

**CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2015**

Pastor Randy Pace, Family Worship Center gave the invocation
Pledge of Allegiance was recited
Mayor Ellis called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Council members present: Larry Hatfield, Dana Bischoff James, Bernie Brown, Gloria Taft and Randy Hammond

Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the 11/10/2015 Regular Meeting. Bernie Brown made motion to dispense with reading. Dana Bischoff James 2nd. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to approve minutes as written from the 11/10/2015 Regular Meeting. Gloria Taft made motion to approve 11/10/2015 minutes as written. Dana Bischoff James 2nd. Motion carried 4-0-1 abstension-1 absent.

Mayor Ellis announced City Hall would be closed Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th in observance of Thanksgiving.

Old Business:

Mayor Ellis stated that we have a meeting with the Louisville Water Company in March to discuss putting garbage bills on the water bill. That's as soon as they could meet.

City Attorney Joe Wantland had second reading and public comment on Ordinance 015-(number to be assigned) concerning election of City Mayor and City Council adopting non-partisan elections, without primary in the City. Steve Larimore and County Clerk Kevin Mooney spoke in favor of the Ordinance. Dana Bischoff James: What is the average cost for the primary election? Kevin Mooney: It varies based on the City. It's been six months or a year since I looked at the billing on the City side; currently Shepherdsville is the only one I have left as running partisan; all the other seven have gone non-partisan. Lebanon Junction is a hybrid but they still effectively run non-partisan. It can be; depending on the volume and the number and complexity; I've seen Shepherdsville be \$350-\$450, I've seen it go up approaching \$1000. It depends on the ballot order and it depends on the complexity how many I have on the D side; how many do I have on the R side; do I have Independents, typically I don't. But if I have to put the Independents in the ballot creation as well effectively I'm running two primaries and D and R versus if just one side gets seven or more; all those variables come in to play that's why I can't give you a very extremely detailed but less than \$1000 is pretty much always the norm. It's rare that I ever see Shepherdsville go over that figure and in once sense that's not great big money; but \$500-\$1000 is still real money. Larry Hatfield: You do it every two years. Kevin Mooney: Yes sir and if we go non-partisan effectively I get a benefit as Clerk and it's a selfish benefit and I'll say it for what it is; all the sudden I've got all eight cities in a like manner of doing business and when the phone calls come in and they say I want to file to run for office, what do I have to do; right now we have to qualify; figure out where they are; what City are they in; and we have to define Shepherdsville separate and apart from all of the rest. And some people are very candid and willing to give us information and talk to us on the phone and others are very coy and it's like pulling teeth. Dana Bischoff James: My concern is that we can't change it for five years. City Attorney Wantland: The purpose of the Statute is to prevent people from jockeying to be partisan or non-partisan; once you make the commitment one way or the other you are going to have to keep it for a little bit. It keeps them from flipping. That's the purpose behind the Statute. In other words two years from now and we've got a great Independent President or something everybody wants to file Independent; no, if you're going to make a commitment it's going to stay that way for five years. Larry Hatfield: I think it would save candidates money also. Kevin Mooney: You only have the expense of one election. Larry Hatfield: I would like to see us go to the no signs until 30 days before the election. Bernie Brown: I think that's going to be the next thing we need to look at.

City Attorney Wantland: I don't think you can prohibit a person from advertising for a political person in their yard. Bernie Brown: I've heard from a lot of people and most not everybody because I have had probably three maybe people that objected but by far the majority of the people that I've talked to believe it ought to be non-partisan and I support that myself. Bernie Brown made motion to approve. Randy Hammond 2nd. Dana Bischoff James voiced some concern and Bernie why he supported this Ordinance. Bernie Brown: It eliminates a primary; that is a big factor. We don't go through two times during the year all these signs being put up and they get to be a nuisance and yet most of us end of doing that. It eliminates that that is certainly a benefit to all the candidates. Furthermore I think and I reiterate what Kevin said, and Steve too, people here in Shepherdsville it's a community where we at least have opportunity to know and find out about all the candidates much better than we would for State or Federal offices; so I think if people are interested they certainly have plenty of opportunity to find out about the candidates. Furthermore I don't think one party has a monopoly on all good people. I think there are some good people in both parties. I like to tell people anymore when I get asked if I'm a Democrat or Republican, my answer to that is I'd like to think I'm the best of both, and that's what we want and I think non-partisan would give the voters a chance to sort out and hopefully get the best people. Dana Bischoff James: And I will say on a personal level my husband and I are on opposite parties so in the primary we didn't get to vote for each other; that's just on a personal level. I like the sign things but I guess I'm a little hesitant with change on this. Gloria Taft: The people that I talked to said at Shepherdsville level it doesn't really matter to them because they are going to vote for the particular person regardless of what party they are in. They either like that person or they don't. So this saves them from going to the polls twice. Randy Hammond: And if the public outcry changes in four-five years we can change. At this time Mayor Ellis asked for a vote. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

Mayor Ellis: At the last meeting we had the Vice President from St. Andrews Crossing HOA ask us to have another streetlight installed. Tom, did you get a chance to meet with anybody from RECC on that. Tom Lafollette: Unfortunately I have not. I have been in touch with those folks several times and they have instructed me that due to the holidays and the end of the year with vacations that it may be a couple weeks before we ever get a hard copy quote that I requested. Mayor Ellis: As soon as we get that let's make sure we put it in the Council's box. Bernie Brown: I think at the last meeting Scott Fleming said he was going to take a look at it and give his recommendation. Mayor Ellis: I've also had Tom out there looking at it as well and I think our recommendation is we put one in but we've got to make sure the price is right; that \$350 in my thought is way low. I think that's a low price that he got. Bernie Brown: Salt River would put it in wouldn't they if we would just pay. Mayor Ellis: Yes. Bernie Brown: I don't know what Salt River does but LG&E use to install lights at their cost but you had to sign a contract to rent them for x number of years. Tom Lafollette: RECC also offers a similar process; it's a five year agreement. City Attorney Wantland: But they don't do the special street lamps. Tom Lafollette: That is correct. Mayor Ellis: We have to pay when one of the lights in the front get knocked down to have them reinstalled because they are the decorative lamp post. Tom Lafollette: I did speak to Salt River but they would not confirm the pricing that we were given because they would have to do a site survey and the pricing would be based on whether a pole was being set or whether the light is actually being placed on an existing pole that is there. City Attorney Wantland: Are they the fancy street lamps or are they the regular kind. Tom Lafollette: The fancy. City Attorney Wantland: Happy Cahoe was here earlier. It has to do with a tariff; they refer to it as a tariff with the Public Service Commission and RECC does not have a tariff for that particular item approved by the PSC utility regulatory commission or whatever it is at this point. That's the issue and that's why people have to pay out of pocket because the tariff is not approved. Tom Lafollette: RECC will actually have to do a sight survey before they will give us any documentation with pricing or anything. Basically that's what we're waiting on. They wouldn't comment on the price given either way. The way they spoke to me was it could be roughly that cost or it could be a lot more. Without a site survey they won't commit either way. Gloria Taft: I think we need to table it until we get pricing. Tom Lafollette: I would really like to do that I would like a hard copy from RECC that says this is what we're looking at, this is the agreement the City would need to sign. Mayor Ellis: If we are able to get one of those make sure we get it in the Council's box so they have a chance to study it.

New Business:

City Attorney Wantland had first reading of Ordinance 015-(number to be assigned) relating to the sale of distilled spirits, wine and malt beverages and retail, by the drink on Sunday at restaurants and dining

facilities located within Shepherdsville. Mayor Ellis stated the second reading and public comment would be December 8th Council meeting.

City Attorney Wantland had first reading of Ordinance 015-(number to be assigned) concerning the creation of a collective bargaining program with Shepherdsville law enforcement officers and the City of Shepherdsville. Mayor Ellis stated the second reading and comment would be December 8th as well.

Mayor Ellis: I received an email from Richard Miles requesting the City to take over streets, sewers, drainage and streetlights in Mallard Lake Communities; we have a list of all of them. Have we had a chance to look at those and see if they are completed? Tom Lafollette: We were involved on the roll down on the streets a couple weeks ago; all that looked great. The drainage, I think we've still got one third of it to inspect. Mayor Ellis: Where are we at on sewers in there Chuck: Chuck Keith: They are not good. I would not recommend taking them over. Larry Hatfield made motion to table until we've had time to look at sewers. Bernie Brown: I'll 2nd that but I also think we also need to have an engineering certification and documentation from the City people that these streets and everything meet all standards and ordinances before we ever take any action on them. Mayor Ellis: We'll get Rob to go out and take a look at it and make sure everything is up to where it needs to be. Motion to table carried 5-0-1 absent.

Daryl Lee: Reported there was one request for a zoning change on the corner lot Hoot Owl Camp Road.

Duane Price: Called in to report there was a variance for a carport for Jim & Bonnie Enlow.

Controller Bob Ryan: The good news is I think the nightmare is over with Quickbooks on the payroll. We did a payroll Monday and met the deadline and I've heard from people that get their deposits early that the direct deposit did make it into their account. So I think that is behind us. The other thing is, as you know you are supposed to have your Audit this month and you don't. And I certainly appreciate the fact that nobody up there has really been pushing and pressing. This has been a rather stressful last couple months with the Quickbooks issue; loss of some files on the computer; the depreciation schedule for the Sewer system in Quickbooks just went away and had to be rebuilt and various other things. There is also the issue with the new reporting of retirement; the pension reporting. This week I was given a work sheet to compile 10 year's worth of data; the Auditors want 10 years' worth of data on the City's retirement system and the monies that have been put in for the hazard and non-hazard so that they can tweak their footnotes. We're moving along. It will get done but there have been a lot of bumps in the road.

Larry Hatfield: One question Bob has your health insurance people advised you all on the Internal Revenue new law coming out on health care that has to be filled out. Controller Bob Ryan: I've not heard anything. Larry Hatfield: You might want to contact them because the County got theirs and evidently we can do it or you can do something else. Kenann Sharp would probably be the lady to call because the County is going to have to do it and I'm on the Insurance Committee there and it has to be done through the Internal Revenue Service so if your health insurance provider has not told you about that you might want quit him or her. Controller Bob Ryan: Are they talking about including this information on the W2? Larry Hatfield: I don't know if it is that; it has something to do with health care reform. Controller Bob Ryan: I know that the information if you have a certain level of employees is included on the W2s. Larry Hatfield: That might be what it is. We have 200.

Dana Bischoff James: First I want to say Happy Thanksgiving. I have one thing that has been brought to my attention and we should have followed up with; this issue is regarding the pay scale issue with the Police Department. It was approximately last year when we had an officer who demoted himself because he was going to make more money taking a demotion and in no capacity should a company pay someone more money to work less. That just doesn't make sense whatsoever. At this point I would like to see that fixed and even as he made that final decision; content with making that decision, it made sense to him, however even at that moment I said that we need to fix this problem. This isn't something that should be prolonged; paying people more money to work less or for less responsibility. So I will get with Bob with some numbers and work with the Police Department and find out what we can do to remedy this situation. I wanted to give

everybody a heads up that this is something that I want to revisit and hopefully we can get this resolved. Mayor Ellis: We're going to have to look at that on the Fire Department side as well. There is an issue there too. We had talked about it during the budget workshops but didn't address it during the budget. I think we at that point in time said we would address it down the road a little bit.

Gloria Taft: Report on the Road: The Committee met at and got our schedule done; everything is looking good to meet the progressive schedule that we got to build the new road. The next meeting will be December 2nd; we're going to ask all the parties that are involved to come to City Hall to make sure that everybody is on the same page; everybody is speaking the same language so that there are no bumps in the road. This is going to be a smooth process. The engineering firm is already working on the preliminaries; they have met with a couple of the other people to get information so that we're not paying for duplicates. The HOPE dinner is tonight at 7:30; Faith Portman is heading that up along with Linda Belcher, they are over there feeding a Thanksgiving Dinner to the homeless people in our area or maybe those that are just less fortunate. And I just want to say Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. Have a great time with your family.

Randy Hammond: Happy Thanksgiving.

Bernie Brown: Scott, Mr. Snyder is here I wonder if he has anything to add at all. John Snider: The only other thing besides Alpha Way, the money was released by Matt Bullock to begin the design/construction on the Interchange as well as the loop around. Bernie Brown: What's the latest on right of ways for the interchange? John Snider: I gave the right of ways over to 65 that we've had in our hands for 6-8 months as I've indicated in the past we have discussed right of ways with Mr. Rice, we got a letter back from Mr. Rice asking for an amount of money to buy right of way to Flynn property also. Bernie Brown: So that right of way has still not been obtained. John Snider: We're not sure where the road goes; when the State tells us where the road goes we'll work on that side to determine what the right of way is going to be. It could go on Henderson property/McGruder property. It could go on Electron's property. It could go on Rice's property. Until the State tells us where it's going ... I know there is a lot of misconception out there in the community about this and I'm sure you're heard it from some of your people. Until we know where that's exactly going we're not sure. On the other side it's much easier; one property owner, Attorney Wantland has the copy of the general right of way we're got and I think in January we should have a metes and bounds capability down through there to get a final right of way.

Mayor Ellis: I want to wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving. If you are traveling, be safe on the road.

Dana Bischoff James made motion to adjourn. Randy Hammond 2nd. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

R. Scott Ellis III, Mayor

Tammy Richmond, City Clerk