

CITY OF WINDY HILLS

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting  
October 14, 2024

The Council and Officers of the City of Windy Hills met at Sojourn Community Church East, 2501 Rudy Lane, at 7:01 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

Steve Teaford

Julie Theiler

**OTHER CITY OFFICIALS**

Christine Haner, Clerk

Timothy Mayer, Attorney

**MINUTES:**

**Councilwoman Greer** moved to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2024, council meeting; seconded by **Councilwoman Davis**. Having no need for discussion, the motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS, APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

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

**Councilwoman Davis** moved to approve the September checks, totaling \$72,625.97; seconded by **Councilwoman Greer**. **Councilwoman Spencer** asked about the bank account holding the ARPA (American Relief Plan Act) funds. **Mayor Roberts** replied that we have a balance of \$13,118.87. That money will be used to expand the parking area on the Green an additional 3-5 spaces. If more funds are needed to complete that job, money from the general fund will be used. The motion passed unanimously to approve the September checks. **Mayor Roberts** additionally mentioned the balance of the Road Fund is \$31,594.82-

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**RESIDENTS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS:**

**Sandy Norcross** from Indian Ridge Road signed in to discuss speeding on her street. Some folks are running the stop sign. There are near blind curves that make speeding especially dangerous. Small children, near or in the street, are a concern and need protection from the speeders who do not respect the law. She is requesting speed humps to force compliance.

**Nancy Tuell**, also a resident on Indian Ridge Road, confirmed Sandy's assessment about speeding. Nancy additionally is concerned about dogs not on leashes, or dogs on leashes not being securely held back by their owners. It appeared everyone is aware of Metro Louisville's leash law and it was re-iterated to contact animal control when needed.

**Ralph Williams**, Indian Ridge Road, contributed that he knows speed humps were rejected before but he does see them in use by other cities. He would like them added as an option and investigated again since the speeding issue has gone on for many years and the stop signs only minimally was effective.

**Betty Whitaker**, a resident since 1967, added that speeding on Indian Ridge Road has been an issue for about 5-10 years. The speeding is not just by residents, but by other drivers, such as delivery vehicles, and construction vehicles. She shared that speeding is a problem both up Indian Ridge and down, from about the Bonfire curve to Brownsboro Road.

**Mayor Roberts** responded that Lyndon Police will be notified by him to provide more surveillance of Indian Ridge Road to help mitigate speeding and stated that Councilman Teaford has information in his upcoming report to help with the issue. **Councilman Teaford** stated that while the residents present at this meeting were pleased with the City adding stop signs to Indian Ridge, City Hall received just as many calls from residents who were angry about those stop signs. That is why surveying residents is so important. A quick question was answered confirming that the time of day of speeding is rather random due to delivery drivers and non-residents in the area.

**Sandy Norcross** additionally shared that there is no room for parking on both sides of the street simultaneously as Emergency vehicles cannot get through. She is seeing more folks park in ways that prevent ease of use.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Mayor ProTempore, ARPA Committee, Finance – Councilwoman Davis:**

At the end of September, Councilwoman Davis and Councilwoman Greer attended the Kentucky League of Cities annual Conference & Expo in downtown Lexington representing the City of Windy Hills.

Councilwoman Davis communicated with representatives from the Transportation Department regarding weight limits for our City streets. This conversation came about due to truck traffic increasing on Ambridge between Rudy Lane and Westport Road, in light of construction in our area causing re-routing. Information should arrive this week regarding weight limits.

Also discussed and considered was Windy Hills becoming a City of Ethics. There is a certification process if our City is interested.

Councilwoman Davis and Councilwoman Greer revealed their basketball jerseys they received at the Conference and presented one to Mayor Roberts. UK's Baseball Coach and ECU's Basketball Coach spoke at the Conference and there were Pop-A-Shot games and other reasons to cheer.

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

ARBOR DAY: We had great weather for the event. Mayor Roberts gave an inspiring talk on the importance of trees. Since we had no electricity and the baby generator provided by LG&E failed to power the ice cream truck, John (Mayor Roberts) asked Mrs. Sally Johnson if we could use hers next door. She was gracious and the Mayor delivered some ice cream to her with thanks.

GREEN: Caroline Westfall, our City Arborist, who is also the Mayor of Druid Hills, has located a Big Leaf Magnolia for the Green. She and her husband are going to drive to Wilson's Nursery in Frankfort to get it. She will keep it at her house until November when conditions will be best for planting. I will try to get Adam Schneider to plant the tree.

GLOW ON THE GREEN: Hopefully, LG&E will have the electricity back on for Glow on the Green. It will be held the Sunday after Thanksgiving, which is December 1<sup>st</sup>. Please arrive at 5:30PM. The tree will be lit at 6PM. I have already contacted the accordion player.

TREE BOARD: Three men are interested in joining the Tree Board. They are Josh Ashley, who is a Certified Arborist, Alan Bonderhagan, and Martin Spickard.

MISCELLANEOUS: Cornerstone cut down the dead limb and ground out the stump in the Clerkenwell-Windhurst island. Cornerstone was reasonably priced, and half of what others quoted for the job. Hopefully we can start planting the entrance to Wexford Place and the island by the first of November.

Sav-A-Tree will be providing two trees for the price of one to us.

Klausing Group will be planting fall decorative plants at the Signature Entrance of Rudy Lane & Brownsboro Road soon.

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

**Welcome to Windy Hills:** There were four real estate transfers in September, which is the average number. Thanks to all who helped proofread the Historic Home Brochure which is currently being printed at Minuteman Press. It will be used for new residents and will also be available in City Hall and at City events for folks to pick up.

**Health and Fitness:** Windy Walkers will meet in October but were unable to meet in September.

**Commemorative plaques on the Green:** Five plaques – 4 remade or repaired plus 1 new one for Mrs. Williams will be installed on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Public Works – Councilman Teaford reported:

Atlantic Construction completed to satisfaction the job of restriping the yellow safety island and No Parking zones on Ambridge between Rudy Lane and Westport Road.

Solar Radar Speed Control Signs were ordered and delivered to City Hall by Traffic Logix. These signs need to be programmed and monitored. Installation has been arranged with specific locations to be determined, but likely on Indian Ridge Road.

15MPH speed limit signs have been ordered with special posts to be installed on Old Stone Lane once they arrive, hopefully by the end of October.

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Mark Madison, City Engineer, is working with Hall Contracting to price the extension of the parking pad on the Green. Because there is a short timeframe to acquire an estimate before December 31<sup>st</sup>, he cannot undertake a formal bid process.

One of the spotlight fixtures on Rudy the Bear was damaged, as was a plug on the east side of the Green. I am working with an electrician to get these fixed.

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

Thank you to Sojourn Community Church – East for use of their office and paper cutting equipment. Councilwoman Theiler and Mayor Roberts win the “Good Apple” award for helping prepare the tax bills for mailing, although a few other councilmembers offered to help. The bills were mailed out on Monday 9/30. We have collected 32% of the bill payments as of today, Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.

We have 51 Homestead Exemptions and 2 Disability Exemptions in Windy Hills out of 1,191 parcels of land. I verified that none of those addresses with Homestead Exemptions belong to rental homes. This is important because Homestead Exemptions only apply to Primary Residences and the address of record must match the Kentucky Driver’s License and Voter Registration Card.

Property Tax Collections are going strong. While dropping off checks in person, our residents are sharing common themes:

- Thanking the Mayor for doing a good job
- Describing how they love our newsletter and appreciate our City communications
- Unhappy about construction and traffic issues around us
- Thank the Mayor and Council for working hard to allow the 53% discount. They are stating that without a strong discount some would not have been able to pay their bill.

**ATTORNEY COMMENTS:** None

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**

- Arbor Day was celebrated on the Green on Sunday October 6<sup>th</sup>. My speech and Proclamation will be in the upcoming newsletter and will be posted on the City’s website. Approximately 35 people attended. There were raffle prizes and a tree giveaway. Haywood’s Dairy served ice cream. We had great weather and those who attended enjoyed the day. A special thanks goes out to Sally Johnson who lives at 712 Rudy Lane, next to the Green, for allowing us to run an extension cord from her house to

the Haywood Dairy truck, as power to the Green had been interrupted by the pipeline construction at the site.

- Police Report: The Lyndon Police spent 80.7 hours patrolling the streets of Windy Hills, for a total cost of \$5,164.80. There were two Radar monitoring sessions along Ambridge, but no traffic stops were made. There was one traffic citation issued at the corner of Rudy Lane and Brownsboro Road for a motorist disregarding the red light.
- Zoom at Noon with the Mayor was held today. Two residents were on the call. There was discussion about the increased traffic and speeding along Ambridge Drive. It was noted that the city recently purchased solar powered speed mitigation signs and that Ambridge Drive, along with Indian Ridge Road, were the two likely spots that the signs will initially be deployed. The Zoom meetings will continue to be held at noon on the second Monday of each month. Residents wishing to attend the Zoom meetings should contact the city office and provide an email address to receive an invitation.
- On Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am at the Sojourn Community Church on Rudy Lane, staff from the Kentucky League of Cities will facilitate a Town Hall listening session to get Windy Hills residents' thoughts about the future direction of our city. A similar Strategic Planning session was last held in 2010. Coffee and donuts will be served. We hope there will be a good turnout and that residents will bring their ideas of how we can make the City of Windy Hills an ideal city in which to live and raise families.
- Glow on the Green and the lighting of the tree will occur at 5:30 pm on Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>. We hope we have good weather and a large crowd to begin the holiday season. More information will be in the newspaper and on the website.
- Election Day is quickly approaching. We have six candidates for the six City Council positions. There are also two very important, and controversial, constitutional amendments proposed. Residents should do their homework – constitutional amendments do not come along very often. There is also the Presidential race, and several down ballot races. There are two voting precincts within the City of Windy Hills, E188 and G194. If you live in the E188 precinct you will vote at the SOJOURN EAST CHURCH at 2501 RUDY LANE. if you live in the G194 precinct you will vote at CHRIST CHURCH UNITED METHODIST at 4614 BROWNSBORO ROAD. To find out where you vote you can go to the Jefferson County Clerk's website <https://www.jeffersoncountyclerk.org/wheredoivote/> Type in your street address and the location will be provided. You can also print out a sample ballot. There is also the opportunity to vote early. In-person No-excuse Absentee (Early) Voting can be done on October 31, November 1, 2 at several locations in Jefferson County. Again, go to the Jefferson County Clerk's website for more information and the locations. Please plan to vote!

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:**

It was announced that the Mayor had made a few color copies of maps showing the roadway changes in Windy Hills. It was noted that the small access road area by Stockyards Bank & Trust Company will go away. Links to these maps will be in the October digital Breeze newsletter.

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.

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Dr. John Roberts, Mayor

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Christine Haner, Clerk/Treasurer