

City of Rolling Hills, KY – Regular Meeting Minutes

Meeting Place: On-line via Zoom

Tuesday, 10/20/2020 - 7:00PM

Mayor: David Metz

Commissioners:

Michele Fawver (Sanitation)

Brent Monroe (Safety)

Chris Wilmes (Public Works)

Others: Judith Crowe (Treasurer)

Karen Gott (Clerk)

Carrie Ritsert (City Attorney)

David Ricci (Landscaping)

Absent: George Stewart (Code Enforcement), Paul Berrier (Finance)—Unexcused

Guests: Linda DeGrella, Linda Knopf, Amy Hines, Rebecca Rupp, David Elder, David Ricci, Katherine Revers, Nick Roberts, Joshua and Candyce Gordon

The monthly Commissioners' meeting of the City of Rolling Hills, Kentucky was held on October 20, 2020 via an online video conference using the Zoom meeting platform. Mayor Metz called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM and welcomed all.

Approval of Agenda:

Mayor Metz requested that "Barberry bushes" be added to the agenda under new business. Motion made by Commissioner Wilmes to approve the agenda as amended to include the addition of Barberry bushes under new business.

Seconded by Commissioner Monroe. The motion passed.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Motion made by Commissioner Fawver to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2020 meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Monroe. The motion passed.

Municipal Orders:

Treasurer Crowe presented the municipal order 4, series 2020-2021 to pay the bills and requested an amendment to add check #7350 for \$132 to Byron Songer.

Motion made by Commissioner Wilmes to approve municipal order 4, series 2020-2021 as amended to pay the bills. Seconded by Commissioner Monroe. The motion passed.

Public forum:

Katherine Revers, a property owner/landlord stated that she is contesting the property taxes and doesn't think it's fair that landlords have to pay \$200 annually and would like the board's reasoning.

City Attorney:

Attorney Carrie Ritsert gave her report and had two items. First, she mentioned the CARES ACT, which the City wasn't previously going to pursue it, but was going to leave it for future consideration. If the City does wish to pursue it, the CARES ACT deadline is December 31st, unless it is extended, and a resolution for adoption would need to be presented at the November 17th meeting. She noted that other cities have applied and had their police patrol and code enforcement expenses reimbursed. Additionally, KLC requests that applications be submitted by December 1st.

Attorney Ritsert indicated that she had looked to see which ordinances may pertain to dead, dangerous, or decaying trees. She shared Ordinance 2, Series 2012 Section A. Maintenance of Premises of landscape elements and quoted "all premises and landscape elements shall be maintained in a safe, sightly and sanitary condition including but not limited to steps, walks, driveways, fences, decks, pertaining to all shrubs, trees, grass and weeds." Attorney Ritsert feels that this ordinance applies to recently voiced concerns about trees that are going to cause harm because this ordinance does talk about safety and trees.

Safety/Code Enforcement:

Commissioner Monroe gave his report. The reported crime incidents within the ½ mile area from 9300 block of Aylesbury Dr in the City of Rolling Hills were: 1 Burglary, 3 Thefts, 1 Shoplifting, 1 Robbery, 2 Vehicle break ins and 1 theft from a building.

Code Enforcement Officer, George Stewart was absent. Commissioner Monroe indicated that Officer Stewart is continuing to address mostly yard maintenance (overgrowth) and parking code violations via courtesy warnings and citations. There was one abandoned vehicle. Ollie's is pretty much cleaned up. Sign installation, stripes and arrow painting at the intersection of Goose Creek Road and Westport Road has been completed.

Finance:

Commissioner Berrier was absent. Mayor Metz presented the September 2020 Financial Report. Motion to approve the Financial Statement ending September 30th was made by Commissioner Fawver. Seconded by Commissioner Wilmes. Motion passed.

Sanitation:

Commissioner Fawver reported that there have been several large item pickups, which is available every Thursday, with the provision that they be called beforehand.

Public Works:

Commissioner Wilmes gave his report. Five streetlights are out. Three on Langdon, one on Tiverton and one on Aylesbury Drive. All have been repaired by LG&E. Mayor Metz and Commissioner Wilmes met with MSD a few weeks ago at the storm drain at the end of Langdon Drive, where it meets Tiverton Way. MSD indicated that they will need to run a camera down the pipe to determine why it is backed up. Most likely collapsed. LG&E currently has a backlog with their own camera technicians and will subcontract the job out. They aren't giving us a definite timeline but will keep us involved in the process.

Commissioner Wilmes is working on Snow removal bids, using the same specifications that we've previously used since our needs haven't changed. To date he's called multiple companies but most are too small to handle our business. He has received one bid.

New Business

Christmas Decorations Scope of Work/Bids—Commissioner Fawver presented two bids she received. One is from Mr. McCabe, who has done it in the City for years. His quote starts out at \$850 depending on what will need to be purchased due to wear and tear and weathering. He will check the breakers and straighten up anything as he comes and goes from the neighborhood. He had 24 inch wreaths and multi-color lights up front. She also contacted All Lit Up which is owned by Zeppos, a landscaping/snow removal company who does this through We Hang Christmas Lights. The quote from them is \$1,181.90. The deposit, which is 50% is due up front and if you use them every year after that, beginning the second year, they will give a discount. They supply all décor, lights and have a 24 hour turn around if there is something that needs to be repaired/replaced. They test everything but are not responsible for electrical outlet issues should we incur them. Their schedule is filling up quickly, but we can have them put up early and wait to turn them on. They would take them down the week after January 1st. Commissioner Fawver made a motion that we accept All Lit Up's quote. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Monroe. Motion passed.

Commissioner Fawver will handle working with this vendor and schedule turning on the lights near Thanksgiving, as their schedule allows.

Snow Removal Scope of Work/Bids—Commissioner Wilmes is working on Snow removal bids. This has been tabled until the November 17th meeting with the goal of approving a bid at that time.

Sidewalk Ramp Bids—Commissioner Berrier had previously looked at the ramps throughout the City and eight ramps were identified that could benefit from work. Bid requests were sent out to Kaufman Concrete, S & S Concrete and Lawrence Concrete. Mayor Metz reported that Kaufman Concrete's bid was \$19,800, Lawrence Concrete's was \$14,000 and S & S Concrete gave two bids. The first was to replace all eight ramps, for \$11,000. A second option was to include the removal of the broken curbing out of the median that starts at Aylesbury and runs north to Kenlock. The curbing removal would add \$2,000 to S & S Concrete's bid, making it

\$13,000. S & S Concrete is clearly the lowest bidder. Mayor Metz asked our landscaper, David Ricci to put together a bid for only for the removal of the broken concrete curb.

Mayor Metz added that we'd make S & S Concrete aware that they may get either the \$11,000 or \$13,000 contract depending upon Mr. Ricci's bid.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fawver to approve S & S Concrete's bid at \$13,000 subject to receipt and review of a bid from David Ricci. Seconded by Commissioner Wilmes. Motion passed.

Mayor Metz noted that the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) insurance has grants available for improvements to the city, and noted they have a grant category for slip and fall prevention and sidewalk replacement. He subsequently submitted our application for \$1,500 and gave them our invoice for our recent sidewalk grinding.

Need for Commissioners January 1—Mayor Metz reported that currently Commissioner Fawver is listed on the ballot for re-election. Clerk Gott added that two other write-in candidates for Commissioner have registered. Those candidates are: Shalonda Gregory and Audrey Wagner. Joshua Gordon is a potential candidate but had not yet filed paperwork to be a write-in candidate.

Barberry Bushes—Mayor Metz indicated that there have been complaints of poor visibility at the intersections of Goose Creek Drive & Aylesbury Drive and at Aylesbury Drive & Langdon Drive attributable to the Barberry bush overgrowth. Additionally, the Burning bushes and Taxus shrubs have also reduced visibility. Mayor Metz recommended that in talking with David Ricci, that we remove the bushes as soon as he has time. David Ricci presented two options. Option A: Removal of the Barberry bushes alone, to include raking existing mulch into the hole left by the bushes would be \$240, which would include Barberry shrubs at both ends of the median. Option B: Removal of the Barberry bushes, Burning bushes and Taxus shrubs, to include raking existing mulch into the hole left by the bushes would be \$670. A separate bid for low maintenance re-landscaping, which would be able to be maintained below twenty four inches in height contains: 8 Boxwoods, 12 Golden Mops, which are already used on Langdon Drive, plus weed barrier, 7 cubic yards of river gravel plus 22 variegated Liriope. The re-landscaping bid breakdown would be \$1,085 for materials, \$1,320 for pickup/labor/installation, totaling \$2,405.44. Including the removal of the shrubs it would be to \$3,075.44. David Ricci indicated that if we chose not to re-landscape now, that a late March planting would be fine. Commissioner Fawver made a motion to remove existing bushes to include raking existing mulch into the holes left by the shrubs for \$670 and let the new Commission decide what to plant. Commissioner Wilmes seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Old Business

Langdon Court erosion update – Mayor Metz recommends we continue to wait for results of pipe scoping from MSD before spending the money that was previously approved for this project.

Tiverton Way at Langdon Drive intersection—the northern lane is extremely rough and bumpy. The previous repair was subpar. On November 3rd Louisville Water Company will be closing the intersection down from all three directions to make the road repair. They will have a supervisor on site. It should take about three to four days for the repair. Commissioner Wilmes is coordinating this with Louisville Water Company and will notify Westwood as well as Meadow Vale police. Residents will be notified of the intersection closure via social media.

Speed bumps—Tabled until Spring 2021.

Dumping of tree trunk and damage to City property—Mayor Metz is still working on this issue.

Shopping Center Entrance/Exit issues—Mayor Metz is still working on this issue.

Damaged light at Langdon Drive entrance to the City of Rolling Hills—Mayor Metz and Commissioner Fawver have ordered the replacement fixtures, as was approved in the September 2020 meeting. Once they arrive, an electrician will need to install them.

Curb Painting Proposal: David Ruhl—Treasurer Crowe reported that he will begin painting weather permitting probably in the next week or two.

Green Space Development Update—Mayor Metz reported that all residents were invited via the newsletter to view the landscape architect's proposed ideas for the Green Space and give feedback. The event took place at Bearno's restaurant on October 15th. Residents' feedback is now being compiled by the landscape architect. A report is expected in November.

Speedhump Reflective Signs Purchased: Status of Installation—Commissioner Wilmes needs to work on it especially in conjunction with the snow removal bid.

Fencing at rear of shopping center—This project deferred to Spring 2021.

Codification Update—Clerk Gott reported that American Legal has our ordinances and we are waiting for them to do their work.

COVID Funds—Mayor Metz indicated that was what Attorney Ritsert had previously mentioned. To date our only COVID related expenses have been the monthly subscription to Zoom for holding our meetings. We did not incur any other expenses that in Mayor Metz opinion would qualify for reimbursement.

Opioid Funds—Mayor Metz said it is a National lawsuit that he put our name on.

Stop Bar Striping Bids. Deferred to Spring.

Public Forum

Owner/landlord Katherine Revers reiterated her protest of the property taxes and requested that she be given an explanation of the City's reasoning for charging the annual \$200 to

landlords. Mayor Metz explained that property taxes and the \$200 annual fee charged to landlords are two separate items. In 2014, the Commissioners of the City of Rolling Hills passed Ordinance 17, establishing the annual rental license fee of \$200 per rental property. One of the reasons we have an annual license fee is that we are looking for information about who these landlords are inside our City, so when there is a problem with a property, we know whom to contact. Additionally, the City incurs thousands of dollars in expenses for code enforcement and a disproportionate amount of code enforcement activity involves rental properties. The fees are used to offset these code enforcement expenses.

Resident Linda Knopf asked that we make timeliness a priority in our snow removal contract.

Resident Candyce Gordon asked whether the City provides a scope for snow removal.

Commissioner Wilmes confirmed that the City does provide the scope. Candyce Gordon suggested that in our contracts that we include key performance indicators. Commissioner Wilmes commented that he'd be glad to talk with her further about her suggestions.

Adjourn

Commissioner Wilmes made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Fawver, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Mayor

David Metz

Clerk

Karen Gott

Date Minutes were approved: November 17, 2020