

PRESENT: Commissioner Kyle Thompson
Commissioner Leesa Unger
Commissioner Katrisha Waldrige
Commissioner Kelly May
Mayor Layne Wilkerson (5)

ABSENT: None (0)

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

Ceremonial & Recognition

Commissioner Waldrige requested a moment of silence for Ed Powe.

Commissioner Waldrige congratulated Fletcher Mazaheri who won the gold medal overseas in fencing.

Staff Reports

Eric Cockley, Director of Planning and Community Development, spoke about the Abandoned Property Incentive program. The Ordinance was approved by the Board of Commissioners last November and is meant to connect with property owners acquiring vacant and abandoned property within the City and transferring it to useful ownership and back into productive use to improve our neighborhoods by increasing property values, stimulating the tax base, and reducing crime rates. The properties are listed on the city website.

Sara Anderson, Director of Public Works and Chuck Knowles, Project Manager, spoke about the work that will be starting soon on the Singing Bridge. Stantec was awarded the project and public meetings were held in April 2023. The group has agreed to having a 15-ton limit which will not have much visual impact.

Discussion Items

Update on Traffic Safety - Sara Anderson

Public Works has frequent requests for traffic calming measures for speeding, etc. The Traffic Committee works to rate, grade and determine what concerns need to be addressed with limited funds. The concerns will be ranked, and the group will need to have a complete picture to understand the issues. Public Works would like to get the community involved and possibly hold an open house. Currently research is being done to see what other surrounding communities are doing and see what would work for the City of Frankfort.

Lateral Incentive Discussion - Dusty Bowman

The Police Department will be attending the State Fair, campus visits and out of state visits to try new training measures. Laterals are already trained with many having specialty training. In the past the Police Department has experienced good success with laterals. The trend is now to offer benefit pay, a \$7,500.00 lump sum to sign a contract with a commitment for example. Chief Bowman will continue to work on this item and have accurate numbers on the agenda for the August voting meeting.

Ethics Ordinance Amendment - Laura Ross

The Board of Ethics has requested regular quarterly meetings and if the Mayor does not fill a vacancy within 30 days they can appoint. The ordinance will be amended to make the necessary changes. A draft ordinance was presented, and the Board of Commissioners directed staff to place on the August voting agenda.

Action Items

City/Qk4, Inc., Consultant Agreement Right-of-Way Services Vandalay and Westridge Drives Reconstruction, Extensions and Resolution

In accordance with an impending Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) and City of Frankfort (City) Memorandum of Understanding concerning the subject project, the City is responsible for procuring the necessary right-of-way. The City offered KYTC prequalified right-of-way services consultants an opportunity to respond to a qualifications-based Request for Proposals. The lone responder was Qk4, Inc., (Qk4) from Louisville, KY. Once the City/Qk4 agreement has been approved by the Board of Commissioners and KYTC Secretary Jim Gray has signed the impending KYTC/City Memorandum of Understanding, the City can issue Qk4 a Notice to Proceed.

It was moved by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Waldrige, to accept the agreement and adopt the resolution. The question was put upon the motion and the roll called. Those voting in favor of the motion were Commissioners Thompson, Unger, Waldrige, May and Mayor Wilkerson (5). Voting against the motion were none (0). The resolution was thereupon adopted (Resolution No. 13, 2023 Series).

“A Resolution of the City of Frankfort, Kentucky, Adopting and Approving the Execution of a Memorandum of Agreement between the City and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Transportation Cabinet, Department of Highways for division of costs and duties related to reconstructing West Ridge Road and Vandalay Drive and extending Vandalay Drive in the City of Frankfort (Item No. 5-586)”.

It was moved by Commissioner May, seconded by Commissioner Waldrige, to adopt the resolution. The question was put upon the motion and the roll called. Those voting in favor of the motion were Commissioners Thompson, Unger, Waldrige, May and Mayor Wilkerson (5). Voting against the motion were none (0). The resolution was thereupon adopted (Resolution No. 14, 2023 Series).

Declaration of 8 Police Handguns as Surplus

The purpose of this agenda item is to seek Board of Commissioners approval to declare 8 city owned handguns as surplus for buy back by recent retirees Lynn Aubrey, Travis Curtsinger, Joel Dunmire, and Artie Stratton. Frankfort Code of Ordinance 40.03 (B) allows for the purchase of service weapons by retired officers. Retirees Lynn Aubrey, Travis Curtsinger, Joel Dunmire, and Artie Stratton have expressed interest in purchasing their city service weapons in retirement. In order to complete the transaction to permit the retirees to purchase these weapons, the weapons must be declared surplus by the Board of Commissioners. The forms mentioned in 40.03 have been completed and are on file. As a matter of practice, the Police Department collects donated funds from current officers and staff to purchase a retiring officer's service handguns. By the end of the service, these weapons are heavily used and diminished in value. The total fair market value is determined through websites that specialize in firearms market value. The total fair market buy-back for these weapons is determined to be \$250.00 each, totaling \$2,000.00 for all retiree weapons. This amount has already been given to the Finance Department to reimburse the city for the cost of the handguns. The final step in completing this transaction is the Board of Commissioners approval to declare the following items as surplus property.

4 Glock Model 22 Handguns & 4 Glock Model 27 Handguns

Staff recommends that the aforementioned handguns be declared as surplus property pursuant to FCO 40.03.

It was moved by Commissioner Unger, seconded by Commissioner Waldrige, to adopt the order. The question was put upon the motion and the roll called. Those voting in favor of the motion were Commissioners Thompson, Unger, Waldrige, May and Mayor Wilkerson (5). Voting against the motion were none (0). The order was thereupon adopted (Order No. 8, 2023 Series).

NEA Our Town Grant

The purpose of this memo is to seek the Board of Commissioners approval to apply for a National Endowment for the Arts grant to develop a festival highlighting the talents of regional and national artists using projection mapping and augmented reality as a medium thus creating digital artwork as part of the activation of our Public Art Masterplan and to authorize the Mayor to sign any related documents. The Public Art Masterplan of the City of Frankfort Strategy 6 aspires to determine and create festivals or special events which become signature arts and culture events for the City of Frankfort. Area students and professional artists would be engaged in the festival. The project would afford activation of the Arts Masterplan and reinforce the Public Sculpture and Mural Program which is already a strength in Frankfort. The budget to pilot such an event is \$100,000.00. The NEA requires a 1 to 1 match and a commitment of \$50,000.00 is necessary for the City to participate.

It was moved by Commissioner May, seconded by Commissioner Waldrige, to approve. The question was put upon the motion and the roll called. Those voting in favor of the motion were Commissioners Thompson, Unger, Waldrige, May and Mayor Wilkerson (5). Voting against the motion were none (0). The motion was thereupon adopted.

Discussion of Tentative Agenda

The Board of Commissioner requested the following items on the Regular Meeting Agenda: First Reading of the Planning Commission Ordinance Amendment; Police Department Lateral Pay; Update from Parking Advisory Committee; Rep. from Columbia Gas to explain sloppy work downtown. Laura Ross, City Attorney suggested looking into a gas franchise.

Unfinished/New Business

Commissioner Waldrige requested an update on Interapt. Penny Peavler, Interim Co-City Manager, stated she has been working on the marketing plan and should be ready in another week or so. Also, we can draw on the grant funding now.

Commissioner Waldrige requested an update on the Old Y. Laura Ross, City Attorney, stated we would be having a closed session at the next voting meeting.

Commissioner Waldrige wanted information regarding Planning Boards such as Planning Commission, ARB, BZA. Copies of rules, regulations, bylaws, quorums, training for board members, etc.

Commissioner Thompson requested an update on the transfer of state-owned properties, especially Capitol View Park.

Commissioner Thompson would like to have a future discussion of the potential of moving City Hall.

Commissioner Unger asked about the landscaping bid out around the City. Penny Peavler, Interim Co-City Manager stated that she has been working with staff on suggestions.

Commissioner Waldrige would like to add a community member with financing experience to the Finance Committee.

Commissioner Waldrige said that KSU's Welcome Week starts next Monday, and we will have the Hoggy's Ice Cream Truck at KSU for students. This is a Town/Gown Initiative and additional information will follow.

Commissioner Waldrige suggested for landscaping instead of bidding to use jail inmates, KSU work study program, homeless shelter help, etc. Commissioner Waldrige stated in regard to being on the Parks Committee, the parks are quickly deteriorating, and we must focus on East Frankfort Park. An assessment of the park needs to be done and possibly even dip into the rainy-day fund. Commissioner Waldrige requested a discussion on the next agenda.

Commissioner Waldrige spoke about the grassy area by the benches on Capital Avenue near the church (this is the State).

Commissioner Waldrige mentioned the DIG group's suggestions and we could check off the easy things. Inspectors should all have the same information, and everyone should know their roles.

Commissioner Waldrige stated that the Board of Commissioner should be looking toward interview dates for the City Manager applications. There should be a community panel and a department heads panel for interviews.

Commissioner Thompson requested that a summary be sent to the Board of Commissioners regarding questions on the Planning Commission rules and regulations.

Commissioner Thompson spoke about the Frankfort Today podcast and the weeds and overgrowth on the medians. How do we approach the State to get it taken care of.

Commissioner Waldrige shared that the KSU Pool evaluation is back, and we are waiting on Sodexo.

Commissioner Waldrige requested that Penny Peavler be moved back to her Strategic Initiatives position. Jason Monroe is holding his own right now. With Penny moving back to her old position it would save \$1,300.00 per week and \$5,500.00 per month.

It was moved by Commissioner May, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to go into Executive Session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(b), property "deliberations on the future acquisition of real property related to the implementation of the downtown master plan when publicity would be likely to affect the value" and KRS 61.810(1)(c), litigation "to discuss pending litigation against the City by Kyle Thompson". Action may be taken in open session. The motion was adopted by voice vote. The meeting went into closed session at 6:44 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Waldrige, seconded by Commissioner Unger, that the meeting return to open session. The motion was adopted by voice vote. The meeting returned to open session at 7:36 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Waldrige, to proceed with plans to purchase the 2.41 acres at 772 Wilkinson Blvd. for \$450,000.00, the funding source coming from the general fund and a budget amendment will be needed. The question was put upon the motion and the roll called. Those voting in favor of the motion were Commissioners Thompson, Unger, Waldrige, May and Mayor Wilkerson (5). Voting against the motion were none (0). The motion was thereupon adopted.

It was moved by Commissioner Waldrige, seconded by Commissioner Unger, that the meeting adjourn. The question was put upon the motion and was adopted by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Mayor _____

Attest:

City Clerk