

Minutes for the City of Worthington Hills
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Date: January 16, 2024

Present: Robert Stonum Dennis Metcalf Susan Maupin Crystal Adams
 Dan Small Bev Lush

Citizens Present: 1

Derby City Protection: 0

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Stonum with motion by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Metcalf. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was recited, followed by a moment of silent prayer.

Citizen Concerns: None

2024 Commissioners' Assignments

- Discussion if all commissioners will keep their current positions; or if the positions will change. Mayor Stonum presented a letter from Commissioner Beville (who was unable to attend tonight's meeting) that she approves that all commissioners keep their current jobs. Motion was made by Commissioner Maupin and seconded by Commissioner Metcalf to leave all commissioners in their current positions.
 - o Commissioner Adams – Property Maintenance
 - o Commissioner Beville – Road
 - o Commissioner Maupin – Utilities
 - o Commissioner Metcalf – Public Safety & Health

Minutes: The December 2023 minutes were brought up for approval. Motion was made by Commissioner Metcalf to approve the minutes with the corrections made earlier in the day and seconded by Commissioner Maupin. Vote was unanimous.

Financial Report: The December 2023 Financials had been distributed to the Commission for review and posted on COWH website prior to the City Meeting. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Maupin and seconded by Commissioner Adams. Vote was unanimous.

Expense Review: The cover sheet of January invoices along with invoice copies were passed around for Commissioners to review and initial. No approval motion was needed since Commissioners had already initialed and approved.

Legal Services: None.

Old Business:

- Commissioner Adams advised that she heard back from Evergreen Irrigation. They said there was no leak at the water meter. She asked if Mayor Stonum had heard anything back from the Water company, but he said no, he hadn't. He suggested that Commissioner Adams advise Evergreen Irrigation to not turn on the water in the Spring until we advise them to do so.
- Update on Welcome Ambassadors open position – no responses yet per Mayor Stonum.
- Green Space litter issue is still doing well.
- Commissioner Metcalf advised the radio checks this evening will be on Channel 4.

New Business:

- *Update on Delinquent Property Tax Issue. Mayor Stonum handed out a spreadsheet showing the collection of delinquent property taxes since 2018 and how outstanding taxes have decreased. In 2019, delinquent tax amount was \$68,000. As of January 15, 2024 – that amount is only \$20,400. Some of these delinquent taxes are from repeat offenders. This shows successful improvement in collection. We do have a problem because the tax bills are printed in May and by the time they are mailed at the end of June, some information, such as owner and/or mailing address may have changed.*
 - o *One sample issue – 4423 Baygarden Court. Title company requested 2022 tax information on June 2, 2023. Closing was June 29, 2023 so the 2022 taxes were paid. The 2023 tax bills were mailed June 30, 2023 to old owners at the property.*
 - o *There is another property with a similar issue.*
 - o *We need to research how we can improve and smooth out this issue for this next tax season.*
- *Some discussion about ordering a KLC book for Rob DeWees. COWH will pay \$50 for this book. Also discussed getting Rob to attend some classes. Motion to approve buying the book was made by Commissioner Maupin and seconded by Commissioner Adams. Vote was unanimous.*
- *Public Easement and downed trees – 4614-4616 Pulaski Court. Harold Hall from Maximus Lawncare advised that some property owners don't take proper care of the trees in their yards which makes the trees heavy on the green space side. The downed tree has a crack in the trunk. Mayor Stonum explained about who is responsible for the cleanup. In the near future, we may decide to send certified letter to this homeowner advising it's their responsibility. Mayor Stonum would like to get 311 involved and have a discussion with the new code enforcement officer. There are also downed tree limbs on a Queen Anne's Court property which have fallen onto the property's fence and into the green space. Mayor Stonum and Commissioner Adams discussed the pictures taken of the area. Commissioner Adams suggested that the falling trees and resulting damages information along with who is responsible could be added to the website.*
- *Mayor Stonum advised that solicitors are ignoring COWH's "No Solicitation" signage and/or ordinance. One recent incident: Mayor Stonum received a call and Commissioner Metcalf located a couple men walking in COWH and advised them of our ordinance. They did not have Metro Louisville official solicitation badges and their AT&T ID badges didn't look authentic so they called police. Residents should be concerned about people like this in our city who are walking the streets, not approaching any home doors, and carrying an electronic device which could be searching for WIFI and other radio frequencies/signals from key fob(s) or garage door opener(s). The collected information correlates to a GPS location, and then it's used to break into a home and/or vehicle(s) at a later time. In addition, there's a module device which plugs in under a vehicle's dash that's used to deactivate the vehicle's security system and start the vehicle.*
- *City Clerk Lush asked why a property at corner of Lunenburg Drive and Halifax Drive has a curb. The curbs were installed years ago by previous COWH Commission members.*

Commissioners' Reports

Utilities Commissioner Maupin:

- *1-2-24 Drove city for streetlight check*
- *1-12-24 Tate Mason reported streetlight flickering out at Lunenburg Ct and Lunenburg Dr via email*
- *1-14-24 Drove city for streetlight check. Streetlight out at 12009 Bay Run Drive. Light flickering on and off at 11911 Tazwell Drive. Light shade crooked behind dumpster 11921 Tazwell Drive.*
- *1-16-24 Reported streetlights to LG&E*
- *1-16-24 Attended city meeting, read emails and will participate in radio check channel 4.*

Property Maintenance Commissioner Adams:

- Will participate in the radio checks with Commissioner Metcalf and everyone tonight – Jan. 16th.
- There weren't any citizen concerns or issues this month.
- Visited the new location for the 2024 city meetings – 9408 Blossom Lane Louisville, KY 40241.
- On December 21st, I informed Mayor Stonum that I was having my furnace repaired and not replaced. No HVAC permit is necessary for a furnace repair.
- On January 6th, I was contacted via email by Mayor Stonum about some tree limbs down in the greenspace between 4614 and 4616 Pulaski Court. Mayor Stonum requested that I let Maximus Lawncare know so we can get it cleaned up. Mayor Stonum and Commissioner Metcalf placed caution tape around the downed limbs in the area.
- On January 7th, I had a conversation with Harold Hall, of Maximus Lawncare, about the tree limbs down. Harold stated that this is the same issue we had in the summer. The trees are located on private property. The homeowner is trimming the side that is inside his or her yard, but they are not trimming the other side of the tree or maintaining the area behind their fence. This is causing the trees to grow in an uneven fashion and become top-heavy on one side and fall or drop limbs into the city greenspace. Harold requested that I advise Mayor Stonum that the trees are located on private property and this will continue to be an issue every few months. Sent Mayor Stonum an email and he put this topic on the agenda for tonight's meeting.

Safety Commissioner Metcalf:

- *Conducted radio checks after last City Meeting*
- *Will conduct radio checks tonight using Channel 4*
- *Went to Post Office with Mayor Stonum each Friday except Friday 1/12/24*
- *Went to Dan Small's office and storage area with Mayor Stonum on one occasion*
- *On 1/6/24 – I received a call from Mayor Stonum that we had 2 solicitors in the neighborhood on Bay Run Drive. When I arrived Mayor Stonum had followed them to Northumberland Drive. When he requested they leave the city, they refused and were verbally abusive. The Mayor called LMPD. The officer finally requested they leave which they did but they continued with inappropriate remarks.*
- *On 1/6/24 the Mayor called me and informed me that an individual stole approximately \$25,000 worth of jewelry from a home on Lunenburg Drive. I called Detective Mason to let him know.*
- *On 1/13/24 I received a call from Detective Tate Mason that a gun was stolen from a house on Rustburg Place. One of the residents of the home was roughed up and assaulted by the perpetrator.*

Road Commissioner Beville:

- During this period I reviewed each COMMONWEALTH SEVERE WEATHER ANALYSIS forwarded by Mayor Stonum and kept in touch with Mason at Mow Better. The streets were pretreated but plowing was not necessary. During the pretreatment on 1/15 the crew ran out of magic salt and the areas around Bay Run were not treated. The crew returned late in the day and completed the work.
- There were many instances of vehicles parked on the roadways throughout the COWH during the periods of wintery mix and Derby City Protection cited those vehicles.

Mayor's Comments – None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM with a motion by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Maupin.

Signatures:

City Clerk: _____

Date: _____

Mayor: _____

Date: _____