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Frankfort City Commission Meeting Notes

The information provided below is a preliminary, unofficial summary of the most recent meeting of the Frankfort City Commission. This information is not the official minutes of the meeting, which are required to be reviewed and approved by the City Commission. The official minutes of the meetings can be found on the City of Frankfort website at Frankfort.ky.gov, after the official minutes have been reviewed and approved by the City Commission.

Monday, September 11, 2017 –

Frankfort City Commission Work Session – 5:00 p.m.

Note – Typically at Work Sessions the Commission discusses items brought before them, Tentative Agenda items for the upcoming voting meeting, Old Business and New Business. Action is not typically taken during Work Sessions.

Mayor/Commissioners in Attendance

Mayor William May

Commissioner Tommy Haynes

Commissioner Scott Tippet

Commissioner Robert Roach

Commissioner Lynn Bowers

Citizens' Comments

- None

Kentucky Trust

Eric Whisman of the Kentucky Trust addressed the Commission regarding property at the corner of Fourth Street and Capital Avenue, which will be going on the market soon due to the passing of previous owner Dr. Harold Johnson. The property was the former site of "The Magnolias", a historic home that burned around 1910. The lot has been vacant for many decades and Mr. Whisman inquired whether the City would like to purchase the property for a City park. Staff was asked to contact the Parks Board and Parks and Recreation Director Jim Parrish to gather additional information.

Probationary Employee Policy

Human Resources Director Kathy Fields gave the Commission information regarding changing the current policy of allowing an employee a HR Hearing while still under the initial 12 month probationary period. The change would not guarantee an employee hearing if the employee was separated from employment during the initial 12 month probationary period. The Commission agreed to place this item on the September Voting Agenda for a first reading.

2018 Benefits

Human Resources Director Kathy Fields gave a report on 2018 Employee Benefits and asked the Commission to keep rates and co-pays the same as 2017. The Commission agreed with Ms. Fields' suggestions.

COLA

City Attorney Laura Ross addressed the Commission regarding COLA language. Ms. Ross asked the Commission to consider changing the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to salary adjustment. According to Ms. Ross a COLA is attached to the Consumer Price Index and salary adjustment would be more appropriate.

Board Ordinance Language

City Attorney Laura Ross addressed the Commission regarding the current Boards, Commissions and Committees. Ms. Ross and City Clerk Chermie Maxwell have been reviewing the City's Boards, Commissions and Committees and their term limits, requirements, etc. Ms. Ross suggested some of these be removed as they are not under the City's jurisdiction and that some language be amended to match City ordinances and statues.

City Enhancement Program

City Manager Cindy Steinhauser gave the Commission information on a City Enhancement Program that will begin with a city-wide Coordinated Code Enforcement sweep scheduled to begin in October. The sweep would include review of private property for code violations and a review by Public Works of public streets, sidewalks and signage and a review by Parks and Recreation of street trees. The program also included two small grant programs for Community Beautification and Community Collaboration. After much discussion of the timing of the sweep and needed educational outreach to the community, the Commission asked staff to bring further information to a future meeting.

Rental Inspection Information

City Manager Cindy Steinhauser gave an update on research gathered regarding Rental Inspections conducted in Frankfort and similar programs in other Kentucky cities. Ms. Steinhauser reported that staff had not been able to find similar programs in Kentucky. Staff was asked to gather additional information internally and from cities with a similar rental unit percentage as Frankfort.

Invasive Species

City Commissioner Scott Tippet gave a brief update on Invasive Species taking over trees in some Frankfort neighborhoods such as English Ivy and informed the Commission that he would be working with the County and the Plant Board to produce Public Safety Announcements for Cable 10 regarding Invasive Species and how to remove and eliminate the species.