

PRESENT: Commissioner Katrisha Waldrige
Commissioner Scott Tippet
Commissioner Eric E. Whisman
Commissioner John R. Sower
Mayor William I. May, Jr. (5)

ABSENT: None (0)

Note: Commissioner Sower arrived at 5:04 p.m.

Following roll call, Mayor May called the Work Session to order.

Mayor May called for citizen comments and reminded everyone to use the sign in sheet.

Citizen Comments

Kathy Warren spoke in support of the Franklin County Humane Society and presented a personal check to Sam Marcus to help with the new building.

Sam Marcus, representing the Franklin County Humane Society, commented on where the project is at this time, the plan has been revised as well as the funding request.

Bo Cracraft spoke in support of the new turf fields at Capitol View Park and the Sower Soccer Complex. He expressed that timing is important to these projects.

Employee Recognition

Mayor May commented about the Cheers for Peers program and thanked all staff for their hard work and dedication. Recipients of this month's award were Kim Wainscott from Finance and Rebecca Long from the Sewer Department.

Staff Reports

Katie Beard, Director of Public Works, spoke about the Downtown Master Plan and several items that are currently in the works such as Blanton's Landing, sculptures, downtown parking study, bourbon marker pole, and many items to bring economic growth downtown. Ms. Beard also spoke about decorative lighting that would be placed on St. Clair & Broadway, mainly in the EDC that we are exploring and will require permission from the property owners.

Discussion Items

Dr. Houston Barber, Superintendent of Frankfort Independent Schools and Mark Kopp, Superintendent of Franklin County Schools, spoke in support of a new YMCA and what we can do to help growth and development. Following that statement, a request was made for the City to offer \$500,000.00 per field regarding all three local facilities. A total request of \$ 1.5 million was made to help the City and community to grow and open its doors to the facilities.

Mayor May spoke about the need for a stage that would require staff to prepare a budget amendment. Jack Kennedy, committee chair for the downtown summer concert series was in attendance and supports the idea of purchasing a stage.

It was moved by Commissioner Whisman, seconded by Commissioner Sower, to pass over the Mayor and Commissioners salary discussion item. Following a discussion regarding the ordinance, revisions will include clarifications and clean up measures from 2017, Commissioner Sower withdrew his motion. Keith Parker, City Manager, stated this item will be on the January 27 Regular Meeting agenda.

Keith Parker, City Manager, spoke about Sustainable Strategies contract renewal of which their contract expired in December of 2019. Mr. Parker read through the highlights of grants from the last year and there will be additional numbers from Rebecca Hall, Community Relations/Grants Manager provided on the January 27 Regular Meeting agenda.

Commissioner Tippet requested an update on the grant for Dolly Graham Park. Rebecca Hall, Community Relations/Grants Manager, stated that the contact has retired and is currently trying to back track. It was moved by Commissioner Tippet, seconded by Commissioner Whisman, to direct staff to prepare a budget amendment and earmark funds up to \$500,000.00 not to be used until grant disposition is complete for Dolly Graham Park. The question was put upon the motion and the roll called. Those voting in favor of the motion were Commissioners Waldrige, Tippet, Whisman, Sower and Mayor May (5). Those voting against the motion were none (0). The motion was thereupon adopted.

Bobby Ripy, IT Director, spoke about the proposed change to Google G-Suite and utilize money already budgeted for other yearly maintenance costs that will be discontinued to fund the implementation. Following a brief discussion, the Board of Commissioners gave approval to move forward with the project.

Unfinished Business/New Business

Commissioner Sower requested a budget amendment for lights at Capitol View Park on field 1; estimate of \$300,000.00 for fields 1 & 2. It was moved by Commissioner Tippet, seconded by Commissioner Sower to earmark up to \$300,000.00 for lighting poles at Capitol View Park upon review of staff. The question was put upon the motion and the roll called. Those voting in favor of the motion were Commissioners Waldrige, Tippet, Whisman, Sower and Mayor May (5). Those voting against the motion were none (0). The motion was thereupon adopted.

Commissioner Whisman spoke about establishing a P3 for the animal shelter and requested a joint meeting with the county to come to an agreement.

Sam Marcus, representing the Franklin County Humane Society, stated they are happy with the plan and do not want to start over.

Commissioner Whisman suggested that any unpaid parking citations which are paid can be donated to the Franklin County Humane Society. Staff will research.

Keith Parker, City Manager, spoke about the deadline to the State regarding the Broadway Bridge.

It was moved by Commissioner Whisman to fund up to \$10,000.00 towards a Working Bridges complete study of the Broadway Bridge for the good of the community. Motion fails for lack of a second.

Commissioner Sower requested the City Solicitor check on canines being on a leash in the dog park, which were in the minutes of the Parks Board on October 16, 2019.

Commissioner Sower suggested more urban street trees on Capital Avenue that do not block the view.

Commissioner Sower stated hats off to Mike Chapman in the City Garage, what a great job he does and thank you.

Commissioner Tippett presented an addendum to expand Fort Hill Historic Sites and Military Road and placed on the registry of Historic Places to be entered into the record. Authorize Mr. Pickens and Mr. Downs from Parks to be the agents. Laura Ross, City Solicitor, will seek out un-redacted information on the necessary forms. Staff should report back in 6 weeks. The Commission agreed without objection.

Commissioner Sower requested a staff update on 2 Way Main at the January 27, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Whisman would like staff to explore offering military discounts at the Parks.

Commissioner Whisman requested a report on what animal control can do regarding the distemper epidemic in raccoons.

Commissioner Whisman requested to create an order for Assistant City Clerk since there is a concern regarding body cams and open records. Name the Paralegal as the Assistant City Clerk.

Citizen Comments

James Rue spoke in support of turf soccer fields and offered assistance to the Board of Commissioners.

Louis McClain stated there has been activity on trails at Fort Hill. Trees are being cut, clearing of trees, bike tracks on the trails, which is causing erosion issues.

It was moved by Commissioner Whisman, seconded by Commissioner Tippett, to go into Executive Session per KRS 61.810 (1)(b) property – discussion on potential acquisition of real property related to the downtown master plan when publicity would be likely to affect the value of the property and KRS 61.810(1)(c) litigation - to discuss current litigation brought against the City and Planning Commission by FPB regarding the reservoir project (FPB v. Planning Commission et. al.) The motion was adopted by voice vote. The meeting went into closed session at 7:24 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Tippett, seconded by Commissioner Whisman, that the meeting return to open session. The motion was adopted by voice vote. The meeting returned to open session at 8:08 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Tippett, seconded by Commissioner Whisman, that the meeting adjourn. The question was put upon the motion and was adopted by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk