

## MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

March 14, 2024

6:00 P.M.

The Murray City Council met in a regular session on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Mayor Bob Rogers presiding.

**Council Members Present:** Mr. Bell, Mr. Bohannon (entered at 6:08 p.m.), Mr. Bolin, Ms. Cherry, Mr. Darnall, Dr. Higginson, Mr. Hudspeth, Mr. McCuiston, Ms. Rouse, and Dr. Strieter.

**Council Members Absent:** Mr. Roberts, and Ms. Ross.

**Staff Present:** Jim Osborne, Chief Bierds, Warren Hopkins, Shane Knight, James Oakley, Marisa Stewart, Rakov Aetherus, and Kim Miles.

Mayor Bob Rogers called the meeting to order and welcomed Council members, staff, and guests.

After a moment of reflection, Mr. McCuiston led the pledge.

The minutes of the Council meeting of February 8, 2024, were presented for approval.

**Mr. Hudspeth moved for approval of the minutes; seconded by Dr. Strieter. All members present voted Aye.**

### **Mayor's Report**

**Street and Storm Water Update** Mr. Oakley stated that the fall leaf pick-up ended with a total of 275 tons being collected. Spring brush pick-up will begin on April 8. Information for customers will be published in the Murray Ledger & Times and is available on our website. Spring paving will begin sometime in April.

**Park Committee Update** Mr. Bell stated a new concession stand is needed inside the four plex, located at Central Park. Mr. Bell stated some funding from ARPA funds will be used to help pay for the new concession stand. An architect has been secured for this purpose. The Park Board has recommended that we move forward with this project.

**Mr. Bell made a motion; seconded by Mr. Darnall. All members present voted Aye.**

Mr. Bell stated the beverage contract for vendors is expiring. A bid was held at City Hall, Coke and Pepsi were the only two bids submitted. Pepsi agreed to give \$4,000.00 per year if we signed a five year (5) contract. The Park Board recommended accepting the Pepsi bid.

**Mr. Bell made a motion; seconded by Mr. McCuiston. All members present voted Aye.**

**Surplus Property Bid** Ms. Stewart stated on March 5, 2024, a bid opening was conducted at City Hall. There was one bid, in the amount of, \$25,000.00. This property located on 94 West, was declared surplus property on February 8, 2024. The recommendation is to accept the bid.

**Mr. Bohannon made a motion; seconded by Dr. Higginson. All members present voted Aye.**

**Resolution 2024-002** an order of the City of Murray, Kentucky, amending Order No. 2022-001, increasing the amount of Additional Taxable Industrial Building Revenue Bonds, Series 2021 (Kenlake Project), to a maximum amount of \$25,000,000, in order to assist Kroger Limited Partnership II, or assigns, to finance the acquisition of manufacturing equipment for an industrial building located within the City of Murray, Kentucky, and authorizing amendments to the bond related documents related to the Series 2021 Bonds in accordance herewith.

**Mr. Bell made a motion; seconded by Mr. McCuiston. All members present voted Aye.**

**Resolution 2024-003** a resolution identifying roadways which are currently in the city road system and those that are not currently in the city road system.

**Mr. Bohannon made a motion; seconded by Dr. Higginson. All members present voted Aye.**

**Ordinance 2024-1863** ( First Reading) an ordinance amending City of Murray Code of Ordinances, Chapter 110: General License Requirements, Specifically §110.10 License Tax (C), Business Classification for Miscellaneous Business, in order to bring into compliance with other ordinances. (No Vote)

**Ordinance 2024-1864** ( First Reading) an ordinance amending City of Murray Code of Ordinances, Chapter 90: Animals, Specifically §90.19 Noise, in order to Amend the Number of Complaints that Trigger Penalties and §90.40 Animal Control Officer, in order to identify the Animal Control Officer as an employee of Calloway County. (No Vote)

Dr. Higginson stated she and a subcommittee viewed our current ordinance on animals. In order to confirm the Animal Control Officer is an employee of the County, and to help with noise complaints, our ordinance needs to be updated.

**Municipal Order 2024-006** appointing Alisa Walls to the Transit Board for a term of four years. Said term to expire March 14, 2028.

**Mr. Hudspeth made a motion; seconded by Mr. Bohannon. All members present voted Aye.**

**Municipal Order 2024-007** reappointing Carmen Garland to the Board of Zoning Adjustments for a term of four years. Said term to expire April 13, 2028.

**Dr. Strieter made a motion, seconded by Dr. Higginson. All members present voted Aye.**

**Citizen Request to Speak to Council** Mayor Rogers stated the next item on the agenda is for informational purposes only. Mayor Rogers stated a petition created by Ms. Hood objecting to a pickleball complex being built in Chestnut Street Park is the purpose of the agenda item. Ms. Hood requested to address Council on this subject. Mayor Rogers responded to Ms. Hood by stating he would allow her to address Council, but also asked, that the petition be legible and that addresses be included to determine those who signed the petition are residents of the City of Murray. Mayor Rogers stated at this time she has not provided a legible list nor the complete list of addresses. Mayor Rogers will allow ten (10) minutes to Ms. Hood and the same allotted time to Mr. Tim Thurmond to discuss the issue.

Ms. Hood began by stating what she had learned from an open records request on the meetings that led to the city Park Committee's decision to give the Murray Pickleball Association (MPA) the permission to raise money to build a facility at Field 7 in Chestnut Park. She said she and other neighborhood residents were unaware of the plans until the MPA and Park Committee held a ceremony at the park to make an official announcement. Ms. Hood stated she began a petition to move the planned location of the facility. Ms. Hood stated she wanted to be clear; her supporters are not opposed to pickleball just the location. She stated they would love for this to be built for our community, in a location that best serves the needs of the players and community; Chestnut Park is not that location. Ms. Hood also stated the overall concern is noise pollution and property values decreasing.

Mr. Thurmond said the MPA's plans have not been hidden from the public, but he has heard rumors about the plans, and concluded it best to provide facts. He said the MPA discussed noise pollution in its first meeting; and the members are open to suggestions from anyone. Unfortunately, no one has come to us with ideas. Mr. Thurmond stated they want to be good neighbors. MPA is willing to spend extra money to work on this issue. They are hoping to develop a grassy berm on the east side of the field, which will be a noise reducer. They also want to build a beautiful wall of landscaping and add trees, these will help reduce noise.

Mr. McCuiston made a statement to inform the public that he was offered a position on the board for the MPA. He accepted that position and after advice from the City Attorney, he removed himself from that position. It was a conflict of interest.

Mr. Hudspeth asked if we could negotiate on the existing contract the City has with the MPA. Mr. Hopkins stated as long as both parties agree an amendment can be made.

Dr. Higginson asked if the MPA is looking at the current space and different spaces. Mr. Thurmond stated he feels Field 7 is the perfect location however; the MPA wants to come to agreement that is best for all.

Ms. Rouse requested this be looked at for the next month.

Dr. Strieter asked if trees would be removed since there might be a parking issue. Mr. Thurmond stated he does not anticipate any tree removal. The parking would be addressed as needed. As of right now the only area, the MPA has agreement to be inside Field 7.

Mr. Hudspeth asked MPA to get with James Oakley on drainage and parking. He also asked if the MPA could restrict certain paddles to help reduce noise. Mr. Thurmond said that has not been addressed.

Mayor Rogers concluded with he has researched pickleball topics from across the country. He stated it appeared proper planning has not taken place before final decisions are being made; tensions have been elevated and controversy has taken place. The City of Murray wants to avoid that. This facility is in the beginning process. The Council has heard the presentation and he believes this can be settled. He stated this would not come before Council until a consensus is reached.

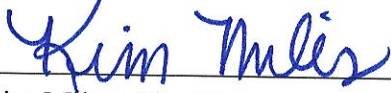
With no other business before the Council, **Mr. Bell moved to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Bohannon. All members present voted Aye.** The meeting adjourned at 6:53 P.M.



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Bob Rogers, Mayor

ATTEST



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Kim Miles, City Clerk