

CITY OF WINDY HILLS

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
April 14, 2025

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

Kate Greer

Paul Morris

Suzanne Spencer

Steve Teaford

Julie Theiler

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS

Christine Haner, Clerk

Timothy Mayer, Attorney

Paul Eitel, Code Enforcement

MINUTES:

Councilwoman Greer moved to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2025, council meeting; seconded by **Councilwoman Theiler**. Having no need for discussion, the motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS, APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Councilwoman Greer moved to approve the March 2025 Financial Reports which included the Profit & Loss Statement as well as the Balance Sheet: seconded by **Councilwoman Theiler**. With no discussion necessary, the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Roberts then stated that income is over budget currently and expenses are on budget. The ARPA account as of today has a balance of \$8,418.64 to be used for the addition of seven parking spaces at the Green. The Road Fund balance as of March 31st is \$60,942.82. Next month during the May Council meeting there will be a required Public Road Fund Hearing to discuss projects for the next fiscal year and the expenditure of funds to do so.

Councilman Teaford moved to approve the March bills, totaling \$59,593.33; seconded by **Councilwoman Greer**. Having no questions, the motion passed unanimously.

RESIDENTS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Betsy Heck of 1105 Windsong Way signed in to discuss the Windsong Neighborhood Association, of which she is the President. A "Welcome to Windsong!" 4-page full-color handout was provided to the City Officials. It contained facts about the neighborhood, their special events for the families and children, and pictures of their successful events drawing their "strong community" together. With the 3-minute time limit up, **James Young**, VP of the Windsong Neighborhood Association, continued the conversation. After additional background information, Mr. Young asked if the council would entertain contributing some assistance to place lights on the tree annually. Currently, 60% of the 67 Windsong homes pay \$80 in dues to cover the cost of their neighborhood activities. The Mayor and Council will discuss further.

Staci Farris of 1116 Windsong Way signed in to speak. Firstly, she asked about the blue markings that recently showed up on the sidewalks in her neighborhood. Councilman Teaford stated that he will answer her question upon giving his report later in the meeting. Staci stated that the Easter Egg Hunt was well-attended in Windsong, and community attendance has been strong at their events. She also stated a pole was used to wrap lights on the big tree ahead of the holidays but now it is too large to safely do so and asked for support from the City to safely apply the lights. Councilwoman Spencer asked if Windy Hills was invited to their event. The answer was "no" as they do not have room, and it is funded for their own neighborhood. Other streets nearby, all within walking distance, do participate in the tree lighting. **Councilman Morris** stated that he is working on Youth Engagement Initiatives in Windy Hills and looks forward to working together on future family events.

Robbin Goodin of 427 Deerfield Lane signed in to speak and provided a handout of an event proposal deemed "Windy Hills Family Fun and Fiber Arts Afternoon". She believes a Public Safety Officer is the only thing needed by the City to complete their event planning for this event on the Green. It was mentioned that the proposed dates should be changed to Sunday so that attendees can park in the Brownsboro Center Parking lot when most businesses are closed. Robbin believes with the use of Sign-up Genius she can harness volunteer donations and labor to cover the event. The Mayor and Council will discuss further.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

The preliminary planning for an Arbor Day celebration to precede Shakespeare on the Green has been **canceled**. Now, an Arbor Day celebration will occur in the fall. We were unable to secure an ice cream truck for that day, as well.

Spring weeding has begun!

The area of Clerkenwell Road and Windhurst has been completed in its spring maintenance.

Public Works – **Councilman Teaford** reported:

- Presented Council proposed cost of \$193,126 for road paving in summer 2025 in the next fiscal year.
- Presented Council proposed cost of \$52,680 to bring sidewalks in Windhurst and Windsong into ADA Compliance. Additionally, thanks to Councilwoman Paula McCraney, new sidewalks will connect at N. Hubbard's Lane and Brownsboro Road to complete the loop.
- Speeding on Ambridge and Indian Ridge Road – Less than 15% are driving over 35MPH. Possible speed humps on Indian Ridge and possible stop signs or speed humps on Ambridge Drive will be researched to slow motorists who are over the posted 25MPH but driving less than a police officer will cite.
- Councilman Morris and I are conducting a survey on Street Lights in Windy Hills.
- Authorized Stedan Construction to address a pothole on the ROW on Foeburn Lane.
- MSD is dealing with a sink hole on Hill Top Road. We are monitoring as it is in progress.

Newsletter/City Communications/Events – **Julie Theiler** reported:

Planning for the **4th of July event** on that Friday is coming along! We will enjoy music by the Moon Dogs, Ice Cream from Haywood Dairy, Farmer Steve and his Petting Zoo, City BBQ, and the bouncy obstacle course courtesy of Astro Jump. A Sign-Up Genius will be sent out for volunteers to help make the event run smoothly. We encourage volunteers!

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

The old Clerk's computer circa 2008 was destroyed by Z-Jak Technologies. The hard drive was drilled through, and the components were taken apart and either recycled or disposed of properly. The data was backed up in July 2023 successfully and that data is now stored on the cloud. That computer was not used and was no longer safe to use in its antiquity. This is

mentioned so residents feel confident that any information about them is secure and not available freely.

Mayor Roberts and I completed the Business Credit Card Application with First Financial Bank on April 2nd. This was in accordance with the Council approval during the March Council Meeting.

3 Liens were filed on April 1st for delinquent 2024 Property Tax payments.

I found both state and federal unclaimed property for the City of Windy Hills. Two claims were filed in March for a few of the state items, but the claims are pending. After those process, I can continue reviewing the federal listings. It will all likely amount to no more than a few hundred dollars.

Code Enforcement Officer – Paul Eitel reported:

Rental Property inspections are about 20% completed. Yes, we do have some rental property in Windy Hills.

Mother nature was harsh the last few months. Now that the weather has warmed up and it is drier, we look forward to seeing repairs to gutters, downspouts, mailboxes, shutters, etc. As a friendly reminder, please make sure the house numbers are visible on your mailbox and on the front of the home. This is required for first responders.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS: None

MAYOR'S REPORT:

In addition to the information presented by the City Council members the following city business was conducted since the March meeting of the City Council.

Following the severe weather of February, resulting in a water line bursting near 703 Rudy Lane, the residents living along Rudy Lane began experiencing a loud knocking noise in their water pipes. After several visits by the water company and flushing the water lines in the area, the sound now seems to have abated.

Brownsboro traffic at Rudy Lane has been a problem for some time now. With the closure of River Road for pipeline work, and more recently with the Ohio River flooding, more traffic has

been diverted to Brownsboro Road. Traffic backup from the Watterson Expressway to Killiney Place and beyond is now common during the evening rush hour. This has made it difficult for residents to exit the neighborhoods along Brownsboro Road. This has been brought to Metro Louisville's attention and a request has been made to place "Do Not Block Intersection" signs at each entry way.

In the Windy Hills strategic planning survey many residents commented on the lack of visibility of the Lyndon Police in their neighborhoods. The City of Windy Hills contracts with the Lyndon Police to provide up to 90 hours/month of policing. This averages 3 hours per day. It typically takes 2 ½ hours to drive through all the roads in Windy Hills, which means that the police car is only on any particular road a brief period of time. Consequently, a resident may not see them. Going forward we will work with Lyndon Police to devise a deployment pattern that will make the police presence more apparent.

The two rezoning applications involving properties at 4301 Westport Road (Daycare Facility, November 2024 Hearing), and 4251 Westport Road (Doctor's Office, Hearing June 2024) have been approved by the St. Matthews' City Council.

Finally, a BIG thank you goes to Metro Councilwoman, Paula McCraney. Councilwoman McCraney has successfully secured funding to build a sidewalk on the east side of North Hubbard's Lane from Rudy Lane to Westport Road, AND along North Hubbard's Lane from Coach Gate Wynde to the corner of North Hubbard's and Brownsboro Road and east along Brownsboro Road to the back gates of Coach Gate. Again, Councilwoman McCraney thank you! And congratulations on your recent appointment as Senior Vice President for Advancement and Development at Simmons College.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilman Teaford made a motion to hear the Second Summary Reading of several proposed Tree Ordinance Revisions. This request was seconded by **Councilwoman Greer**. Having no discussion, the motion to read passed.

The City Clerk read:

This is a summary second reading for the revisions to Ord. 12-04, passed 10-8-2012; Ord. 4 Series 13-14, passed 2-10-2014; Ord. 7 Series 14-15, passed 6-8-2015; and Ord. 3 Series 16-17, passed 6-13-2016. Said ordinances encompass the Tree Board; its composition and terms of office; operation; scope of work; and ancillary ordinances defining the scope of work. The

ancillary ordinances include tree planting, maintenance, trimming, and topping; removal of trees, shrubs, vines, invasive species, and stumps; public nuisance trees and shrubs; enforcement of said ordinances; and notification and appeal of fines.

Mayor Roberts stated the most notable improvement in the Tree Ordinance Revision was to add a tree rebate for up to 4 trees, rather than the current 2. While the list of approved trees was stricken from the new Ordinance, so that the list can be more easily updated, a new list of approved trees will be created by the Tree Board and will be placed on the website.

Councilwoman Greer made a motion for the Council to approve Ordinance 2024-2025 #4. This was seconded by **Councilwoman Theiler**. With no discussion requested, a roll call vote was taken by the Clerk:

Councilwoman Greer – Yes

Councilman Morris – Yes

Councilwoman Spencer – Yes

Councilman Teaford – Yes

Councilwoman Theiler – Yes

The motion passed and Ordinance 25-01 was adopted.

NEW BUSINESS: None

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

Martha Davis, a resident on Rudy Lane, asked how long the Mayor will be collecting feedback about the property beside the Green potentially being acquired by Windy Hills. The Mayor stated that as of today only 40 people had responded. Of those, 60% requested the City explore the possibility to determine if it is wise or unwise. That group seemed to want to explore expanding the gathering space for events. However, 40% were firmly “no”. Those responses were the most detailed in their opinions.

There being no further business to address nor questions to answer of the Council,
Councilman Teaford made a motion to adjourn, seconded by **Councilwoman Greer**. The motion
passed and the meeting was officially adjourned at 8:20PM.

Dr. John Roberts, Mayor

Christine Haner, Clerk/Treasurer