

CITY OF WINDY HILLS

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
September 11, 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.

ROLL CALL: The following were present:

MAYOR

Dr. 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

MINUTES:

Councilwoman Greer moved to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2023, council meeting; seconded by **Councilwoman Davis**. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS, APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilwoman Davis moved to approve the August 2023 Financial Reports which included the Profit & Loss Statement as well as the Balance Sheet; seconded by **Councilwoman Greer**. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Greer moved to approve the August bills, totaling \$26,891.98; seconded by **Councilwoman Davis**. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION BY BRIGHTSIDE LOUISVILLE:

Ms. Elizabeth Gribbins, the Events & Volunteer Supervisor for Brightside was in attendance. Her colleague, Mr. Alec Brock, Community Outreach Coordinator for Brightside, shared that they are a donor-funded and volunteer-driven organization in Louisville. They engage in beautification projects, litter abatement, and other projects. While promoting a City-wide cleanup event on

October 21, 2023, in Louisville, Alec mentioned that we can create our own date for Windy Hills and Brightside will provide bags, gloves, and other supplies.

Councilwoman Greer and **Councilwoman Davis** acknowledged that we did participate in Windy Hills clean-up events up until Covid, mentioned several areas focused on in the past, and described how volunteers met the morning of a designated day to work together. It was determined that a date will be established for October and more information will be provided in the next newsletter.

RESIDENTS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS:

Mr. James McMillin, a resident of Windsong Place, signed in to speak. Regarding the paving work soon to begin on Windsong Place and Windsong Court, he requested a pause. He stated that sixteen residents within six households are against the paving. Listing disruptions, limited access to driveways and the street, noisy equipment, pollution, debris, fumes, potential carcinogens, etc. Mr. McMillin requested his street be taken off the list for paving. He briefly mentioned other alternatives to asphalt paving for the City to consider in the future.

Mayor Roberts replied that we have a time-tested process by which we follow. There was a May 2021 Road Evaluation completed by the City Engineer, Mark Madison. Windsong Way and Windsong Place were last paved in 2012. With a rating of "6" in 2021, these streets were determined to need paving ahead of further deterioration.

Councilman Teaford stated that milling won't interfere like was mentioned. There are two patches where the asphalt has come off. There is a degradation of the center line in the road that will only continue to worsen confirming the work needs to be done.

It was positively received that in the future, any potential streets to be next up for paving should be listed as part of the Road Hearing or Council Meeting. In that way, those specifically affected can be more apt to participate in City business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Windy Hills Green/City Maintenance/Tree Board liaison - **Councilwoman Greer:**

GARDEN CLUB: Due to a lack of interest, there will no Windy Hills Garden Club. (After three attempts, we had only five in attendance at most).

TREE BOARD: Will meet the 20th. Will discuss ordinances revision and make final plans for Arbor Day, October 1. There will be free ice cream on this day!

KLAUSING GROUP: They are beginning to adjust to the City. Still have not cut circle at Windhurst and Cathcart Court. We need a sign at the entrance on Ambridge. There are 6 sickly box woods that either need replacing with something native or play “wait-and-see” if they recover.

GREEN: I met with Matt, who mans the Klausung workers last Friday. He trims a little of those light green shrubs every other week. He said that the ones on Westport Road and Foeburn cannot be cut any further. I met with Caroline to discuss the signature entrance. There needs to be extensive landscaping changes made in the front and the back of the monument. We will remove all the shrubs in the front except for the two holly trees. The question is: Do we want to make it a formal entrance or an environmentally friendly entrance? To see the plaque on the back, we can remove one tree, which will look funny, or get rid of them all. To cut the existing vegetation back far enough to see the plaque will damage the shrubs. Carolyn suggested we remove all the existing shrubs and plant Oak Leaf Hydrangeas or a pollinator garden with shrubs and flowers. She gave me several suggestions for the front. Concerning the entrances at Foeburn and Ambridge, we will cut down the shrubs blocking the writing. Since all three Signature Entrances are elevated, low growing shrubs can be planted near the bottom. I would like to have a committee made up of Steve, Martha Davis, and Caroline Westfall to help me make the decisions, with final approval of the Council.

GLOW ON THE GREEN: I have called Mike Obryan, the accordion player. He has agreed to perform for the event.

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

In Councilwoman Spencer’s absence, the Clerk shared the following:

Welcome to Windy Hills: There were two new residents in August.

Community Caring: There are several evergreen trees on the Green available for dedications. Discussions will continue for a tree and/or bench dedication to honor former Mayor Lou Phillips.

Light Post Holiday Décor: There are 63 light posts to be decorated for the holiday season. We are looking for volunteers to help design and craft the decorations, make bows, etc. The City already has made arrangements for the installation. Councilwoman Theiler will add this request to the newsletter.

Public Works – Councilman Teaford:

- 1 - We agreed upon a bidder to complete the tuckpointing repair at the entrance on Antrim Drive. It has been completed.
- 2 - The concrete work on Deerfield Lane is in process. Indian Ridge concrete work will occur after that. Lastly, we will be ready for milling and paving. It should be in a couple of weeks.
- 3 - The council approved a bid of \$2,395 from Laswell Electric to replace some electrical plugs, photo-electric cells, and secure our City electrical outlets.
- 4 – The City has agreed upon a bidder and approved repainting of the yellow, no parking curbs and island on the Ambridge Right-Of-Way where they currently exist. Weeds and vegetation will be removed to prepare for the work.
- 5 – One resident made a request for a streetlight on Regency, closer to Rudy Lane. All area residents will be surveyed to understand the wishes of the residents before any decisions are made.
- 6 – The Merrifield fence needed some cleaning and maintenance as there were loose boards. This work was completed.
- 7 – The street sign work with B-Sign Group is almost complete and ahead of schedule.
- 8 – The backsides of the Indian Ridge stop signs have been painted black.
- 9 – A downed street sign and tree was reported to KY DOT.

Code Enforcement – Don Ryan reported:

Overnight street parking is still an issue in Windy Hills. Lyndon Police are still issuing citations.

'Tis the season for political candidate signs to pop up. The placement of those, along with other signs, are observed to see if they are following our Ordinance. Political signs can be put out but must be promptly taken down after the election.

The work on Deerfield has been observed and is in progress.

City Clerk – **Christine Haner** reported:

The 2023 Property Tax Bills have arrived.

The Audit for Fiscal Year End June 30, 2023, is currently underway and is moving swiftly and smoothly.

Residents may see areas marked by utility flags and spray paint well ahead of paving on their streets. 811 has marked some areas already.

ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS:

Tim Mayer, City Attorney, shared that he has spoken with his colleague, Randy Strobo, about the creation of the Windy Hills neighborhood plan. He has also been working on Ordinance review and potential revisions.

Councilwoman Davis reminded us that there are no Zoning rights in Windy Hills as those were given up many years ago. Therefore, Metro Louisville's Zoning Rules apply to us. While it would not carry as much weight as a Zoning Board, a formal Neighborhood Plan in Windy Hills will be helpful. The Council voted in June 2022 to begin work to create a Neighborhood Plan. It would be created using focus groups. Councilwoman Davis reminded us that a proposed warehouse was to go in on Brownsboro Road at a property 90% in St. Matthews and 10% in Windy Hills. Working together, we were able to halt that project to preserve our City. A Neighborhood Plan would also potentially protect the interests of our residents.

MAYOR REPORT – Dr. John Roberts:

Sanitation: Christine Haner and I continued to work through issues related to the switch to Rumpke for sanitation services. We have found the Rumpke representatives very responsive and easy to work with. Rumpke purchased 65-gallon cans to meet the requests of our residents. Rumpke previously did not carry 65-gallon cans. To date 37 individuals have exchanged their 95-

gallon cans for the 65-gallon ones. In addition, Rumpke has accommodated 22 residents with rollout services. Individuals are billed directly by Rumpke for this service (\$9.35/month).

Policing: In the month of August Lyndon police made 143 trips through Windy Hills. These trips were distributed throughout the day and night. Radar monitoring was performed on 4 occasions, resulting in no warnings or citations. Eighteen Parking citations were issued along 6 streets in Windy Hills. In total 143 hours of service were provided for a total cost of \$5,120. Finally, Police Chief Shroeder searched collision records to identify who might have damaged the street sign and a tree on Westport Road, west of Foeburn Lane. No reports had been filed.

Paving: Shooting to start 9/6/23). Anticipate the concrete work will take about 3 weeks to complete. Plan to mill and pave all roads following completion of the concrete work. Estimated Schedule:

Sept 6 – 20 – Deerfield Lane Concrete
Sept 21 – 27 – Indian Ridge Rd Concrete
Oct 2 – 9 – Milling and paving.

The Green Walkway:

Bluegrass will complete the project this fall but exact dates are not known. Mark Madison states that he will hopefully have a construction schedule from Hall Construction within the next week.

Metro 311 Reports:

- a. Overgrowth of vegetation along Brownsboro Road between the Fire Station and back entrance to Coach Gate. Obstructs view of Speed limit sign.
- b. Overgrowth of White Hydrangeas at the corner of Rudy Lane and North Hubbards blocking line of sight – growth was trimmed.
- c. Rudy Lane and Ambridge Intersection - Yellow markings on median – refresh
- d. Pothole on Rudy Lane near 4403 Rudy Lane

VA Hospital Construction – continues. No recent Windy Hills Concerns

Brownsboro Road – Watterson Expressway Interchange a. As of Winter 2023, (SUBJECT TO CHANGE): Final roadway plans are in development. KYTC has acquired all necessary right-of-way, including the control of access rights when applicable, including legal and physical possession. Utility relocation will likely occur in late 2025, with approximately two years of relocation work between 2026-2027. The construction funding will be distributed over three construction seasons. The construction letting date will be determined once utility relocations have progressed.

Announcements:

The Kentucky League of Cities Annual Meeting will be held September 19th – 22nd at the Lexington Central Bank Convention Center in Lexington, Kentucky. Councilwomen Davis and Greer will represent our city at the Conference on September 21st.

I will be out of the country Friday, September 15th through Thursday, September 21st. I will check my emails daily and Christine Haner will have additional contact information.

I will also be attending the American Medical Association Interim Meeting in Washington, DC between November 9th and 14th.

Fall Clean Up Opportunities: **Kentuckiana Regional Planning & Development Agency (KIPDA):**

The Kentucky Division of Waste Management will conduct tire collections. Plan to drop off scrap/unwanted tires October 5-7 at the Kentucky Fair Grounds Property, 1030 Phillips Lane in Louisville.

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

None

There being no further business to address nor questions to answer of the Council, **Councilwoman Greer** made a motion to adjourn, seconded by **Councilwoman Rademaker**. The motion passed and the meeting was officially adjourned at 7:47PM.

Dr. John Roberts, Mayor

Christine Haner, City Clerk