of this wear and tear is starting to take a toll and we are in a situation today because of the way we are handling our finances that we are able to do some of these things. And I know I've always encouraged you, I've always been upbeat but again there is just a way that we want to handle it so we can see it and say yes Terry you've got the money there it's ready to go. I know Chief would have done that, obviously he's preoccupied with his

surgery but I do think at this point there is opportunity but just show us. Have it for us for the next meeting. We've got information on the vehicles and then we can take it from that discussion because over the next four weeks we'll try to make a decision. Gloria Taft: I'm looking at three quotes here. One is for the vehicle, one is for additional equipment, and the third page is extra. Sergeant Heath: Correct. Asst. Chief Hampton: One is the car, one is equipment, one is striping.

#### **Council Reports:**

**Dana Bischoff James:** I just have a couple things that are going on in the Community. On March 22<sup>nd</sup> there is a Parents Left Behind Dance that will be taken place at the VFW; on April 12<sup>th</sup>, last year we held here in Shepherdsville the helicopter egg drop; this year it will actually be held at the Bullitt County Fairgrounds; and something that is very important here in our Shepherdsville City Park on May 1<sup>st</sup> at noon will be the National Day of Prayer. I do want to commend our Shepherdsville Police Department today once again I'm pleased with our vote on getting the SROs passed; there was a fight that broke out today and I had a teenage boy that came up to me and said yeah I guess that was a really good thing that you all voted in because there was several boys that were involved in a big fight and Shepherdsville Police Department responded and resolved it but a student actually thanked me personally but I thank the Council and the Mayor who voted that in because it's definitely needed. Our kids need to be safe and when you get big gangs of kids who do bad things it takes a group of people to diffuse that. Just passing that thank you on,

**Faith Portman:** First I'd like to say I wish everybody would pray for George Gabeheart. I hope you don't mind me mentioning that. He's in the hospital awaiting a transplant. He's a former student and also grandson of Bernie Brown. Keep him in your prayers please he's had a tough time. And I also want to encourage the public; I myself have contacted Mike Mann several times with no return calls, again. We as a community need to stay on them about prosecuting and proceeding ahead with this investigation that's been ongoing now for almost four years for things that have been taken from the City and quite a bit of money and quite a bit of equipment and a lot of things stolen. We just need to as a public need to stay on the system about prosecuting people and trying to bring people to justice because I myself am pretty upset; our sewer rates were raised, our occupational tax went up; and I think somebody needs to pay for it. I encourage everybody to call Mike Mann and tell him that he needs to get those people in a court room and quit putting it off.

**Gloria Taft:** North Bullitt School will be having a Suicide Walk here in the City. They may be coming knocking on doors looking for a little bit of money. That's going to be sometime in April. Their goal is \$5000 to help with teenage suicide. I've been in contact with District 5 of the Transportation Cabinet and it looks like our Beech Grove Road bypass has hit another snag and now we are looking at March of 2015 instead of spring of this year.

**City Attorney Wantland:** I've got two issues. I was given a contract to review by Rob Campbell with Qk4 with the Corp of Engineers and I advised that we were going to reject that. The Corp of Engineers is redoing it. I thought it really sounded like we were making a financial commitment to a project when in fact we were still talking about it. But we are working on that and Mr. Campbell deserves some accolades because he is trying to marshal some resources that we can use and when people say about floodplain, this will give us an opportunity not to change the floodplain but because we do remedial measures perhaps the Corp of Engineers we can have property taken out of the floodplain. It has promise so I wanted to bring you up to date that I did reject the contract and the reason why; I thought it was a financial commitment in the document. And I knew the Council did not want to expend such sums of money until they had a chance to talk about what the project would be. Then I've given everyone some questions; review your emails and any documents you may have concerning this litigation. After you've taken due diligence and looked to see what you have I would appreciate that we could put them in a form for production for the other side after review. Some of the material is going to be privileged and we won't have to produce it. A lot of the reports you're not going to be involved in. You don't have those, I think Brenda does and so does Mr. Campbell. But they are asking everybody and I don't think we have any City cell phones. I think you all have personal items. Do some due diligence; try to get the information then we'll try to filter it out. But it is required. There is a lot of information but we're under an obligation to produce it or at least try to produce it and we're going to try.

Mayor Ellis: One thing I do want to throw out while you have your ink pens out. Write these dates down and get back with us and tell us if they work for you if not we can do other things. March 25<sup>th</sup> we will bring in the Sewer Department for their budget workshop; March 26<sup>th</sup> Public Works; March 27<sup>th</sup> Admin; March 31<sup>st</sup> Police Department and April 1<sup>st</sup> Fire Department. Meetings will be held at 6:30.

Clinton Kline made motion to adjourn. Jose' Cubero 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
R. Scott Ellis III, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tammy Richmond, City Clerk