

CITY OF WINDY HILLS

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
September 9, 2024

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 Roberts called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: The following were present:

MAYOR

Dr. John Roberts

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Helen Davis

Kate Greer

Marianne Rademaker

Susan Spencer-ABSENT

Steve Teaford

Julie Theiler

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS

Christine Haner, Clerk

Timothy Mayer, Attorney

MINUTES:

Councilwoman Davis moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2024, council meeting; seconded by **Councilwoman Greer**. Having no need for discussion, the motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS, APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilwoman Greer moved to approve the August 2024 Financial Reports which included the Profit & Loss Statement as well as the Balance Sheet; seconded by **Councilwoman Rademaker**. With no discussion necessary, the motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Rademaker moved to approve the August checks, totaling \$163,249.25 of which \$113,131 was for paving; seconded by **Councilwoman Greer**. No discussion was necessary; the motion passed unanimously.

RESIDENTS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor ProTempore, ARPA Committee, Finance – Councilwoman Davis:

No report but will have a topic to address in Unfinished Business.

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

GREEN: One of our older evergreens (next to Holiday tree) looks bad. Caroline suggested that we fertilize it as we did with the Holiday tree. I agreed.

LANDSCAPING UPGRADES: Because we took out a great deal of plants at the Clerkenwell Circle and Wexford Place, we needed to spruce them up. Helen and I took advantage of the 50% off sale at Frank Otte's. I bought 28 liriopes, 2 Summer Wine Ninebark, and 3 Sugar and Spice viburnums. We will plant them in October. Meanwhile, they are residing in my shade garden so that they can be watered daily. Our total bill was \$360. The coffee tree at Clerkenwell Circle has dead limbs hanging over the street. I have a call into Sav-a-Tree to give me an estimate on pruning them and removing a stump.

TREE BOARD: The Board will meet on Wednesday, September 18th 7:00PM, in the Board Room in Suite 110 in City Hall. We will be finalizing Arbor Day, which is Sunday, October 6, at 4:00PM. We need 4 new members whose terms are completed.

Community Caring/Health & Fitness/Welcome to Windy Hills – Councilwoman Spencer: In Councilwoman Spencer's absence the City Clerk shared:

Welcome to Windy Hills: There were three real estate transfers last month. A new Welcome Packet is in the works and a proof is available for the council to review. A printer and graphic artist at Dupont Minuteman is assisting.

Health and Fitness: Windy Walkers will meet in September once one family returns home from abroad.

Commemorative plaques on the Green: Five plaques – 4 remade or repaired plus 1 new one will be installed in approximately 3 weeks.

Public Works – Councilman Teaford reported:

The paving project was completed to satisfaction and Libs Paving has been paid. \$50K came from the Road Fund and the remainder \$63K came from the general fund.

Atlantic Construction Company, Inc. submitted an estimate for \$7,700 for restriping of Ambridge Drive from Rudy Lane to Westport Road. The council approved the estimate. I will contact the vendor for a date to start the work. Five or six “No Parking” signs will be needed to prevent parking where work will be done.

I discussed with the council the proposal of purchasing two Radar Speed Signs from Traffic Logix. The approximate cost with installation is \$8K-\$9K. These signs are solar, can be moved as we desire, and data can be collected regarding vehicle speed and time of day.

Councilwoman Greer made a motion to move forward toward the purchase and installation of Solar-powered Radar Speed Signs for use by Windy Hills to mitigate speeding on problem streets. This was seconded by **Councilwoman Davis**. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

I will continue with a sign survey in Windy Hills. No Parking signs and Speed Limit signs are especially being looked at. Two signs will be installed soon. 15MPH signs on Old Stone Lane are in process.

City Clerk/Treasurer – **Christine Haner** reported:

We had a record making 2nd Quarter 2024 in regard to Municipal Insurance Premium Tax received during July and August. We took in \$84K. We had budgeted \$67,500/QTR and the previous top quarter came in at \$74K. Higher insurance costs for us all contributed to the higher income as Windy Hills collects 5% on insurance lines except for Health. Windy Hills’ rate of 5% is one of the lowest among all taxing jurisdictions in Kentucky according to the Kentucky Department of Insurance.

Mayor Roberts, Councilwoman Davis, and I set up a new bank account with Pinnacle Financial Services for the sole purpose of collecting Municipal Insurance Premium Tax, primarily electronically. The various insurance companies who have recently submitted tax returns and payments were sent information about the new account and procedure. Very few are still using paper checks as their primary method of compliance.

The auditors from Jones, Nale & Mattingly are working on our City audit for FYE 6.30.2024. Most of their requests were sent electronically. They completed the necessary in-person tasks on 8/29 in City Hall and were complimentary of our organization, procedures, and knowledge of city business. This week, just like last week, we are assisting them with the analytics stage of

the audit. It is anticipated the council will receive an audit draft to review in October, a final bound copy by the Caucus date of November 8, and the audit results will be summarized by management during the November 11th Council meeting.

Property Tax Bills will be mailed out the last few days of September. There is a 53% discount for payments received by the end of business day on October 31st. Payments will be processed in our City Hall this year.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS: None

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor reported the following:

- Policing – The Lyndon Police spent 82 hours patrolling our streets in August, for a total cost of \$5,248. Four citations were issued for illegal street parking between the hours of 2 am and 5 am. There was one Radar-Enforcement Speed warning issued at the 2500 block of Rudy Lane.
- Work on the Green – LG&E is laying new gas lines along Brownsboro Road and Rudy Lane in preparation for the remodeling of the Brownsboro Road – Watterson Expressway interchange in 2025 and 2026. The pipeline work is expected to be completed by January 2025.
- The VA hospital is proceeding on schedule to be completed in late 2026
- The City of Windy Hills has had some difficulty with the Klausing Group performing lawncare duties around the city – Klausing, like other companies, has had difficulty recruiting and retaining sufficient work staff. We will continue to work with Klausing to ensure that the City's common areas are kept neat.
- We have a few more Public Works projects going into the fall and early winter.
 - The Intersection of Rudy Lane and Ambridge – the median will be sanded and repainted yellow to make this area safer for motorists and pedestrians.
 - We are discussing where we need additional no-parking and speed limit signs throughout the city.
 - We are looking at speed mitigation opportunities along Ambridge, Indian Ridge and Rudy Lane.
- A letter has been sent to the St. Matthews resident who lives at the corner of Rudy Lane and North Hubbard Lane regarding the hydrangeas blocking the line of sight of motorists attempting to turn off Rudy Lane onto North Hubbard's. Metro 311 has also been notified of the hazard.

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- The mayor is holding monthly Zoom call meetings – “Zoom at Noon with the Mayor.” The Zoom meetings will be held at noon on the second Monday of each month. The purpose of the meetings is for the mayor to hear what is on the minds of Windy Hills residents. Specific topics will be presented upon request. The meetings are open to all Windy Hills residents, but attendees need to register by emailing the mayor at mayor@cityofwindyhills.com to get a Zoom invite.
 - Later this month the City of Windy Hills will be accepting applications for the position of Code Enforcement Officer. Details will be in the September newsletter.
 - Residents should mark their calendars for a Town Hall style meeting which will be held on Saturday morning, October 26th at 10 am. The site will likely be at the Sojourn Church on Rudy Lane. The purpose of the meeting will be to gather resident input regarding strategic planning for the City of Windy Hills. The Kentucky League of Cities will help us conduct the meeting. A city-wide survey will be mailed out later in the fall and a report should be expected in early 2025. More details will be in the September newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Davis made a motion to expend the remaining ARPA funds of just over \$13K for the purpose of extending paving on the parking lot on the Green to include 4 additional parking spots. This motion was seconded by **Councilman Teaford**. Discussion was opened to convey that ARPA funds must be allocated by the end of 2024 and the money must be expended in 2025. LG&E put gravel down while they are doing work on the Green to help hold up the earth so their vehicles can be parked there. The curbs around the parking spaces will be removed and gravel will extend to the location of the 4 additional parking spaces for a seamless look once paving is complete. Engineers were on site last Friday (9/6) to confer. **A vote was then taken; the motion carried unanimously.**

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE: Resident Laura Trachtenberg of Rudy Lane asked how many more trees will be taken out on the Green due to construction in the area. The response from council is that the entire line of trees closest to Rudy will be impacted as we expected.

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 7:24PM.

Dr. John Roberts, Mayor

Christine Haner, Clerk/Treasurer