

CITY OF WINDY HILLS

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
February 13, 2023

The Council and Officers of the City of Windy Hills met at Sojourn Community Church East, 2501 Rudy Lane, at 7:00 P.M. Mayor John Roberts called the meeting to order.

Mayor Roberts welcomed those who were present and reminded anyone who wished to speak to sign in and limit their time to 3 minutes.

ROLL CALL: The following were present:

MAYOR

John Roberts

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Helen Davis
Kate Greer
Marianne Rademaker
Suzanne Spencer - Absent
Steve Teaford
Julie Theiler

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS

Christine Haner, Clerk
Attorney Timothy Mayer
Don Ryan, Code Enforcement

MINUTES:

Councilwoman Greer moved to approve the minutes of the special council meeting on December 30, 2022, which was the swearing-in of the new Mayor and Council. This was seconded by Councilwoman Davis. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Greer moved to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2023, council meeting; seconded by Councilwoman Davis. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS, APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilwoman Davis moved to approve the January 2023 Financial Reports; seconded by Councilwoman Greer. The motion passed unanimously with no discussion necessary.

Councilwoman Davis moved to approve the January bills, totaling \$71,478.89 and was seconded by Councilwoman Greer. The motion passed unanimously.

RESIDENTS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS:

Three residents signed in before the meeting wishing to speak.

Mr. John Perrin of Deerfield Lane wished to address road repairs and paving for his street. He spoke in detail about specific areas of deterioration, past communications with the City, referenced photographs taken, and had notes of previous repairs and patches. He brought up the fact there are twenty-one homes on Deerfield Lane, six of those in St. Matthews, which will need to be properly communicated with that City.

Councilman Teaford responded that Deerfield is toward the top of the list to be considered for summer 2023 paving, including the cul-de-sac. Councilman Teaford stated he cannot make promises because it takes the vote of Council, the recommendation of the City Engineer regarding the rating of street that are in the poorest condition to be paved first, and budgetary restraints that will ultimately decide what streets will be paved.

Mr. Shelby Simpson of Coach Gate signed in “looking for support for additional beautification of 42@Hubbards”. He enjoys the look of the light fixtures and intersections at Country Lane & 42, and Chenoweth Lane & 42. He would like to see the same pattern of those type of fixtures and “look” go up the road at both Rudy Lane and Hubbards Lane. In addition, he requests the overgrowth at some of the intersections, like he sees when turning right out of Coach Gate and driving toward the intersection of Hubbard’s Lane and 42 be addressed.

Councilwoman Greer stated corner at Hubbards Lane and Rudy Lane is dark and has always been a sore spot because the brush grows back so fast. It was cut 5-6 years ago but immediately grew into a jungle.

Councilwoman Davis shared she had communicated with the State and Metro about that area. It would take thousands of dollars to maintain it properly and was told that is simply not an option. Metro Public Works and Metro Councilwoman Paula McCraney met and discussed this in the past.

It was mentioned by **Councilwoman Greer** that better lighting at the corners of those intersections would be helpful.

Mr. Bryan Carter, a resident of Greenbriar Road, signed in to discuss a proposal for an amphitheater / band shell for the Green. He would like to see a small entertainment venue in the back corner of the Green. It could be non-permanent, such as an inflatable shell, or a small permanent structure like a half gazebo, possibly curved wooden or metal, maybe with a concrete base. He simply wanted to float the idea so that the Green can better accommodate musicians, speakers during events, play actors, etc.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Roberts reported that on Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 2PM, in conjunction with Paula McCraney’s office, Shakespeare will be performing *Hamlet* on the Green. That day happens to be William Shakespeare’s birthday.

The VA Hospital construction updates will now be every other week as the blasting phase has ended and construction will be more consistent.

There were 96 hours of police support for January but nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Financial Advisor/ARPA Committee Chair/Mayor Pro Tempore – Councilwoman Davis:

Mark Madison has completed the plans for the path on the Green. The dates for construction and bids are as follows:

- Bid Advertisement – Friday, February 17, 2023
- Public Bid Opening – Tuesday, March 7, 2023
- City Caucus – Friday, March 10, 2023
- City Council Meeting – Monday, March 13, 2023
- Bid Award Issued, collect Bidder paperwork, Contracts signed – Friday, March 17, 2023
- Contractor to begin work no later than Monday, May 1, 2023

Note: The latest map of the Improvements to the Green can be found on the website.

Windy Hills Green/City Maintenance/Tree Board liaison - Councilwoman Greer reported(in her words):

GREEN:

Mike Hayman has located a Rose Marie Magnolia to replace the dead one on the Green. He also ordered an Appalachian Red Redbud to replace the destroyed one on the Green. But I cannot find the plaque for it. I need to relocate both trees. Both trees will be planted in a week or two.

Martha Davis and I walked up on the Green today. We noticed a lot of big branches had fallen from some of the older trees. Caroline Westfall came by my house today and wanted me to go up to the Green because Sue had called her to look at the Magnolia trees. She thought they had black scale. They do not. But while up there, Caroline looked at the trees. She thinks that the hackberry near the sidewalk could be dangerous because I could drop branches on walkers on the sidewalk. She helped me determine where to plant the two new trees. We also discussed the entrance. I am hiring Adam Schneider to prune the branches in back of the

entrance. Caroline and I came up with a plan for the front but we do not want to install new plantings until construction is complete. When I was on the Green Sunday, I noticed the spotlight was on at 2:00.

Here is a scraggly shrub near the NW corner of the Green and a weed shrub next to the telephone pole that I would like to remove and possibly replace the shrub on the Green.

TREE BOARD:

It met in January. I sent out the minutes to you. But in case you didn't read them, here is a summary:

- Arbor Day is October 1.
- Would like to expand Tree subsidy program by replacing Otte's with Thieneman's on English Station Road and possibly rethink the part about having the nursery plant the tree.
- Hope to hold a lottery for residents on Clerkenwell and Indian Ridge for 5 free trees.
- Replace 5 trees damaged by cars on Westport Road and continue watering them during drought.
- Scott is looking into getting a Tree Board Gmail account. Christine is going to take care of it. Still have 2 board members who have not filled out ethics forms. Have been notified.

JULY 4: Venue, caterer and band are reserved. Haywood Dairy will be there. I also mentioned to Charlie that we may have an Ice cream Social on the Green in September.

OTHER AREAS Over at Windhurst (turn right off Tottenham) there is a big pile of plant debris piled up that is unsightly. It looks as if the Phone Company cut down some shrubs and just left them along the fence. There is a number F660-1. What should we do?

When Caroline was up on Westport Road seeing what trees needed replacing, she noted that the installers had not taken off the metal cage around the two trees knocked down. She suspects they are all like that. This will cause problems in about 10 years. I think that LG&E should be notified.

ARPA Committee - Councilwoman Rademaker:

Councilwoman Rademaker had nothing additional to add to Councilwoman Davis' report.

Community Caring/Health & Fitness/Welcome to Windy Hills – Councilwoman Spencer:

In Councilwoman Spencer's absence due to illness, the Clerk shared the following:

Welcome to Windy Hills: There were two new residents in January. Several new residents have asked questions about historic homes. A brochure is starting to come together to be added to the Welcome packets that improves upon the current brochure by including information about each historic home, including the style and building materials, builder, etc. Prices are being collected for printing of the color brochures.

Caring Community: Councilwoman Theiler is collaborating on a blurb in the newsletter featuring information we think the community would be interested in or helped by. A short biography of a featured resident who has made a beneficial contribution to the Windy Hills community or surrounding communities is also being considered for each future edition.

Health and Fitness: Councilwoman Theiler will be including a questionnaire in an upcoming Breeze asking residents what sorts of health and fitness activities they would like to see in Windy Hills.

Public Works – Councilman Teaford:

- Repaired Traffic Markers at Rudy Ambridge Island Cost \$10.58
- Completed sign survey of all Windy Hills Street, traffic, entrance, and other miscellaneous signs. We have approximately 226 signs within Windy Hills boundaries. 119 of them are street signs. Except for about 20 newer street signs all are in various stages of decay. Conservative estimates show at least 40 street signs need to be replaced immediately due to poor condition, several poles need straightening, one City Sign at Hill Top is missing, and a few other signs need repair. I have contacted three vendors who may provide prospective bids. Hopefully 90 one-quarter inch signs will be replaced all at once using ARPA funds.
- Met with Eco-Tech and Mayor Roberts to discuss issues at Royal Coach and upcoming contract. Several other calls were made to Royal Coach management and to the individual who came to our last council meeting, Mr. Grant Wallace. Bottom line this problem has been solved with the addition of glass-only dumpsters at each location. All parties advised and satisfied for now.
- Met Mark Madison on two occasions and completed 2023 road review. Patching repairs for potholes on Copperfield Road, Ambridge, Foeburn, and Two Springs Place will be made immediately in advance of finished repair later this summer. He is getting prices for this work. Advised Mr. Madison that stop bars at Kittyhawk and Indian Ridge 3-way, were not completed as required in the specifications that were accepted by the contractor. He was unaware and will get with contractor to finish the job.

- Along with Mark Madison, reviewed the proposed sidewalk repave from Regency Cul-de-sac to Sojourn Fence. Mr. Madison will get two bids for our consideration. Will proceed with ARPA funds already approved by prior council. Discussed with Mayor possible need for liability release letter jointly signed by WH and Sojourn.
- Reviewing Dangerous sidewalk at 6711 Windhurst Road, Situation has existed for some time, and has not been fully addressed. Roots of large tree on the ROW causing sidewalk to raise and buckle, causing danger to walkers. Tree will have to be removed. Will need to begin contact with resident owners to possibly cut roots back.
- Completed after dark survey of City lights in Windy Hills. We have approximately 144 light standards within the City and entrances. At the time of the survey, 13 of them were out or cycling off and on, due to defective heat sensors. These were reported and two days later they were repaired by United Electric a contactor for LG and E. Three poles were leaning, and it will take some time longer to see repairs for them. We will continue to see on and off situations.
- Road bids go out March 10th.

Mayor Roberts thanked Councilman Teaford for staying ahead of the snow and ice events we had by following up with our contractor.

Print Newsletter/The Breeze digital newsletter – **Councilwoman Theiler**:

The Breeze went out January 20th. We had a good report from MailChimp of this digital newsletter being opened, demonstrating that a portion of residents clicked through and opened the accompanying links and video.

Police and Fire personnel will be featured in upcoming issues. The deadline is February 15th for submissions for the next newsletter, which will go out February 20th. The 20th will be the established day of the month going forward for the Breeze to be sent out.

Code Enforcement – **Don Ryan** reported:

Rental inspections have started. Letters were sent out.

The “pothole police” is on the lookout as any potholes or other issues related to Public Works are reported to Councilman Teaford as Code Enforcement rounds are driven.

City Clerk – Christine Haner reported:

There are currently fifteen unpaid 2022 Property Tax Bills. Five of those fifteen are for those folks who have delinquencies in past years, as well.

Due to a real estate sale, we did collect on one parcel from 2020, 2021, and 2022 taxes plus penalty, interest, and fees thanks to having liens filed for those delinquencies.

I attended the monthly meeting of the Municipal Clerk’s Association on February 1st. The meeting was on recordkeeping for Municipalities which furthered our efforts in City Hall in the areas of recordkeeping and cybersecurity.

Mr. Patrick Cole, Chair of the Ethics Committee, visited City Hall recently to review the Financial Disclosure Statements from those required to complete those forms.

We received a fraudulent audio file that was NOT opened. This was mentioned to Council in an effort to be aware of unusual potential cybersecurity threats.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Roberts explained a potential change to the City calendar because of future Caucus meetings falling on Good Friday in April and Oaks Day in May. While the Mayor and Council can call a Special Meeting as needed, it was deemed wise for the City Attorney to look into the current Ordinance regarding meetings to conduct City business.

Councilwoman Greer made a motion, seconded by **Councilwoman Rademaker** to hear the First Reading of Ordinance No. 23-01. The motion passed unanimously.

The Clerk **Christine Haner** read:

ORDINANCE NO. 23-01
AN ACT OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINDY HILLS, KENTUCKY
AMENDING THE ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF MONTHLY
REGULAR AND BUSINESS MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

This is an act amending Section 32.16 of the Windy Hills Code of Ordinances to strike various provisions that are superfluous, outdated, duplicative of state law requirements, or confusing.

ATTORNEY’S COMMENTS:

Tim Mayer, City Attorney, explained that the Ordinance just read simply made clearer the language of an old, confusing Ordinance. The goal was to clean up the Ordinance to be more concise.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

None

Councilwoman Greer moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:54PM; seconded by Councilwoman Davis, and the motion passed unanimously.

John Roberts, Mayor

Christine Haner, City Clerk