



Windy Hills

June 2020

A City of Historic Homes

www.cityofwindyhills.com

From the Mayor's Desk...

Dear Neighbors,

What a difference 3 months can make in our lives! When I wrote my letter for the March newsletter, we were all looking forward to spring, relieving "winter doldrums", and visiting with our friends, relatives, and neighbors. Today, we are "carefully" getting out of the house and trying to rebuild our lives. While Windy Hills "sheltered in place", the City continued to function.

Unless you visit our website on a daily basis and carefully page through all the tabs, you may not have known that I had to create an "emergency" order. Additionally, I had to sign a notarized, executive order establishing the Windy Hills "chain of command" in case I became incapacitated from the Covid 19 virus. Luckily, none of the emergency orders that we put in place had to be used except for the official requirement to close our office.

Our City Clerk was able to work from home and respond to emails and phone calls. Most callers probably did not realize that she was not in the city office. During the 8 weeks of "shut-down", I was able to come into the office, collect tax revenue, pay bills, and handle all of the other city functions. In fact since the office was so quiet, I was able to focus on our tax accounts and collected several thousand dollars of delinquent taxes. Our Council Members and Code Enforcement Officer continued their duties during this period and we continued meeting using Zoom technology.

We, the residents of Windy Hills, are living through a very unfamiliar world and I know that we have all been touched personally in some way by this pandemic. I look forward to a time that we do not have to "social" distance; we can gather and celebrate the simple joys of being together and celebrating life!

Mayor Helen M Davis

AERIAL VIEW OF WINDY HILLS 1959

This photo hangs at Brownsboro Hardware. This annotated version came to us from Donna Jentes, Administrator of Calvin Presbyterian Church.



IN THIS ISSUE....

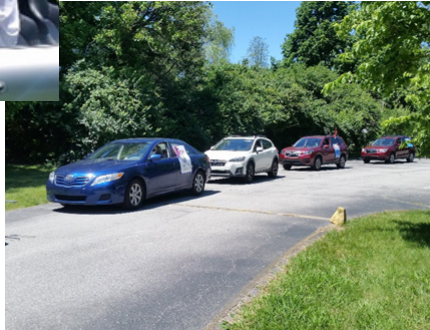
From the Mayor's Desk
Graduate Celebration
Windy Hills Work Goes On
Welcome, Lisa Kraft
Tax and Budget Ordinances
LG&E Power Line Trimming
2020 Waste Calendar
Signs are in Bloom
Reminders
2020 Budget Statement
4th of July Picnic and Parade cancelled
Planting for the Birds
Letter from Sojourn

community pride tradition shady lawns great neighbors

Windy Hills Celebrates its Graduates



*DuPont Manual Graduate
Abby Nash*



On Sunday March 31st the City of Windy Hills held a parade to honor its high school and college graduates. Graduates and other residents were invited to decorate their cars and join city officials in a fun drive through the city where they were cheered from lawns, driveways, and street corners. Thanks to the Graymoor-Devondale Police for assisting with safety. Congratulations to all our Windy Hills grads 2020!

Windy Hills Work Goes On!

While everyone has been healthy at home and the Windy Hills Office has been closed, the work of Windy Hills government has continued without missing a beat. Mayor Davis, Council members, and other employees have worked remotely when possible and by car to prepare budgets, check on roads and neighborhoods, continue beautification efforts, welcome newcomers, monitor public safety, and send communications. Council meetings were held via Zoom. See the City calendar on our website for up-to-date meeting notices. We welcomed new City Clerk Lisa Kraft. Reach Lisa at info@cityofwindyhills.com

You may find information on our city website or contact the mayor or Council members at listed <https://cityofwindyhills.com/city-officials/>

Welcome, Lisa Kraft as City Clerk

Lisa Kraft joined the City of Windy Hills on March 30, 2020, and was sworn in as City Clerk at the April Council meeting. She comes to us after retiring from the office of Louisville Property Valuation Administration. Her first months on the job have been unusual with the pandemic closure, online Council meetings, as well as settling into a new job.



Lisa was born and raised in Louisville but called Richmond, KY., Gig Harbor, WA., and briefly York, PA, home. She has been married for almost 27 years and has three grown children, Fisher, Katie, and Andrew.

Lisa retired last year after 26 years working in state government. The first 20 years were with the Jefferson County Board of Elections as their Mapping and Statistics Administrator, and the last 6 years with the Jefferson County PVA. From her experience she has a wealth of knowledge about elections, deeds, property lines, trends, assessments, and more.

Mayor Helen Davis said, "We are very excited to have Lisa as our new City Clerk!!! Her skills and work ethic have enabled her to make valuable contributions to the office in a short period of time. She is a true asset and we look forward to **MANY** years of service from Lisa!"

The Windy Hills City Office is open from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Monday through Friday. Reach Lisa at 502-895-4778 or info@cityofwindyhills.com. Lisa says, 'I am thankful for the opportunity to work with the Mayor and Council of Windy Hills. When the restrictions aren't as tight for Covid19, stop by City Hall and say "hello".'

Annual 4th of July Parade and Picnic Cancelled

Because of the health risks of large gatherings, the Windy Hills Annual 4th of July Parade and Picnic have been cancelled. While this saddens all of us, we want to keep everyone healthy so that you will be able to enjoy many events to come when it is safe to gather. Have a safe and healthy 4th!



Memories from Our 2019 4th of July Parade

Planting for the Birds

A 2019 *Science Magazine* reported that the bird population in the United States and Canada had **dropped almost 30% in the last 50 years. Some causes of this decline include loss of habitat, increased use of pesticides, cats, and less food sources.** Birds bring joy to many people, indicated by the billions of dollars spent annually on bird feeders and seed. Birds do more than chirp and entertain. They keep the insect population in check. One swallow can eat 1000 insects every 12 hours. A brown thrasher consumes over 6000 bugs daily.

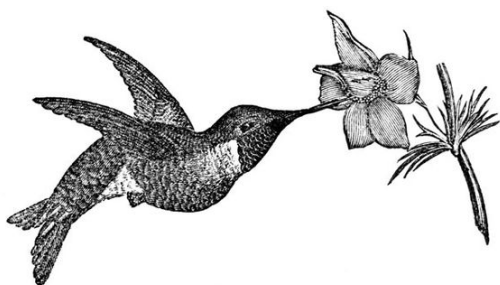
There are steps that homeowners can take to help birds. Considering that bird needs are basic—**food, cover, and water, planting the right trees, shrubs, flowers, and grasses can contribute to their livelihood.** A newborn baby bird does not eat bird seed. When you watch its parents flying back and forth to the nest, they are bringing caterpillars. Native plants support 13% more caterpillar species than nonnatives. A ginkgo tree, as beautiful as it is, only hosts 4 species of caterpillars. An oak tree harbors almost 100 times more species of caterpillars. You should try to reduce the use of pesticides and lawn chemicals that kill the caterpillars, and consequently butterflies. Some flowers offer fruit and seeds during the summer. Most people are aware of trumpet-shaped flowers that draw hummingbirds. Gold finches adore Black-Eyed Susans and Coneflowers. Sunflowers produce seeds. Many trees and shrubs produce berries.

Cover is essential to attract birds. It offers protection for breeding, nesting, sleeping, migrating, and hiding from enemies. Evergreen trees are especially good for cover. Cedars and junipers also provide berries. Pinecones hold seeds inside. Shrubs planted in clusters offer dense cover, especially if taller ones are behind shorter ones, creating a layered effect.

Bird baths and ponds offer the water birds need. Keep the former fresh to avoid mosquitoes and try to keep them unfrozen in the winter.

Please note that there is a Metro ordinance that requires that cats as well as dogs are not allowed to roam freely. **Please keep your cats in the house or leashed to protect our birds.**

Two excellent books to explore are *Gardening for the Birds* by Thomas Barnes and *Living Landscape* by Rick Darla and Douglas Tallamy.



Lists of trees, shrubs, and perennials are listed. An asterix indicates super benefits. Should you plant any of these, you might entice more unusual birds such as cedar waxwings, piliated woodpeckers, vireos, mockingbirds, thrashers, swallows, cat birds, and greater numbers of robins, chickadees, cardinals, nuthatches, titmice, finches, and hummingbirds.

CANOPY TREES: American beech, American birch, Black Gum (Tupelo), Elms, *Maples, *Oaks, Persimmon, Southern Magnolia, Sweet Gum (fruitless variety), *Tulip Poplar, Wild Cherry

UNDERSTORY TREES: *American Holly, American Hornbeam, Buckeye (hummingbird favorite), *Dogwood (not Kousa), Fringe Tree, native Magnolias, Redbud, *Serviceberry

SHRUBS: *Chokeberry (black or red), *Elderberry, Sumac, Highbush blueberry, *Ninebark, Red Twig Dogwood, Spice Bush, *Viburnums (American Cranberry, Arrowood, Blackhaw, Nannyberry), *Winterberry (need a female and male), Witch Hazel)

PERENNIALS: Black-Eyed Susans, Cardinal Flower, Coneflower, Crossvine, Daisies, Goldenrod (can be invasive), Jewelweed, Liatrus, *Milkweed (various), New England Asters, Penstemon, Phlox, Red Columbine, Red Honeysuckle, Solomon's Seal, Trillium, Turtlehead, Wild Petunia, Wild Geranium.





Signs are In Bloom

If you choose to display a sign, it must be placed off the Right of Way in your front or side yard. If a public sidewalk is present, the sign must be placed behind it. If there is no public sidewalk, please place the sign **no closer than 15' to the street**. No signs are permitted on a city entrance or island. All signs must be removed the day after the election. Political cause signs cannot be placed on any city entrance. They may be placed in residences but, they too, must be behind a sidewalk if present, or at least 15' from the street where there is not a sidewalk. Those placed closer will be moved off the ROW to an appropriate distance.

Other Signs:

Realtor/ For Sale signs are only allowed in the front yard of the home for sale. Realtor Pointer pointer signs are not allowed on any street or entrance at any time. For this purpose the City has Windy Hills' approved pointer signs available for you and your realtor to direct to your property. Call 502-8961957 to obtain the approved signs. Please advise your Realtor.

Personal Event Signs: Yard Sales/ Auctions/

Personal Event (Sales) signs may not be placed at any City Entrance, Ambridge/ Westport, Foeburn/ Westport, or on the City Green-Brownsboro/ Rudy. Personal pointer signs for your event may be placed on other streets or intersections (not to interfere with sidewalks or traffic) with the approval of the resident where placed. They may not be placed more than 24 hours before the event begins and must be removed immediately after. Signs found in violation will be removed.

School Enrollment/ Graduation/Appreciation, etc.

These signs may not be placed on any street, intersection, or entrance at any time. These signs may only be placed in the yard of the appropriate Residence. They must be placed at least 15 feet from the street. Please remove them immediately after the event date or within a reasonable time after graduation. Thanks for your attention to these policies in the Season of Signs. If you have questions, you can call the city office at 502-895-4778.

LG&E/KU Transmission Easement Tree Management

LG&E /KU is beginning a Transmission Vegetation Management Program in Windy Hills. They have to begin this program to help maintain the National Transmission Grid. The affected area consists of .73 Line Miles and impacts 48 Homeowners/Customers. LG&E/KU has a 100 foot easement but the company will only remove trees within an 82 foot "wire zone" and trim the remaining trees in the "border zone". Trees within the zone can only have a 10 foot maximum grow height at maturity. The company has sent letters to the homeowners and has hired an arborist to work with said homeowners. In addition, Kate Greer, our council woman who serves as Council liaison to the Tree Board, will be our "tree" liaison with LGE. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office at 502-895-4778.

Project Timeline follows:

Property Owner Letters = June 15th
Arborist Door Knocking = June 21st
Surveying (Cut Line Staking) = June 21st
Contractor Mobilization = June 25th
Expected Completion = August 10th

REMINDERS

Covid 19 is still here

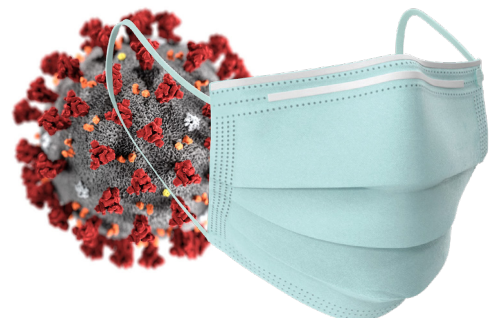
The virus is still very much with us with new cases each day. We have a lot of Windy Hills residents young and old who have complicating health issues. Please be vigilant to stay safe for yourself and your family and respect others who must continue to isolate. Social distancing and masks will be in style until an effective vaccine is available.

Brownsboro Center

Businesses in the Brownsboro Center are open. Thanks to all those that have kept us going with curbside service during these times. Please support our neighbor businesses.

The Windy Hills Green

The Windy Hills Green is a wonderful resource for exercise and inspiration. Social distancing is expected and no alcohol is permitted. Please take care of this beautiful city space.



Letter from Sojourn Church

To our Neighbors in Windy Hills:

We have heard your concerns about the noise level of our outdoor worship gatherings the past two Sundays. We've always appreciated the open discussion and partnership in working together, and it is one of our primary goals to continue to serve the neighborhood of Windy Hills the best we can.

In an effort to respond to concerns about noise, we're committed to making a few changes to our upcoming gatherings. To start, we've eliminated Saturday outdoor music rehearsals for our musicians. Furthermore, on Sundays we will be turning the overall volume of our music down, and angling our speakers to direct more toward the ground. We are also rearranging our band to create a less intrusive sound.

We know this won't eliminate all sound, but we hope it alleviates some of the concern to those most inconvenienced by the noise. As you know, we meet in an open field where sound travels easily, but we want to make sure we are respecting those who are most impacted by the noise level of our gatherings.

Thanks for your understanding and partnership,

Sojourn East



2020 Budget Statement

As your Mayor, I am tasked with preparing and presenting the City of Windy Hills budget. Your Mayor Pro Tem, Marianne Rademaker, and I have been working on this budget since February. Our mission has been to meet the needs of our residents in preparing our budget and ensuring state financial/budget compliance. You will be happy to know that we are in **FULL** compliance. We had our first reading at the April Council meeting, where I took questions from our Council Members and we had a lively discussion about the proposed tax discount.

At the June Council Meeting, we had a second reading and formally acted on the budget. The adopted and published 2020-21 budget immediately follows this statement.

Items of note for the budget: I am pleased to announce that the tax rate will again be **.17 per \$100** with a **45%** discount if paid by October 31, 2020. We increased the discount from **40 - 45%** because we realize that the COVID 19 pandemic has affected many households' finances. We have been very diligent on holding the line on our costs and we will continue this practice in the next fiscal year. Our conservative practices have again resulted in a surplus that we wanted to share with you, our taxpayers, via the increased discount.

Based on the PVA deferring the assessment updates to 2021-22, we are forecasting a 1% increase in the property tax revenue which is within the 4% increase allowed by law. We are projecting the other revenue to be flat.

One of the biggest variables is the municipal insurance premium tax. We tried to be conservative in the projection because the amount collected can vary widely due to purchases of large life insurance policies and the taxes collected on said policies.

On the expenditure side, we did not increase the budget for General government expenses. The cost of our public safety provided by the Graymoor-Devondale Police will increase by **4.1%** beginning July 1.

On the Road Aid Fund portion of the budget, we are projecting an overall decline in revenue because of a decrease in interest income with other revenue flat. We did not increase the budget for 2020-21 road fund expenditures.

I also want to assure you that our City has and continues to conform to the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) requirements. If you have questions about the budget, please contact me at City Hall.

Helen M Davis

Mayor

CITY OF WINDY HILLS ORDINANCE NO. 1 Series2019/2020
ANORDINANCERELATINGTOTHK-LEVY OFADVALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITYPURPOSES
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 83, Series 1973, the City of Windy Hills elected to use the annual County assessment for properties situated in the City of Windy Hills, and

WHEREAS, there has been deposited with the City Clerk a complete list of all taxable property located within the City as of January 1, 2020.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF WINDY HILLS:

Section1 The tax rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, is hereby levied and fixed at the rate of \$0.170 per \$100.00 of property as assessed for taxation.

Section2 The City Clerk shall make out and mail tax bills, sequentially numbered, from the assessment rolls as certified on or before October 31, 2020.

Section3 The payment of tax bills shall be made to the City Treasurer and shall be subject to the discounts and penalties listed below and the collection remedies provided by law.

- A. A discount of 45% shall be allowed on tax bills paid during October, 2020.
- B. The face amount of a tax bill shall be payable during November and December, 2020.
- C. On tax bills paid after December 31, 2020, there shall be added thereto a penalty of 10% of the tax due plus interest from the date due at 1-1/2% per month or part thereof, compounded monthly, or \$10.00 if the penalty and interest are less than this amount, plus lien filing and release fees.
- D. All delinquent tax collection expenses incurred by the city, including lien filing and release fees, and collection/attorney's fees of \$150, shall be deemed a penalty in addition to that specified in Subsection "c" above and shall be encompassed within the City's lien.

Section4 The proceeds of such taxes shall be used for the general operating expenses of the City, including the purchasing of City supplies, the erection of City signs, the general maintenance of public ways in the City, payment of bond premiums for City officials, sanitation, public safety and the payment of all the expenses incurred in the necessary and proper municipal functions as may be properly ordained or resolved by the City Council.

Section5 The ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication. First Reading held May 11, 2020; Second Reading, Passed and Approved, June 8, 2020.



Lisa Kraft
Lisa Kraft, City Clerk

Helen M. Davis, Mayor

Helen M. Davis
Helen M. Davis, Mayor

CITY OF WINDY HILLS

ORDINANCE NO. 2 Series 2020/2021

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF WINDY HILLS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021, ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT.

WHEREAS, a Budget Proposal and Message have been prepared and delivered to the City Council, and **WHEREAS**, the City Council has reviewed such budget proposal and made necessary modification, now therefore, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF WINDY HILLS

Section 1. The budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 is hereby adopted as follows:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Road Aid Fund</u>
RESOURCES AVAILABLE:		
Fund Balance Carried fwd.	\$1,166,503	\$215,116
Estimated Revenues:		
Net Property Taxes	306,059	
Cable TV franchise (other)	18,000	
Rental Ordinance Registration fee	8,250	
Muni. Road Aid Fund		48,000
Interest	4,000	1,000
Public Safety HB413	4,600	
Green Fund Contribution	750	
Municipal Insurance Tax	240,000	
Other	<u>1,850</u>	
Total Estimated Revenues	\$584,509	\$49,000
Transfer from surplus		<u>6,700</u>
Total Estimated Revenues.		\$55,700
Total Resources Available for		
Appropriation	<u>\$1,751,012</u>	<u>\$270,816</u>
APPROPRIATIONS:		
General government	\$ 258,564	
Public Safety	60,000	
Paving		\$45,700
Sanitation	254,727	
Snow Removal		10,000
Emergency Fund	11,218	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$584,509	\$55,700
Excess of Resources over		
Appropriations	<u>\$1,166,503</u>	<u>\$208,416</u>
Estimated Fund Balances at end of		
Fiscal Year	<u>\$1,166,503</u>	<u>\$208,416</u>

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.
First Reading held May 11, 2020. Second Reading, Passed and approved June 8, 2020.


Lisa Kraft, City Clerk


Helen M. Davis, Mayor





CITY OF WINDY HILLS
4350 Brownsboro Road, Suite 110
Windy Hills, Kentucky 40207

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City Officials and Important Links

Mayor:

Helen Davis

PHONE..... (502) 893-8238
EMAIL..... helen.davis@cityofwindyhills.com

City Council:

Bruce Blue (*Public Works*)

PHONE..... (502) 593-4738
EMAIL..... bruce.blue@cityofwindyhills.com

Kate Greer (*W.H. Green/City Maintenance/
Newsletter co-chair/Tree Board Liaison*)

PHONE..... (502) 893-2059
EMAIL..... kate.greer@cityofwindyhills.com

Marcia Myers (*Newsletter co-chair/Fourth of July
parade/picnic*)

PHONE..... (502) 417-1687
EMAIL..... marcia.myers@cityofwindyhills.com

Marianne Rademaker (*Finance/Mayor Pro tem*)

PHONE..... (502) 896-1957
EMAIL..... marianne.rademaker@cityofwindyhills.com

Suzanne Spencer (*Community Caring/Health-
Fitness, Welcome to Windy Hills*)

PHONE..... (502) 821-8740
EMAIL..... suzanne.spencer@cityofwindyhills.com

Laura Trachtenberg (*Community Standards
Chair/Ordinances*)

PHONE..... 502) 897-7056
EMAIL..... laura.trachtenberg@cityofwindyhills.com

City Clerk:

Lisa Kraft..... (502) 895-4778

CITY FAX..... (502) 895-4757

CITY EMAIL..... info@cityofwindyhills.com

CITY WEBSITE..... www.cityofwindyhills.com

Public Works/ Code Enforcement:

Steve Teaford..... (502) 895-4778

EMAIL..... steve.teaford@cityofwindyhills.com

City Attorney:

James Hodge..... (502) 895-4778

City Council meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month, 7:00 pm at Sojourn Community Church, 2501 Rudy Lane. Observers are welcome at Council Work Sessions at 10 A.M. at City Hall the Friday before the regular meeting.

Other Important Contacts

EMS..... 911

Graymoor/Devondale Police..... 327-2677

Thru Sheriff Dept. Dispatch..... 574-5471

St. Matthews Fire District..... 893-7825
(Business)

District 7 Metro Councilwoman,

Paula McCraney..... 574-1107

Metro Call..... 574-5000

or 311

Animal Control Protection..... 361-1318

Dog or Cat Complaints..... 363-6609

Health Department..... 574-6520

Jefferson County Clerk..... 574-5700

(All branches can be reached at above number)

LG&E..... 589-1444

or text OUTAGE to 454358

MSD Customer Service..... 587-0603

Planning and Design Services..... 574-6230

Recycling Center..... 896-1293

St. Matthews/Eline Library..... 574-1771

Ecotech Waste Services..... 502-935-1130

Clip and Keep 

ECOTECH WASTE SCHEDULE FOR WINDY HILLS 2020

Normal Schedule - Monday Yard Waste, Tuesday Trash & Recycling, Friday Trash

Week of July 4th – Normal Schedule

Week of September 7th– Monday Holiday - Pickups on Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday instead

Week of Nov 23rd Thanksgiving – Monday and Tuesday normal. Trash picked up on Saturday instead.

Dec.– Feb. - Yard Waste will be picked up every other Monday – December 14th and 28th.

Week of Dec. 21st – Monday and Tuesday normal. Trash picked up on Saturday the 26th instead.

Week of Dec 28th - Monday and Tuesday normal. Trash picked up on Saturday Jan. 2nd instead.

If you have questions or problems call 502.935.1130 or go to the Ecotech website at <https://ecotechky.com/>

“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.” -Audrey Hepburn