

**CITY OF SHEPHERDSVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, December 10, 2012**

Pastor Randy Pace, Family Worship Center gave the invocation  
Pledge of Allegiance was recited  
Mayor Ellis called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Council members present: Bernie Brown, Don Cundiff, Robert Flaherty, Larry Hatfield, and Corky Miller.

Mayor Ellis called for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the 11/26/2012 regular meeting. Don Cundiff made motion to dispense with reading. Larry Hatfield 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

Mayor Ellis called for a motion to approve minutes as written from the 11/26/2012 regular meeting. Bernie Brown made motion to approve. Corky Miller 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

Mayor Ellis announced that City Hall will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> in observance on the Christmas Holiday and December 31<sup>st</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> in observance of the New Year Holiday.

**Old Business:**

City Attorney Joe Wantland had second reading and public hearing on Ordinance 012-(number to be assigned) rezoning property of Dwight Herman Humphrey Revocable Living Trust & Dwight Humphrey from Agricultural to B-1 Highway Business for a lot size 100' x 200' more or less located on Old Preston Highway (Salt River area). He stated a copy of the recommendation is attached and it was recommended to be approved. Mayor Ellis asked is anyone was present to speak in favor or opposition to this rezoning request. There was not. Mayor Ellis opened the floor for Council discussion. There was none. Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to accept or deny. Larry Hatfield made motion to accept. Corky Miller 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

City Attorney Wantland had second reading and public hearing on Ordinance 012-(number to be assigned) rezoning property of George and Gloria Blevens from B-2 Central Business to R-4 Residential for a lot size 120' x 110' more or less located at 193 Hester Street. He stated a copy of the recommendation is attached and it was also recommended to be approved. Mayor Ellis asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition of this rezoning. There was not. Mayor Ellis asked for any further discussion from the Council. Larry Hatfield made motion to approve. Corky Miller 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

City Attorney Wantland had second reading of First Amendment to Solid Waste Franchise Agreement. Bernie Brown asked if there were any changes since the first reading. Mayor Ellis answered no and stated he had met with them last Friday and asked them to get us a number instead of a percentage and they still haven't come up with a number. If they are not coming up with a number he stated he didn't see how we could proceed with this. Bernie Brown: I express my concern about that and it still is a concern. Mayor Ellis: If we can't come up with a genuine number instead of a percentage it's a little difficult. Don Cundiff: What was their response when you met with them Friday? Mayor Ellis: They still had not come up with a number yet. That's all they could tell me. Bernie Brown: I can understand to some degree too that since it hadn't been bid out they don't know; but we don't either. Robert Flaherty: Another big concern with looking at this is the fact that this agreement requires the City file criminal actions and civil actions against residents who haven't paid their bills. That may be a good idea in some cases, there may be some cases where it's not. But the fact that this agreement gives the City no option; it says that we shall file civil actions and we shall enforce those judgments, file liens and we shall file criminal actions. I don't know how wise an idea that is

for the City to be taking these residents to court over garbage bills. Like I said there may be certain instances where that makes sense but it needs to be looked at on a case by case basis and not just a blanket agreement where it says we have to do it on every single one even after the agreement is over. We have to do it even if they owe \$1.00. I've got a real problem with the agreement as far as those terms. I think there should be more discretion as far as how the City carries out its enforcement actions. Bernie Brown: Is there a possibility that we could get some bids. I don't think this is really urgent that this be approved right now. Mayor Ellis asked City Clerk Richmond if everything had been sent out for the bids. City Clerk Richmond: Bids are going in the paper the next few days for the three times required with final run on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January opening bids on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Ellis: That was the conversation we had Friday in my office; basically it's no big hurry as long as we do it by the end of March according to them. City Attorney Wantland: I would recommend to the Council to have a lump sum payment. I second Rob's comments. We do need more discretion on how we collect these bills. We do not want to set ourselves up where we are mandated to have to have to do some kind of collection procedure on this time schedule. Larry Hatfield: Run this by me one more time. Basically what we've got it a situation to where we've got \$50,000-\$75,000 in people that's not paying their bills. So the question is going to be to the new Council, how can you bid this fairly and make sure that everybody is paying their garbage bill. City Attorney Wantland: You've changed the Ordinance to make it easier for the collection procedures against the owners of the property. Larry Hatfield: Does the new Ordinance say shall. City Attorney Wantland: No. It makes it a criminal offense for the owner of the property to fail to pay. Robert Flaherty: But it allows for some discretion on how the City enforces and collects it. What this amendment does it basically places the City in the position as acting as a collection agency for Eco-Tech. I don't think we want to be that. I understand that delinquencies are a problem and we're working on solutions to try to collect those and do a better job for the City. City Attorney Wantland: Table it and see if the Mayor can come up with a number; that's what I recommend. I definitely don't want let's say, the garbage pick-up raises for whatever reason, 20-25% and the City is committed to pay 5% of that. Larry Hatfield: Their argument is going to be they came in on the old Ordinance which said "shall" am I correct? City Attorney Wantland: I have to say with Eco-Tech we have met with them. I think Eco-Tech is wanting and desires to work with the City. Eco-Tech knows that the Chief and I have worked together to do a process on how to notify the delinquent customers that there are going to be steps taken to bring them to court one way or the other. That's in the works. I think Eco-Tech knows that we are bolstering our collection efforts and we're going to be focusing in the future on owners. I think Eco-Tech has been pleased with the response. Larry Hatfield: There is just no easy way of doing this. It's been a bear all the years that I can ever remember. It wasn't so bad when we had the water company because we could shut their water off. But when the water company was dissolved I don't know of any other way but to go to court; but as Rob says we don't want to spend \$50.00 to get \$1.00. Larry Hatfield made motion to table. Bernie Brown 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

### **New Business:**

Bob Ryan presented the 2011-2012 Audit to the Council. Bob Ryan: We're here under better circumstances. I'd like to just start out by saying that this year the audit proceeded smoother. I did not meet your November deadline; came close. We got it done before the year end. What you received the other day was a rough draft. Some has changed, not a lot of what was in that but there were some grammatical corrections and some numbers were changed. But for the most part what you received the other day is a draft was not changed. The one that you have in front of you is the final copy. In this report on my letterhead is my email address and my telephone number and of course my mailing address. So should you have any questions on this whatsoever after having taken a chance to take it home and sit down in your chair during the Christmas holidays and read it; just let me know what your questions are. I do prefer email. That way I have your written question in front of my so there is clarity there and hopefully within a 24 hour period I will respond back with answers to your question. Having said that I would direct you to the report of the Independent Auditor. On page 3 I do state in the third paragraph that in my opinion I believe these financial statements do fairly represent in all material respects the financial position of the City of Shepherdsville, Kentucky. You

recall last year because of my not being able to satisfy myself with audit evidence on some of the numbers that it was a qualified opinion. This year it is an unqualified opinion which in the profession we call a "clean opinion". Page 5 and 6 is the statement of net assets of the City. Its three columns; the governmental activities, the business type activities and a total. This is based upon general accepted accounting principles, which include income on the full accrual method and expenses on the full accrual method meaning revenue was recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred. It included all the debt and the capital assets of the City. Page 6 you have net assets of the City of \$6.5 million and of the water/sewer operation, the business type, \$19.5 million. Page 7 is the statement of activities or an income statement. And again this is in reverse to a regular for business income statement as it starts out with expenses. Expenses of the City are things that can generally be recognized from year to year that are pretty steady, level. Then you look to how you're going to pay these expenses. So you start out with your expenses and reduce those by the revenues that the City has raised. This year down toward the bottom, the net change, there was an increase of \$2 million in the net assets of the City and an increase of \$7.5 million in the net assets of the water/sewer operation. Page 8 is a snapshot of the current assets and the current liabilities of the general government as of June 30, 2012. What this looks at is in the column under general government the City has current assets of almost \$1.9 million in assets that can be liquidated within a year and liabilities that are due within a year of \$1 million. So there you have almost a two to one ratio. Page 10 is another type of income statement for the City for the general government. It's an all-inclusive income statement in that it includes revenues received from all sources and that includes increase in debt, additional borrowing, and expenses from all sources which is payment of principle on debt and purchase of capital assets. In this particular statement when you add the two columns of government and municipal aid fund across to the total there was a net decrease of about a quarter million dollars (\$253,000). Page 12 is the balance sheet of the water/sewer operation. The difference between this one and the statement of net assets is this one is broken out into current assets, long term assets, and current liabilities and long term liabilities. You have current assets in the water/sewer operations of \$4.3 million with current liabilities of \$1.6 million. Page 14 is an income statement for the water/sewer operation. The water/sewer operation had net operating income of \$2.8 million which it used to retire debt and purchase some capital assets. And again a net change in the assets of the water/sewer operation \$7.5 million. Page 15 is where your cash came from and how it was spent. It's the statement of cash flows. In this toward the bottom of the page there was a net increase in cash of \$3.5 million. Keep in mind under cash flows investing activities of this increase \$3 million came from a BRAC grant so you have to look at the whole statement. It's not that you received \$3 million in additional income. Pages 17-44 are the notes to the financial statement. This is a discussion of the accounting principles that were used to compile these financial statements. It gives detail on the capital assets for both the City and water/sewer operation that are reported in the statement of net assets. And then there are some rather lengthy pages on the debt of the City showing the total debt and the current debt, the debt that is due within this year, 2012-2013. Back on pages 40-44 are schedules showing the amortized payment of the debt of the City interest and principle. If you would total up all the totals on the line that says for 2013, the City is scheduled to pay \$2 million 70 thousand in debt for the year that we are in now. Pages 50-55 this is the detail income and expenses behind the numbers that are reported in the statement of activities. Page 56 & 57 is my letter on compliance and other matters. Internal control has improved dramatically. Again as I say you have a better accounting system in place. I have no comment on internal control. There still is the compliance issue with having the two reserve funds set aside for retirement of two notes. On page 58 I do bring out that there are estimates in these financial statements and the major estimates are depreciation in recognizing the wasting away of your capital assets. On the government side \$588,000 expense for depreciation, this is not a cash figure, this is a calculated number based upon the estimated life of the assets and with the water/sewer operation depreciation is \$655,000 and \$60,000 in amortization of bond costs. There were some adjustments that were all posted to the general ledger. No disagreements with management. I had no consultation with other independent auditors. No issues or findings other than the reserve being set up. On page 61 local government requires that entities that receive economic aid for development have an accounting system where they care accurately track receipts and spending of these funds because they are strictly for economic development of a

City and in this letter I do state that the City has such an accounting system in place. Larry Hatfield made motion to bring both sinking funds into compliance with the law. Then the only thing the new Council will have to worry about coming in is finishing the interceptor and getting in compliance with federal mandate, and get your \$3.5 million on permanent financing. Bernie Brown 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent. Bob Ryan: That is my presentation on this year's audit. On a sidebar when I made the presentation last year in February I mentioned the amount of time and then I wrote a letter to the Mayor requesting the opportunity to submit an additional billing for the work incurred. I did not do that until today because I wanted to get an idea of the time that would be involved in doing the audit under normal circumstances. When I did the proposal for 2011, 12, and 13, I based that on 160 hours. This year the audit took about 180 hours. The audit for 2011 took 420 hours. So I did not bill for the difference between 420 and 160. But I did this evening give the Mayor an invoice for that additional time for your consideration. The additional bill submitted tonight plus the agreed upon audit fee is still under the \$25,000 that you paid in previous years. Bernie Brown: We found the financial situation to be a mess and I know I contacted Bob Ryan last year and I know he did not know what the situation really was here. I didn't have a full idea. I knew it was a mess. I don't think I said too much to him about it I was afraid he wouldn't do our Audit if we did! I can understand where you had to spend a lot more time that you had anticipated. Corky Miller: Mr. Ryan in doing last year's and this years can you foresee a light at the end of the tunnel? Bob Ryan: Oh definitely. There have been a lot of positive changes in the past year. A filing system that makes sense that you can find bills in. When you pull out the bills you can find for the most part the proper documentation attached to them. Not to say that it's perfect, not to say that these are 100% perfect financial statements; they fairly represent the financial position. But in comparison to the audit in 2011 and 2012 it's as different as night and day. City Attorney Wantland: I want to take a moment at this meeting this Council is the first Council in a long time that received the audit of the budget ordinance that it passed and this Council needs to be congratulated for that. That's the first step. This Council insisted and as Bob has indicated it's not November, it's December but this Council passed the Ordinance and this Council received the Audit and for that this Council needs to be congratulated and complimented. That was good work by the auditor, and it was good work by the Council. The person responsible for the ordinance is now receiving the responsibility of the audit and that's the way it should be and that is a good compliment. This Council again through its hard work and through the work of the employees, I want to sound this again thank you Mr. Ryan, a clean audit. Don Cundiff: Do we need a motion to pay him the extra money because I'd like to see us pay him before we go out? Bernie Brown: I'm going to go out on a limb and make a motion that we pay Bob Ryan that additional money. I think it's been well worth it. Don Cundiff 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent. City Attorney Wantland: And finally for this Council with Mr. Ryan present looking the cursory at the audit the City for the first time at an audit presentation by an auditor we have liquidity. And again that is a compliment to the Council. It was a lot of hard work and Bob was present, he said part of it is generating revenues and part of it was cutting expenses and this Council has done both. And again the Council did a lot of hard work also and is to be complimented. Bob Ryan: Sometimes after you have gotten the pot holes fixed on your street it's time to make the decisions that are necessary and are hard and that the people have elected you to make. This Council did that.

City Attorney Wantland read Resolution 012-018 authorizing the Mayor to close the City of Shepherdsville Police CID account at PBI Bank and open same account at First Federal and providing signatures on said account. Robert Flaherty made motion to approve. Corky Miller 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

City Attorney Wantland read Resolution 012-019 authorizing the Mayor to open a Savings Account for the City of Shepherdsville Unallocated Funds at Stock Yards Bank and providing signatures on said account. Bernie Brown: Is this unallocated funds the same as the emergency reserve fund? Mayor Ellis: Yes. Bernie Brown: Why don't we call it Emergency Reserve Fund? Mayor Ellis: We can call it Emergency Reserve Fund. On the budget it's listed as unallocated funds, it doesn't have a name so that's why she did that. Bernie Brown: On the financial report it's showing as the Emergency Reserve Fund. I'd prefer it be kept that way. In fact I would even like to see that Resolution state it's a declared emergency so that it's a true emergency

situation. Otherwise we could see that money being used for a lot of things. Who is going to decide and define an emergency? City Clerk Richmond stated she could change the wording but suggested to go ahead and pass it to get it opened up. Bernie Brown: Just insert declared emergency and call it the emergency reserve fund. That's my suggestion. What do the rest of you think? Robert Flaherty: I think we want to be careful about the terminology we use because a declaration of an emergency has a very specific meaning under State law and that's generally only in the event of a natural disaster so that would limit those funds to only being used in that event; if that's what you want that's okay, but if it comes up a situation where you wreck a fire truck and you need money right away to get a replacement, that wouldn't qualify as a disaster under State law and your hand will be tied. I just want to make sure that the terminology will not handcuff the Mayor and the future Council on what they can do. Bernie Brown: That's one extreme but then there's the other extreme too. Robert Flaherty: As far as who makes the decision it's going to be the people elected to make it and if they make a good decision great; they make a bad one, there's consequences for that. I don't want to handcuff them and put them in a situation where those funds are unavailable for anything other than a declared disaster. That would be my only concern in making sure we're careful on the language we use. Mayor Ellis: The language should be actually just Emergency Reserve fund. Robert Flaherty: Emergency Reserve and that's what matches the financial statements. I think that would be appropriate. Bernie Brown made motion to refer to account as the Declared Emergency Reserve Fund. Motion died from lack of 2<sup>nd</sup>. Robert Flaherty made motion to open account with name Emergency Reserve Fund consistent with the financial statements. Corky Miller 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 4 in favor; 1 opposed; 1 absent.

City Attorney Wantland read Resolution 012-020 authorizing the Mayor to open a Savings Account for the City of Shepherdsville Sewer Department Unallocated Funds at Peoples Bank of Bullitt County and providing signatures on said account. Larry Hatfield made motion to open account named Emergency Reserve Fund. Don Cundiff 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

City Attorney Wantland read Resolution 012-021 authorizing the Mayor to cash the CD at First Federal Savings Bank and open a Savings Account for the City of Shepherdsville Sewer Department Fund Reserve Account at Peoples Bank of Bullitt County and providing signatures on said account. Larry Hatfield made motion to approve. Robert Flaherty 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

Larry Hatfield made motion to approve payment of December general fund bills. Bernie Brown 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

Larry Hatfield made motion to approve payment of December sewer bills. Robert Flaherty 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

**Daryl Lee:** Nothing to report.

**Duane Price:** Nothing to report. Meeting is Thursday.

**Sign in Speakers:**

**Steve Larimore:** I was going to write a letter to Tom and have him put it in the paper but I figured it would be better to say it face to face. I'm impressed. I think you guys have done one whale of a job for the last two years. The mess we started looking at two years ago. I've been your biggest antagonist but I've also been your biggest supporter. I just want to thank you all. I cannot believe how far we've come. And I think you guys should be very proud. I'm sad to see a bunch of you leave. I wish you were reelected. I hope that the incoming folks on the City Council take this as serious as you have. And I think we owe you a great debt for some of the hard decisions you've had to make. Some of the things that haven't been so popular that have gotten the City back on the right track. I only hope that what we do now is we continue to move forward and we start looking at strategic plans. Scott, I hope you guys are going to carry the ball to keep things moving.

A couple things I really wanted to say that I was very impressed with was the responsiveness from the staff, Tammy, I never waited too long to get a response from you when as a citizen I asked you questions. I appreciate that. The transparency; you guys didn't dodge a lot of questions. You did dodge some but I think as you became more confident in what you were doing, you really shared with the community what was going on and I appreciate that. Big kudos for getting the audit done. Joe I was back there smiling the whole time you were talking. I remember last year trying to figure out if we were going to get our road funds or not and trying to figure out just how this audit was going to work and all the things we had to go through. To see it happen tonight was pretty rewarding for me as a citizen. Getting a Controller on board. Again smart move. Good move. And more than anything else I think the dedication in seeing the City improve and not just tucking tail and saying woe is me and actually tackling some tough issues. So on behalf of some of us that come often and as much as we can, thank you very much. Your hard work is appreciated. Whether anybody knows it or not you guys done one hell of a job so thanks, appreciate it.

**Gary Board:** I've got a two part question and I've talked to some of my neighbors and they are wondering the same thing. In the afternoons around 5:30 if you're heading west on Cedar Grove and you're approaching the intersections to the two business parks, why is Cedar Grove heading west one lane because there is a patrol car sitting in the right hand lane when you get to the light? Chief Puckett: It's to help get the Zappos traffic out. In fact it's been flowing better doing it that way that it did when there was nothing there. The traffic flow is better. The accidents are way down. Everybody is giving us great compliments on doing it that way. Gary Board: I can understand it can help the people getting in and out of Zappos but what about the residents trying to get past Zappos. Chief Puckett: The residents I've talked to haven't had a problem with that. They're talking 3-4 minutes in trying to get up to the expressway. Gary Board: Well I know this past week I sit there for about 8-10 minutes just from Mrs. Hamilton's property to get through the light. Chief Puckett: If you did it last year you would probably be 20-30 minutes getting there. Gary Board: Well that may be true. Chief Puckett: We can only do so much. You've got probably 4000-5000 more people working in that area right now than we had before. We've got to get that traffic out so the traffic is getting out; the delays are not near as bad; we're not having as many accidents as we had last year. Overall I think it's working very well. Gary Board: I just couldn't understand why blocking the one lane westbound was necessary. Chief Puckett: That's to keep traffic flowing out of Zappos where you don't have to stop them and it keeps more traffic flowing westbound. Gary Board: Any plans for any traffic problems from Park 480 when it opens up? Chief Puckett: We'll have to address that when it happens. Gary Board: Because you know with people possibly trying to get on the interstate especially heading north, there won't be a light there and you're going to have people especially if they all get off the same time. I look for more accidents then because of people not wanting to merge or yield right of way getting on to 480 heading north. So I didn't know if there were any plans yet to address that problem if anybody is looking into the future on what to do. Chief Puckett: We're always looking to the future but right now we're trying to get through this.

**Duane Price:** Well everybody stole my thunder I had for tonight, the high fiving and back slapping! Anyway I want to thank you all. That's no joke. When you all took office a couple years ago you know the dire straits we were in; bankruptcy to the State. And I'm like Steve I think you all have done a heck of a job. I didn't agree with your decisions and you knew that because I told you all that when you were doing it but I was wrong and you all came out right and I want to thank you all for that. Rob I've only known a couple years but I want to thank you for your service. Me and Larry have been friends for a long time. And my lawyer right there, we don't get along all the time but he's still my lawyer. Scott and Tammy I appreciate you all. Corky you're the only famous man I've ever met. Don you've always been my friend and Bernie, you're a good man. Also on top of that I want to thank Chuck and the Sewer Department. They went from nothing to where we're at today with your guidance also. But anyway the money that's coming in like we just heard from the auditor, I mean everything is starting to straighten up. I don't think people really realize what shape the City of Shepherdsville was in when you all took over. And like Steve said you all have done a heck of a job and I appreciate that. I feel better now knowing that I can trust your decisions that you've made. You've

really made some good decisions. You all have a Merry Christmas. I really appreciate the things you've done for the citizens of Shepherdsville. I know you all had to go to bed at night worrying about these things and I know that the sewer increase at the time I was irritated about it and I know you all didn't do it out meanness. I know it was a hard decision for you all but it had to be made like you said. And it's paying off what you've done.

### **Department Reports:**

**Claude Middleton:** I want to introduce our new addition to Public Works, Caleanna Morley.

**Chuck Keith:** I want to bring you up to date on some of the stuff that's been done. Best Western, Lakeview, Centerview has been taken off line. They're all gravity now so that means no electric bill, no maintenance, and no equipment bills for them. To let you know the rain gauge at the sewer plant over the weekend said we had 3.6 inches of rain. With the changes that we've made, we didn't have one SSO, not one. I was telling the guys this is good but the State isn't going to believe us! They're invited to come out and look next time it rains. Eastview, by the first, will be off line. It will be all gravity. Cedar Grove, they've started that. In 30-90 days it will be off line. We're really going in the right direction. We've updated VFW and Raymond Road. VFW literally had duct tape holding it together on some of the old stuff but it's all been updated. Just a little thing on the connection fees, which we budgeted \$25,000, we were conservative but today we've taken in just over \$80,000 on connection fees. The Sewer Plant is doing good and I just wanted to let you know that and it's mainly because of you all and the decisions that you did make. I thank you for it. We've got 4 new guys now. We've got manpower, we're doing manhole inspections, cameraing, cleaning, and we're doing everything we're supposed to be doing for the State. Did anyone here read the last quarterly report? It's all good. We're doing good and like I said it's mostly because of the decisions you all made to give us the funds to be able to do it. Mayor Ellis: Michael Kruger with the Division of Water sent us a letter giving us a clean slate; something to be proud of.

Mayor Ellis recognized Judge Executive Melanie Roberts who was in the audience tonight and thanked her for coming. Judge Roberts: If you want to see how your County tax dollars are spent feel free to come to the next Fiscal Court meeting December 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. Council members thank you for what you've done and incoming members I look forward to working with you.

### **Council Reports:**

**Robert Flaherty:** First I just want to say thank you. I want to thank the Mayor and fellow Council members; it's been a pleasure this past 8-9 months. I learned a lot. Regret that I didn't have more time to try to accomplish more because I know there is a lot of work left to be done but one of my main priorities in any position I've been in is to be able to say that the organization or the group I was working with was better off on the day I left than when I came in and I feel like that's true here. I know there is still a lot of work that needs to continue but Shepherdsville has tremendous potential and I think it's going to take commitment from everyone involved to realize that. I want to congratulate all the successful candidates, Bernie and of course Faith and the ones coming in. You've got a big job and I've had the opportunity to meet with a couple of you and I'd like to meet with those I haven't yet. It's going to take a strong commitment to keep moving us forward and I don't get that impression from anyone I've met with so far but if any of you think you can come and sit here two meetings a month and that's it, you're not going to be successful. It takes a lot of work. There's been very few weeks that have gone by that I haven't been down here for a meeting whether it's one day, sometimes two, sometimes three days a week anywhere from 1 or 2 hours to 3 or 4 hours a day. So it takes a lot of work to keep us going forward. There are still a lot of issues facing the City as you've heard a lot of good news tonight some corners have been turned but there is still a lot of debt obligations to meet at the same time trying to move the City forward and improving the services that our citizens expect and deserve. We can't just sit back and do nothing. Our citizens deserve a good quality of life and it's not about making things bigger necessarily it's about making them better and improving the quality. I want to

thank all the staff, Tammy, Brenda, Leanne and Gayla for all their work. Anytime I've needed anything all I had to do was ask and they got it for me. All the employees, I didn't get a chance to meet everyone necessarily, but had a chance to work pretty closely with a number of you especially our department heads, Claude and Chuck, Chief Troutman, Chief Puckett. In addition Dan Patchin, Ted Calvert, Scott Fleming, you guys have been great to work with and I've enjoyed it. I'm going to miss the opportunity to work with you. Again if anyone, elected officials, employees, I'm not going anywhere. This is my home. I've been here my whole life. I left and went away to school for a few years and lived in a different State and worked different places but I came back here and this is where I'm raising my family, I've got a 7 year old, a 4 year old and another one on the way in March so I plan on being here for quite some time. If anyone ever needs anything or has any questions feel free to call me, email me, whatever, I'll help in any way I can. Hopefully I'll have a chance to work with the City again in on manner or another in the not too distant future and if that comes around I'll jump at it and I'll look forward to it. God Bless everyone and I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year and I'll see you around.

**Larry Hatfield:** I just want to welcome all the new Council. I missed the last meeting but if at any time I can help you all or you have any questions I've drug this chain a long time and I remember one thing back in the last 80s that Arson Moore told me, he said in politics if you're not making somebody mad you're not doing your job. I know I've made a lot made and I've made a lot happy but I'll be here if you need me and thank everybody for working with me. Merry Christmas.

**Corky Miller:** Before I say anything, Tom I'd like you to remember to put this in. Thank Zappos for paying our off duty police officers. I don't want people in the City to think our police force in the City is paying for that. They are doing a great job out there on Cedar Grove Road at directing traffic and tonight I was backed up when I first got there and in 4 minutes I was on the expressway. With traffic the way it was I think that was great. I would just like to say I enjoyed my time here. Being an old ex-coach I think my motto is persistence, togetherness is the key to success of anyone, of any corporation, of any team, and I think we've got one more step to make this group really great and that is to hire a City engineer to take care of the problems of the ordinances that pertain to the City that they are enforced and done with mapping, surety bonds for developers and these type of things. I think you've got the ball rolling when you do that. Thank you for everything and Merry Christmas to everybody.

**Don Cundiff:** I had a couple things. I hope even though we haven't gotten it done yet that the new Council can continue working on the drainage issue on Shawnee Acres. I hope that doesn't get dropped. And I hope that you all will be able to get a drainage plan in place. I know we've talked about that. I'm sorry we haven't gotten that done but I hope that will move on. One other thing I hope you all will look in to, we talked a great deal about at the beginning of the year was some kind of inventory control system. I know Bonnie Enlow was a big believer in that. I think that would be really good for the City to follow up on that. I really hope that's two items that the incoming Council will consider. I was really hoping we could get those done. I just want to thank everybody. I really enjoyed my time working with the City. I want to thank the employees that stuck with us. I know it was really a tough time. We didn't know what kind of shape we were going to be in. I know we lost a lot of good employees but to all you all that stuck with us from the bottom of my heart I want to thank you all. You are appreciated great and we do appreciate you. I just want to say thank you to everybody and wish everybody a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Bernie Brown:** The last almost 24 months now have been a little rough. It's been a roller coaster ride really and I know that we had to do some things last year that was not popular; hated to do and it made some people angry. There are still some angry over it. I think we did the right thing for the City and in the long run I think the people of Shepherdsville will realize that. In fact a lot already are realizing it. I want to thank the ones that have been on the Council here this year and last year too. Don, I want to wish you and Larry the best. I know you both served for a long time on the Council and as Mayor, Larry and I know that the City



means a lot to you, all of you and we are all trying to work together, I think we have the same objectives and that is make Shepherdsville a nice good place to live, to work and raise a family. I think we are on the right road. There is still a lot to do as Rob said. Rob and Corky I appreciate what all you have done coming in here and I know Don just mentioned it, we have lost some good people and we hate that but those of you that have stuck with us and stayed here, we want you to know we do appreciate what you've done, what you are doing and Shepherdsville is going to get better. It's going to be a wonderful place. It should be and it can be. And that's what we want to make it.

**Mayor Ellis:** I want to say there's been times that each and every one of us were probably ready to strangle each other at different times throughout the past two years. But for the most part any time we've been in meetings whether it be in Executive Session or just meetings here, there's been more laughter in those meetings than actual ready to kill each other even though we disagree we all came to the same conclusions and did what we felt was right for the City and I appreciate each and every one of you. I wish all of you the best of luck in the future and I look forward to working with the new incoming Council members, Gloria Taft, Jose' Cubero and Dana Bischoff James are here tonight I look forward to working with you. These guys up here, they are being honest with you. They had to make some choices the past two years that were not popular. There are some big shoes that you're going to have to fill up here with the decisions they made and I know that you're going to be able to do it and I wish you guys the best of luck and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

**City Attorney Wantland:** This Council has been through a lot and I remember being with Don Cundiff and Larry Hatfield at the old City Hall when we talked about building the wrong sewer system and put the gears in reverse and coming up with a different program and now it's coming to fruition. We now have the interceptor and it's going to save the community and these citizens thousands. It's been a long road since the old City Hall but you guys were there, you carried the torch, you seen it through. Mayor, you stuck through and we now have the first time in this City, for many many years, through your guidance and hard work, we now have uniform taxation throughout the City. That's a big accomplishment. Everybody in the City pays the same tax. It's great. We've got a fella in the back, we worked hard with the City Clerk, we have, if you go to the internet to the Secretary of State local government, on the land records, you can see the City of Shepherdsville. That map looks 1000% better than it did two years ago. Good work. Again we now have money in the bank. We're paying our bills on time. There was a September I remember where it was pretty darn close. We had to hold our breath that we were going to make it. So for whatever people say and whatever people do, this Council has been awesome. You have really worked a many, many things you've worked on have not come to fruition this time. Again Jose', Gloria and Dana, you've got some big shoes to fill because this Council coming together has accomplished an awful lot including every time I turn around now Tom Barr the Division of Water is saying we are in compliance with our sewer plant and sewer system. We've come a long way baby! Still a lot to do but that is a huge list of accomplishments and the community I know you all feel as part as I do, the community needs to recognize your accomplishments in the last two years and they have been tremendous. So on behalf of the community, I say thank you and Merry Christmas.

Larry Hatfield made motion to adjourn. Don Cundiff 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried 5-0-1 absent. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

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

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