City of Taylor Mill Special Commission Meeting February 15, 2017 7:00 p.m.

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Bell and Commissioner Kreimborg.

**MINUTES:** Minutes from the January 11, 2017 Commission Meeting.

GUESTS: William Slagle – 4702 Church Street (Overton Drive Access).

**LEGISLATION:** 2<sup>nd</sup> **Reading** of an Ordinance amending the text of the Zoning Code in regards

to Section 9.29 and Section 10.19 for the DTM 2 Regulations.

**Proclamation** celebrating the City of Taylor Mill's 60th Anniversary.

**Resolution** in regards to the elimination of Prevailing Wage Requirements.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** OpenGov Update (Mayor Bell).

Request by PDS to rename portions of existing roadways for 911.

NEW BUSINESS: COTM Fiscal Year 2016 Audit (Stephanie Allgeyer, VonLehmann & Assoc)

KCPC Appointment.

KLC Legislative Agenda Update (Mayor Bell). Fuel Prepayment Ordinance (Mayor Bell).

Commission Meeting Packet Distribution & Info (Commissioner Frietch)

**BUILDING & ZONING:** 

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** City Administrator.

Legal Counsel. Maintenance.

Administration. Engineering.

Parks & Recreation.

Finance.

Police.

Fire.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** 

61.810(c) – Discussions of proposed or pending litigation.

61.810 (f) – Discussions or hearings which might lead to the appt,

discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee.

ADJOURNMENT:

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** 

# City of Taylor Mill SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING February 15, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Bell. Mayor Bell led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation led by Commissioner Kreimborg. The City Clerk called the roll.

Mayor Bell	Here
Commissioner Frietch	Here
Commissioner Kreimborg	Here
Commissioner Murray	Here
Commissioner Peace	Here

The Mayor noted that a quorum was present for the meeting and that the regularly scheduled monthly Commission Meeting had been rescheduled due to the Kentucky League of Cities "City Night" in Frankfort.

Commissioner Murray made a motion to accept the minutes from the Commission Meeting on January 11, 2017 as submitted. Commissioner Frietch made a second. All Commissioners present were in favor.

MOTION CARRIED

### **GUESTS:**

Mr. William Slagle of 157 Kathleen Drive, Ft. Mitchell, KY addressed the Commission. Mr. Slagle stated representing property 4702 Church Street on behalf of Michelle Schwendemann. Mr. Slagle stated the public road off of Church Street, Ovada, needs repaired. Mr. Slagle stated Ovada is between two houses and goes back to the ball field. Ms. Bailey stated the drive is Ovada, not Overton, as listed on the agenda. Ms. Bailey stated Ovada is a street that was developed over a period of time and had never been accepted by the City for maintenance. Ms. Bailey stated Ovada is not on the ordinance of streets accepted by the City. Ms. Bailey stated being unsure of when the driveways were developed off the roadway. Ms. Bailey stated the drive is gravel and has significant eroding. Ms. Bailey stated Mr. Slagle is requesting it be improved in some capacity. Ms. Bailey stated Mr. Slagle would like to access his garage and property. Ms. Bailey stated Mr. Slagle has provided documents and court records. Ms. Bailey stated it is an issue that needs discussed with Mr. Wichmann. Mr. Wichmann stated the City has no obligation

to maintain Ovada. Mr. Wichmann stated once the City starts maintaining it, the City would then have accepted it. Mr. Wichmann stated the City would be subject to some liability if someone was hurt on it. Mr. Slagle reviewed suggested improvement ideas and costs provided by an independent contractor. Ms. Bailey stated Mr. Roden will schedule a time with Mr. Slagle to look at the roadway. Ms. Bailey stated the issue will be back on the agenda in March.

Mr. Keith Riddell of 5134 Taylor Mill Road addressed the Commission. Mr. Riddell stated his property is across from 5/3rd Bank. Mr. Riddell stated a sweeper has been running each night for the past month. Mr. Riddell stated calling the police twice. Mr. Riddell stated being unsure if it is coming from the Holland property or the Remke property. Chief Knauf stated he will reach out to them tomorrow to see who they contract with. Chief Knauf stated he will follow up with the officers to let them know it is an ongoing problem. Ms. Bailey reported the Holland Rosen Group indicated not having street cleaning done at that time. Mr. Riddell stated the sweeper runs for approximately forty-five minutes.

Ms. Rose Merritt of 866 Robertson Road addressed the Commission. Ms. Merritt asked the Commission when one of the names will be changed for Robertson Road. Ms. Merritt stated it is a safety issue. Ms. Merritt stated a squad run occurred last month that Fort Wright responded to and went to the wrong Robertson Road. Ms. Merritt suggested also changing Old Taylor Mill Road. Commissioner Murray suggested an East Robertson Road and a West Robertson Road. Ms. Merritt stated preferring a complete name change. Ms. Bailey stated both streets Ms. Merritt discussed is on the agenda.

Mr. Roger Reis of 836 Robertson Road addressed the Commission. Mr. Reis stated sending flyers to neighbors to discuss the Robertson Road name issue. Mr. Reis stated names were put together and presented to the City. Mayor Bell asked if Mr. Reis could come back with one name. Commissioner Murray stated another person also submitted names. Commissioner Murray suggested putting all the suggested names together and presenting them to neighbors. Mr. Reis stated he can go back to the other residents and come to a consensus. Ms. Bailey stated Jamie Schworer submitted a letter with suggested names that she will provide Mr. Reis.

#### **LEGISLATION:**

Mr. Wichmann gave a second reading of Ordinance No. 318 (02-15-17) of the City of Taylor Mill, in Kenton County, Kentucky, amending the text of Taylor Mill Zoning Ordinance to amend Sections 9.29 and 10.19 regarding some DTM regulations. Commissioner Murray made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 318 (02-15-17) of the City of Taylor Mill, in Kenton County, Kentucky, amending the text of Taylor Mill Zoning Ordinance to amend Sections 9.29 and 10.19 regarding some DTM regulations. Commissioner Frietch made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Murray – Yes Commissioner Frietch – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes Commissioner Peace – Abstained

#### MOTION CARRIED

Prior to voting, Commissioner Kreimborg stated the past Commission, and everything they did to approve the professional development plan, was done in the best interest of the City. Commissioner Kreimborg stated the past Commission wanted professional development. Commissioner Kreimborg stated this will loosen the guidelines for development and allow for things that are a little less desirable than the previous Commission wanted. Commissioner Kreimborg stated he understands what the residents want and a lot of concern for that is to improve infrastructure. Commissioner Kreimborg stated a UDF will not make a significant difference as far as the amount of money brought in for infrastructure. Commissioner Kreimborg stated Commissioner Peace's attorney gave a presentation stating UDF will bring in eighty thousand dollars a year. Commissioner Kreimborg stated asking Ms. Bailey to ask Ms. Wright for information regarding what BP brings in. Commissioner Kreimborg stated BP brought in a total of eleven thousand five hundred and eighty-eight dollars to the City.

Mr. Roger Reis of 836 Robertson Road addressed the Commission. Mr. Reis asked Commissioner Peace if he got the requested information together from his attorney. Commissioner Peace stated he did not pull the information but will provide it to him. Commissioner Peace stated BP is on the books for eight hundred thousand dollars and UDF will be on the books for three and a half million dollars, which is four times the property tax. Commissioner Peace stated the attorney referred to city, county, and state tax. Mr. Reis asked if there is a reason the requested information was not provided. Commissioner Peace stated the eighty thousand dollar number is defensive. Mr. Reis stated Mr. Shulkens stated he was here to work with the City. Mr. Reis asked Ms. Bailey if Mr. Shulkens had a sit down meeting with the City. Ms. Bailey stated not having any conversations with Mr. Shulkens outside of the Commission Meetings. Commissioner Peace stated the plans had never changed. Mr. Reis stated concern of requests not being followed up on.

Mr. Michael Blackburn of 707 Forest Lane addressed the Commission. Mr. Blackburn suggested the Old Taylor Mill area on Remke side was previously Robke Farm. Mr. Blackburn stated Robke Farm would be a good name for that portion of Old Taylor Mill Road. Mr. Blackburn submitted information to the Commission regarding the Red Tape Reduction Initiative. Mr. Blackburn stated concerns regarding lack of development on Decoursey Pike and in the Districts. Mayor Bell stated site-readiness issues with Decoursey Pike. Commissioner Murray stated issues with landowners selling property to developers.

Ms. Bailey read a Proclamation of the City of Taylor Mill proclaiming 2017 as a year of community wide celebration to honor our past, celebrate our present, and embrace our future, in honor of the City's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Commissioner Kreimborg made a motion to adopt a Proclamation of the City of Taylor Mill proclaiming 2017 as a year of community wide celebration to honor our past, celebrate our present, and embrace our future, in honor of the City's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Commissioner Murray made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes Commissioner Murray – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Frietch – Yes Commissioner Peace – Yes

#### MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Bell asked Ms. Forsyth to find out the oldest living resident in Taylor Mill through the Taylored with Time Senior Group members.

Ms. Bailey read Resolution 313 (2-15-17) of the City of Taylor Mill commending the Kentucky General Assembly for the passage of House Bill 3 during the 2017 Regular Session. Commissioner Frietch made a motion to adopt Resolution 313 (2-15-17) of the City of Taylor Mill commending the Kentucky General Assembly for the passage of House Bill 3 during the 2017 Regular Session. Commissioner Peace made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Frietch – Yes Commissioner Peace – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes Commissioner Murray – Yes

**MOTION CARRIED** 

Commissioner Kreimborg explained prevailing wage.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Ms. Bailey stated Open Gov is a financial transparency portal that affixes to the website. Ms. Bailey stated the cost is approximately four thousand dollars per year. Ms. Bailey stated it is compatible to the financial software and will allow the City to share the budget for each department. Ms. Bailey stated residents can log on and receive updates. Ms. Bailey stated Ms. Wright can update it easily. Ms. Bailey presented Open Gov on the City of Fort Wright's website. Mayor Bell stated the program will assist with Open Records Requests. Ms. Bailey stated Open Gov will be a part of the budget that will need adopted each year. Mr. Reis asked if there is a tracker to see how many people use it. Ms. Bailey stated yes and she is interested in that. Ms. Bailey stated residents can call her for any questions. Commissioner Frietch stated it is a good idea and transparency is important.

Commissioner Frietch made a motion to implement Open Gov. Commissioner Peace made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Frietch – Yes Commissioner Peace – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes Commissioner Murray – Yes

#### MOTION CARRIED

Ms. Bailey stated the Planning Commission is recommending two roads be renamed. Ms. Bailey stated Robertson Road is an issue. Ms. Bailey stated the Planning Commission and 9-1-1 recommends not doing an East/West or North/South division due to the roadway not connecting. Ms. Bailey stated the Commission can do it however they would like, but that is the recommendation. Ms. Bailey stated several streets in the community have dual names. Ms. Bailey stated it is asked that a street name is not picked that is already existing in Kenton County. Ms. Bailey stated three new apartment buildings are being constructed at the back of The Farm Apartments. Ms. Bailey stated they are having problems identifying addresses for the locations. Ms. Bailey stated being contacted in regards to renumbering and renaming Old Taylor Mill Road. Ms. Bailey stated instead of readdressing everyone on Old Taylor Mill Road in the business districts, to renumber the one building in The Farm Apartments circled. Ms. Bailey stated the next new building will be readdressed to sequentially fit into that order and the building circled on the map will be readdressed. Mayor Bell noted it is a great idea. Ms. Bailey stated the Planning Commission would like one of the Old Taylor Mill Roads renamed. Mayor Bell suggested keeping the addresses for the business district. Commissioner Peace asked if there is a still a problem with the renumbering issue solved. Commissioner Peace stated he does not see it as a problem. Commissioner Kreimborg suggested leaving it the way it is. Commissioner Murray stated keeping the businesses the same. Commissioner Murray suggested sending a survey out. Commissioner Kreimborg stated businesses come and go and there are residents who lived there for years. Commissioner Frietch agreed with Commissioner Kreimborg. Commissioner Frietch stated she would like to see consistency on name changes. Mayor Bell stated Old Taylor Mill Road may not be a great name going through the business section. Mayor Bell suggested surveying the businesses to see if they would like another appropriate business name. Commissioner Murray suggested sending surveys to both ends of Old Taylor Mill Road. Ms. Bailey stated the addresses on Pride Parkway will be changing soon.

Ms. Bailey stated it had been the policy of former Commissions that roadways not be named after individuals. Ms. Bailey asked the Commission if they feel the same way. Mr. Blackburn stated Holland Drive is named after an individual. Mayor Bell stated the Holland Drive name was chosen due to Mr. Holland spending ten million dollars in Taylor Mill. Commissioner Peace stated the number is inflated. Mayor Bell stated seven million dollars.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Ms. Stephanie Allgeyer of VonLehmann & Associates addressed the Commission. Ms. Allgeyer presented the City of Taylor Mill Fiscal Year 2016 Audit. Ms. Allgeyer reviewed highlights from various pages of findings. Ms. Allgeyer stated in their opinion, the financial statements present fairy, in all materials respect, the respective financial position of the government activities and each major fund of the City of Taylor Mill, Kentucky, as of June 30, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position, thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting

principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Ms. Allgeyer reviewed pension liabilities. Ms. Allgeyer recommended segregating duties in terms of receipts that come in. Ms. Allgeyer stated understanding that is difficult due to office size. Ms. Bailey stated a part-time accounting firm was hired to help with segregation of responsibilities. Commissioner Murray stated there are no electronic signatures. Ms. Bailey stated two signatures are required on every check. Mayor Bell stated the report shows the City is financially sound with no debt.

Commissioner Murray made a motion to approve the Taylor Mill Fiscal Year 2016 Audit. Commissioner Kreimborg made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Murray – Yes Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Frietch – Yes Commissioner Peace – Yes

#### MOTION CARRIED

Ms. Bailey stated the City Commission recently had a Special Meeting to interview candidates for the Kenton County Planning Commission. Ms. Bailey stated the Commission selected Mr. Matthew Martin.

Commissioner Murray made a motion to appoint Mr. Matthew Martin to the Kenton County Planning Commission. Commissioner Peace made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Murray – Yes Commissioner Peace – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Frietch – Yes Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes

### **MOTION CARRIED**

Mayor Bell gave a brief Kentucky League of Cities Legislative Agenda update. Mayor Bell stated cities are currently in favor of restricting road aid funds.

The Fuel Prepayment Ordinance was tabled until a later date.

Commissioner Frietch stated she would like to receive the Commission packet a number of days before the Commission Meeting. Commissioner Frietch stated being particularly interested in the financials. Commissioner Frietch asked when financials are closed. Ms. Wright stated checks are entered three times a month. Ms. Wright stated approximately three days towards the end of the month all deposits and journal entries are made for that month. Ms. Bailey stated department reports are typically due by noon the Friday before the meeting. Ms. Bailey stated the bigger issue is residents can request to be on the agenda through noon on Friday. Ms. Bailey stated

timing can be adjusted to whatever the Commission would like. Ms. Bailey stated her preference is to provide the packet in its entirety at once. Commissioner Murray stated he prefers one packet. Commissioner Frietch stated wanting more financial reports to be included. Ms. Bailey stated not being familiar with how the software works by design due to writing the budget and signing checks. Ms. Wright stated she can generate any level of detail the Commission would like to see. Ms. Bailey asked for clarification on the date for packet distribution. Commissioner Murray stated Thursday. Ms. Bailey stated the agenda will close by noon on Thursday prior to the meeting. Ms. Bailey stated from this point forward, department reports are due by noon on Wednesday prior to the meeting.

#### **BUILDING AND ZONING:**

No Building and Zoning to report.

### **REPORTS:**

# **City Administrator**

Ms. Bailey gave an update on mold remediation. Ms. Bailey stated a delay was caused due to additional mold the inspector found in a wall cavity in the Police Department. Ms. Bailey stated the City received a passing score on air quality. Ms. Bailey stated staff is back in their offices and items are still being unpacked. Ms. Bailey stated each department is up and operational again.

Ms. Bailey stated play playground information has been provided to the Commission. Ms. Bailey reviewed information regarding an ADA swing to be donated to Pride Park. Ms. Bailey reviewed a location identified as appropriate for the swing. Ms. Bailey stated the company has a lead time of three to four weeks. Ms. Bailey stated the purchase will need coordinated with the donor. Ms. Bailey stated if the City purchases the item and received the donation from the donor, it will save him taxes.

Ms. Bailey stated a packet of information has been provided regarding a Revolution Inclusive Spinner. Ms. Bailey stated Pride Park is missing a merry-go-round and this particular item is on sale for three thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine dollars with free shipping. Ms. Bailey stated she would like to purchase the spinner with money allocated in the Recreation Fund for new playground equipment and replace the missing merry-go-round. Ms. Bailey stated this particular equipment allows for ten children to use and is handicap accessible.

Commissioner Murray made a motion to purchase the Revolution Inclusive Spinner for three thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine dollars. Commissioner Kreimborg made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Murray – Yes Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Frietch – Yes Commissioner Peace – Yes

#### MOTION CARRIED

Ms. Bailey read Municipal Order No. 65 (02-15-17) of the City of Taylor Mill, in Kenton County, Kentucky approving the appointment of members of the Board of Adjustments for the City of Taylor Mill. Commissioner Kreimborg made a motion to adopt Municipal Order No. 65 (02-15-17) of the City of Taylor Mill, in Kenton County, Kentucky approving the appointment of members of the Board of Adjustments for the City of Taylor Mill. Commissioner Murray made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes Commissioner Murray – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Frietch – Yes Commissioner Peace – Yes

#### MOTION CARRIED

Commissioner Frietch made a motion to appoint Mr. Scott Smith to the T.B.N.K Board. Commissioner Peace made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Frietch – Yes Commissioner Peace – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes Commissioner Murray – Yes

# **MOTION CARRIED**

## Engineering

Mr. Brueggemann gave an update on the Pride Parkway Lighting Project. Mr. Brueggemann stated the contractor completed a couple borings that were necessary for the conduit to be placed. Mr. Brueggemann stated the contractor will get started on pouring the concrete bases for the light poles. Mr. Brueggemann gave an update on the Taylor Mill Sidewalk Project. Mr. Brueggemann stated the right-of-way negotiator is on board. Mr. Brueggemann stated the process should start moving forward along with the process of negotiations will individual property owners. Mayor Bell asked Mr. Brueggemann to determine how many more feet of sidewalk the City will need to get to Walnut Street. Mr. Brueggemann gave an update on the Church Street Project. Mr. Brueggemann stated the project is on hold while waiting for SD1 to make a determination of moving forward or not. Mr. Brueggemann gave an update on the Pride Parkway/Honey Traffic Signal Project. Mr. Brueggemann stated the contractor submitted required shop drawings for the poles. Mr. Brueggemann stated CT and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet reviewed the shop drawings. Mr. Brueggemann stated comments that required changes by the contractor has been

submitted to the contractor. Mr. Brueggemann stated once revisions are made and approved, the poles can be ordered. Mr. Brueggemann stated the poles have a long lead time of three to four months. Commissioner Murray commented he thought the completion is spring time but now it is the end of summer. Mr. Brueggemann stated the project has moved along at a pace appropriate for the project but the poles have a long lead time. Mr. Brueggemann stated the poles are special order. Ms. Bailey stated the project was designed and permitted through the state. Commissioner Frietch requested Mr. Brueggemann include dates on the updates in his engineering report. Mr. Brueggemann stated it is a great idea and will add dates. Commissioner Frietch asked for information on the Rosewood Project. Ms. Bailey stated a public hearing will be held March 14th at 11:00 a.m. Ms. Bailey stated the City Commissioners are not required to be at the public hearing. Ms. Bailey stated the property owner requested to meet in the afternoon. Ms. Bailey stated the project will be ready to bid after the public hearing. Mayor Bell asked for an update with the guardrail on Old Taylor Mill Road. Mr. Brueggemann stated the municipal road aid emergency funding application is complete and Ms. Wright is sending it out tomorrow.

# **Finance**

Ms. Wright stated the report from the auditor will be put on the website once final documents are received. Ms. Wright stated she can adjust the financial reports to reflect the level of detail the Commission would like to see. Ms. Wright stated an increase in volume in passports and a Passport Event will be held Saturday, March 18th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Taylor Mill City Building. Ms. Wright encouraged residents to call for specific details pertaining to minor children passports.

# <u>Fire</u>

Commissioner Murray stated for the month of January the Fire Department took thirty-two EMS calls and thirty-seven Fire/EMS calls for a total of sixty-nine calls for service. Commissioner Murray stated mutual aid was received one time and given four times. Commissioner Murray stated there was twenty-one ALS runs and eleven BLS runs. Commissioner Murray stated total billing was twenty-six thousand nine hundred and seventy dollars.

Commissioner Murray made a motion to hire Rodney McKibben from part-time to full-time Firefighter. Commissioner Frietch made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Murray – Yes Commissioner Frietch – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes Commissioner Peace – Yes

### **MOTION CARRIED**

Chief Stager stated Firefighter McKibben is a great hire and a good wealth of knowledge. Chief Stager stated four staff members finished their EMS re-certification. Chief Stager stated if residents have questions about winter hazards to call the station. Chief Stager stated 814 is back

in service. Chief Stager stated waiting to hear back regarding 815. Chief Stager stated the Fire Department is accepting bids for a new ambulance. Chief Stager stated the department may be losing another full-time member to the City of Florence. Chief Stager stated a couple of part-time employees have left. Chief Stager stated he will be posting for full-time and part-time applicants.

# Legal

Mr. Wichmann stated a need for an Executive Session under 61.810 (c), discussions of proposed or pending litigation.

# **Maintenance**

Commissioner Peace stated the Maintenance Department has been working on signs and potholes. Mr. Roden stated signs are being replaced in High Ridge. Mr. Roden stated the department will be replacing signs on Pride Parkway. Mr. Roden stated the state closed Mason Road due to a landslide. Mr. Roden stated the Maintenance Department has been working with them hauling dirt.

# Parks and Recreation

Commissioner Kreimborg stated a recreation meeting is scheduled next week with Ms. Bailey and Ms. Forsyth to finalize events. Ms. Forsyth stated to kick-off the City's anniversary celebration, residents and business owners are encouraged to participate in a photography contest, My City - My Photo, to help capture the beauty of Taylor Mill with a single photo. Ms. Forsyth reviewed age divisions. Ms. Forsyth stated first place winners from each category will receive a fifty dollar gift card and recognition at the May Commission Meeting. Ms. Forsyth stated more information is forthcoming regarding the Diamond City Medallion Hunt. Ms. Forsyth stated the Easter Egg Hunt is April 1st and the Shred Event is April 22nd.

# Police |

Commissioner Frietch stated accidents were down by six with only eighteen in January. Commissioner Frietch stated narcotics and drugs were up six from December. Commissioner Frietch stated the Fighting Heroin Walk is April 29th and more information is to come. Commissioner Frietch stated citations went up since December, along with vacation and business checks at two hundred and six. Chief Knauf asked to review his Executive Summary. Chief Knauf stated last year the Police Department had a horrible year with retention. Chief Knauf stated losing four officers due to new pension laws and inadequate salaries. Chief Knauf stated the Commission adjusted salaries in July with existing staff. Chief Knauf stated not having to pay thirty-one percent of retired officer salary to the retirement board. Chief Knauf stated at a starting salary of forty-five thousand dollars, it is fourteen thousand dollars paid to the retirement board. Chief Knauf stated the City hired three veteran retired men that the City does not pay a retirement contribution on. Chief Knauf stated the problem of two officers being approached by other departments. Chief Knauf stated if the department lost one officer and trained a recruit it would cost approximately sixty-two thousand dollars before getting a return on investment.

Chief Knauf requested giving the retired officers each a five thousand dollar raise and an additional week of vacation. Commissioner Murray asked about the salaries of the employees who have been with the department for fifteen plus years. Commissioner Murray asked what happens when no one is being sent to the academy after all the retired officers are done working. Commissioner Kreimborg asked Chief Stager how his department would feel about the Police Department giving raises and if that happens, will Chief Stager come back for more money for his employees. Chief Stager stated this issue is all across public safety. Commissioner Murray stated he thinks there will be issues with other employees. Mayor Bell stated police and fire safety cannot be sacrificed. Mayor Bell suggested sending one candidate to the academy in September with a three year contract. Chief Knauf stated contracts are bought out and it's not cost effective. Commissioner Frietch asked if retired officers are under contract. Chief Knauf stated no. Commissioner Frietch stated if the City did this, there is no guarantee that the officers will not get another offer from another City. Commissioner Frietch stated it is a difficult subject to balance. Commissioner Frietch asked what the possibility is of extending pre-employment contracts to four years. Mr. Wichmann stated three years is statutory. Commissioner Murray asked what happens when officers come back with another offer. Chief Knauf stated to tell them it's the best offer. Commissioner Murray stated the Fire Department loses employees often. Chief Knauf stated he is talking retired officers. Mayor Bell stated Kenton County offered five thousand more last year. Chief Knauf stated that was to Mike Lyons who is not a retired officer. Chief Knauf stated that incident helped get salaries increased. Commissioner Murray stated Mr. Lyons stated he did not leave for the money but because of the department. Chief Knauf stated taking issue to that. Commissioner Peace stated no to giving raises midterm and to leave it alone. Commissioner Peace stated the officers will stay until something better comes along. Commissioner Peace stated it's a license for extortion. Commissioner Murray asked if the City can do a contract on a retired officer. Mr. Wichmann stated no. Mr. Wichmann stated the contract that the City has is authorized by statute and the purpose is to protect the City's investment in schooling, uniforms, weapons, and things of that nature. Mr. Wichmann stated it provides if the police officer terminates their employment within a three year period of time, the hiring police agency has to pay the City a percentage of their investment. Mr. Wichmann stated all the other parts of employments, salary, benefits, are not contractual. Mr. Wichmann stated the statute requires the City have a personnel pay and classification plan. Mr. Wichmann stated there can be different classes of employment with different ranges of pay and benefits. Mr. Wichmann stated a re-hired, retired, police officer can be a classification with a different salary, but there is no written contract where you can differentiate members of that class.

Chief Knauf cited other departments participating in a similar program in Northern Kentucky. Chief Knauf stated time is of the essence. Commissioner Murray stated being worried with the department's morale. Chief Knauf stated speaking to eighty percent of the department and them being okay with it.

Mr. Charles Mauer of 3193 High Ridge Drive addressed the Commission. Mr. Mauer stated the Commission approved four thousand dollars for a computer program and four thousand dollars for playground equipment. Mr. Mauer stated the City's protection is important and the priority should be the Police Department. Mayor Bell stated he is inclined to support Chief Knauf but would like someone to go through the Academy. Commissioner Frietch stated this reinforces why she wants detailed reports. Commissioner Kreimborg stated not wanting to jeopardize the

public but is worried the retired officers will come back in a year due to another offer. Commissioner Kreimborg agreed with Commissioner Peace regarding mid-year raises. Commissioner Kreimborg stated if it keeps three good officers they might need to bite the bullet and hope other departments do not come back with offers.

Commissioner Murray made a motion to approve a five thousand dollar raise and an additional one week of vacation to the three retired officers. Mayor Bell made a second. The Clerk called role.

Commissioner Murray – Yes Mayor Bell – Yes Commissioner Frietch – Yes Commissioner Kreimborg – Yes Commissioner Peace – No

### MOTION CARRIED

Commissioner Frietch stated before voting that this could be a hard lesson learned. Commissioner Frietch stated wanting to keep residents safe and secure but this may be readdressed in three to four months. Commissioner Frietch stated more work needs done to make sure where the City stands going forward.

Mayor Bell stated the Commission needed to have an Executive Session under 61.810(c), discussions of proposed or pending litigation. Commissioner Murray made a motion. Commissioner Kreimborg made a second. All Commissioners present were in favor.

**MOTION CARRIED** 

The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:04 p.m.

Commissioner Murray made a motion to end Executive Session. Commissioner Kreimborg made a second. All Commissioners present were in favor.

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Bell called the meeting back to order at 10:30 p.m.

There being no further business, Commissioner Frietch made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Peace made a second. All Commissioners present were in favor.

**MOTION CARRIED** 

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

The next Commission Meeting will be Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Mayor Daniel L. Bell

ATTEST:

DATE: