

CITY OF WINDY HILLS

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
May 12, 2025

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

Suzanne Spencer

Steve Teaford

Julie Theiler

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS

Christine Haner, Clerk

Timothy Mayer, Attorney

Paul Eitel, Code Enforcement

MINUTES:

Councilwoman Davis moved to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2025, 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 April 2025 Financial Reports which included the Profit & Loss Statement as well as the Balance Sheet: seconded by **Councilwoman Davis**. With no discussion necessary, the motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Davis moved to approve the April bills, totaling \$51,534.01; seconded by **Councilwoman Greer**. Having no questions, the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON SPENDING STATE ROAD FUNDS ON CITY PAVING

At this time, **Mayor Roberts** suspended the usual procedure for the Council Meeting.

Councilman Teaford made a motion to formally open a Public Hearing to discuss using State Road Funds for City Paving. This was seconded by **Councilwoman Davis**. The Public Hearing opened at 7:05PM. Mayor Roberts continued:

We will now begin a public hearing, as required by KRS 174.100, related to the spending of State Road Funds for the purpose of paving our city streets. The Council is aware we receive state fuel

tax dollars to assist us in keeping our roads paved and safe. The Council also knows that the Milestone Design Group assessed our roads, rating them from 1 (worst) to 10 (best). We attempt to keep our roads at a rating of 6 and above and choose roads to pave each year based on this plan. The State Road Fund money we receive is never sufficient to pave the streets we choose, and we need to supplement the funds with City of Windy Hills property tax revenues. Later in this meeting we will discuss contract offers we received related to street paving in the coming fiscal year.

As of April 30th, the balance in our State Road Funds is \$70,030.87. We can reasonably expect to receive an additional \$36,000 during the next fiscal year providing a total of approximately \$106,000 available for Paving. Not wanting to deplete this fund, I would propose that the Council consider spending \$50,000 in State Road funding toward paving our roads and supplementing this with revenues generated by our city property taxation. A decision by the Council of this, or any amount, will be contingent upon the Council passing the budget at the June meeting.

Councilman Teaford confirmed his desire to leave some dollars in the Road Fund and spend \$50K in Road Funds for paving. The list of roads to either pave or repair are:

- Windsong Way
- Bonfire Drive
- Indian Ridge Road
- Keith Springs Circle
- Starcross Court (Curb Repair Only)
- Coach Gate Wynde (Restripe Only)
- Copperfield Road
- Copperfield Court

Public discussion ensued when resident **Jeff Feinberg** asked what parts of Windsong Way will be paved or repaired. **Councilman Teaford** clarified that Windsong Way will be paved up to the circle. Ultimately, the conversation regarding additional Windsong Way road work ended when **Mayor Roberts** established that our City Engineer's determination of any further work on Windsong Way will be held off until MSD has time to assess storm drains, drainage issues, potential curbing, and other concerns, some of which are likely, at least in part, to be remedied by MSD based on communications with MSD so far. It was requested by **Mr. Feinberg** that we invite MSD to our next council meeting for an update to the public which might encourage a quicker response.

Councilwoman Davis made a motion to close the hearing, seconded by **Councilman Teaford**. The hearing concluded at 7:17PM.

RESIDENTS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Mr. Robert Orendorf, a resident on Waterford Road, asked why the parking pad on the Green was expanded. **Mayor Roberts** responded that parking is at a premium when Brownsboro Center businesses are open as we do not want to hinder customer parking. Oftentimes we observed that all four parking spots were occupied by walkers. Now, there are a total of 12 parking spots with 2 being handicapped-designated. He further shared a reminder that ARPA funds were used for the parking area on the Green and were already approved for that purpose.

A secondary question was asked: now that LG&E and their subcontractors have seemingly left the area, when will the mess be cleaned up? **Mayor Roberts** stated the project is likely not finished in LG&E's mind as there will be further work when an additional driving lane is added from Brownsboro Road onto Rudy Lane. **Mr. Orendorf** requested that the mud on the sidewalk on the Brownsboro Road side close to the new utility pole be removed soon as it is a slip hazard for walkers.

Mr. Ralph Williams, a resident on Indian Ridge Road, asked if Windy Hills could publish deed transfers. **Councilwoman Davis** stated that the Jefferson County PVA website shows transfers with our paid subscription. The City will now research Deed transfers and they will be shared with **Councilwoman Theiler** for publishing in our newsletters.

Anne Augustus, who lives in Royal Coach, signed in to speak about a few topics. Anne is a proponent for sidewalks and is eager to see Metro Louisville complete installation of the sidewalks near Coach Gate. She inquired when this project would be completed. **Mayor Roberts** stated the sidewalks are in the next Metro Louisville budget so we know the project will not begin until July, though there is no date shared with us at this time, indicating it could be a longer timeframe. Anne stated that walking is currently dangerous when walkers cross at N. Hubbard's Lane and Elmwood Avenue, which Anne can see from her building. Anne recommended a crosswalk be considered. **Mayor Roberts** stated that Elmwood Avenue is in St. Matthews, not Windy Hills, and that N. Hubbard's Lane is a Metro roadway. Even so, this idea can be shared in light of the new sidewalks.

Anne also shared her concern about the drainage ditch that runs along N. Hubbard's Lane, in light of the new sidewalk project. The Mayor and Council will review the plan for the precise placement of the sidewalk when it is available to voice concerns as needed. Anne was additionally wondering about any trees that will be taken out to accommodate the new sidewalks since Windy Hills is a Tree City USA designated city. Anne stated that residents of Windy Hills purchased trees in that area, not the Coach Gate HOA. Windy Hills has a tree rebate program for residents to purchase Tree Board-approved trees to add to our tree canopy. Lastly,

Anne reported a broken utility pole on N. Hubbard's Lane by Coach Gate due to a car wreck. While a new pole was erected and the electrical lines secured, the old pole is still there by 5601 Coach Gate Wynde, about mid-way down. **Councilman Teaford** stated he would report this issue to Metro as the pole is in the Metro ROW.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor ProTempore, ARPA Committee, Finance – Councilwoman Davis:

The annual ARPA report was completed and filed in April. It contained documentation of paving on the Green. There will be one more report for April 2026 which will be the final required filing by the Federal Government.

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

Rudy the Bear was successfully repaired and treated for annual maintenance recently by Mr. Harley Dougherty.

Despite the rain, Klausing Group has been doing a good job of mowing and maintaining our City vegetation.

The Tree Board will meet on Wednesday, May 21st, 7PM, in the Board Room of the Summit Executive Suites.

There are some new plantings at Brownsboro Road and Rudy Lane, including Angelonia.

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

Welcome to Windy Hills: There was one new resident in April.

Health and Fitness: We have a few walkers, like Robyn Goodin, who are committed to walking and hope to have many upcoming walking opportunities for others to join in.

Public Works – Councilman Teaford reported:

Flynn Brothers completed the extra parking spaces and striping on the Green. There are now a total of 12 parking spots with 2 designated for Handicapped Parking.

As we are gathering data from our speed signs on Ambridge Drive and Indian Ridge Road, we will be furthering investigation into speed humps to keep speeders at bay. More information will be shared in the future.

We are surveying our City sidewalks to determine what areas need repaired or replaced to be safe as well as ADA compliant. If needed, a formal bid process will commence.

A pothole on Foeburn Lane was successfully corrected by Stedan Construction.

MSD repaired a sinkhole on Hilltop Road.

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

We are looking for a new printing company for our newsletter and apologize for the lateness of the March printed newsletter.

Shakespeare on the Green, featuring the play Macbeth, will be on Wednesday, May 14th, at 6:30PM. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

A Sign-Up Genius will be sent out to help find volunteers for the 4th of July celebration.

We will have a Shredding Event on Saturday, May 24th from 10AM – 2PM at Sojourn East.

Councilwoman Greer added another community event mention. The Kilgore Garden Tour this June will feature two homes in Windy Hills. Mayor Roberts and Mr. John Clark will have their homes and gardens open for the tour. Tickets are \$40/per person as the fundraiser for Kilgore Samaritan Counseling Center on June 14 & 15, 2025, 10AM-4PM.

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

The Preliminary 2025 Property Valuation Assessment from the PVA was received in April. After thorough review and inquiries, I deemed the PVA documents to be correct. A Statement of Accuracy was submitted to the Jefferson County PVA on May1st.

I attended the Kentucky Municipal Clerk Association Spring Conference on April 16th, 17th, and 18th. There were 89 Clerks in attendance from other cities in the Commonwealth. Mayor Roberts and I quickly went over what information I believe is likely to impact Windy Hills directly and will further investigate these potential tasks later in May. There were around 6 recent Kentucky bills that directly impact Windy Hills.

Code Enforcement Officer – Paul Eitel reported (in his words):

We had two significant LG&E power outages due to wind & rainstorms, affecting the Windy Hills area.

- One on Rudy Lane, with downed power lines and a tree in the roadway, affecting 150 homes. This required the closure of Rudy in the 4400 block for approximately 24 hours until crews made and completed their repairs.

- The second was on Starcross Court, affecting approximately 30 homes until repairs could be made.

One of our residents had a home fire, the resident and two pets are ok. Due to significant smoke damage, and some fire damage, the resident and pets are being assisted by family and friends to live elsewhere for the present time.

We have seen an uptick in permits being issued by Louisville Metro for: Interior home renovations, additions, and for adding inground pools, as well as permit applications to our office for driveway work, all very good signs. We check on these for compliance with our WH's ordinances, & Community Standards. These cover the use and placement of: dumpsters, dumpster bags, porta-potties, silt barriers and attention to contractor traffic and follow-ups.

There has been a surge in contractor signs placed throughout the cities Rights-of-Ways, where they are contacted about proper display and time limit, relocated into the yard. Or they are removed for their pickup at city hall.

Due to the large and continued amount of rain this spring, grass cutting has been a challenge for homeowners and grass cutting contractors alike. Most have kept up, but some needed a gentle reminder to cut their grass, and on a regular basis.

VA Drainage to Regency, Two Springs Muddy Fork area. We have been monitoring this, and they for the time being have re-routed their storm water discharge to the Northeast, and away from our city. But we will continue to monitor any changes.

Residential Rental inspections will wrap up by the end of May.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS – Tim Mayer, Strobo Barkley, PLLC – reported:

I have been working with the Mayor and Clerk on various Ordinances, Executive Orders, and Municipal Orders to make sure we are up to date on required or recommended legislative tasks.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Lyndon Police patrolled our city streets for a total of 91 hours during the month of April. This averages about 3 hours per day. They conducted radar enforcement and traffic control observations along Rudy Lane (2 times) and Ambridge Drive (3 times). Warnings were issued but no citations were given. There were no parking citations given. I have asked the police to enforce our overnight parking ordinance. We have also been notified that the cost of policing will increase from \$64/hour to \$72/hour beginning in July.

You may know that there was a house fire on Chelsea last month. The owner and her pets were evacuated safely and are doing well. The house was extensively damaged and will be repaired. This is a good reminder for everyone to ensure that you have a working smoke detector in your home and to have an evacuation plan for your family and pets.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Teaford made a motion to open discussion regarding the road paving contract for 2025-2026; seconded by **Councilwoman Greer**.

Mayor Roberts continued: The First Item of New Business is the Road Paving Contract for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year. As mentioned earlier we rely on the Road Assessment provided by Milestone Design Group and select roads with a rating of 6 or 7 to pave each year. We received sealed bids from LIBS Paving, Flynn Brothers and Louisville Paving proposing to pave or repair portions of Copperfield Road and Circle, Windsong Way, Bonfire Drive, Indian Ridge Road, and Keith Springs Circle. And to restripe the center lane marking on Coach Gate Wynde. The Council has received the bids.

Councilman Teaford made a motion that Libs Paving Company, Inc. be awarded the contract as the lowest bidder; seconded by **Councilwoman Davis**. The vote was unanimous by the five present councilmembers, and Libs Paving was awarded the contract.

The next item of New Business was a proposed Ordinance relating to the Levy of Taxes for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. **Councilwoman Greer** made a motion to hear the 1st summary reading of the Ordinance; seconded by **Councilwoman Davis**. The motion passed unanimously.

The Clerk read:

ORDINANCE NO. 5 Series 2024-2025, AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE LEVY OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY PURPOSES FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026.

Mayor Roberts added that the property tax rate of \$.17 per \$100 remains unchanged but the discount rate will be 50% if payment is made in full before November 1.

The next item of New Business was a proposed Ordinance relating to the establishing a City Budget for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

A motion was made to read Ordinance No. 6, Series 2024-2025, by **Councilwoman Davis**; seconded by **Councilwoman Spencer**. The motion passed unanimously.

The Clerk read:

ORDINANCE NO. 6 Series 2024-2025, AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF WINDY HILLS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2025, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026, ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT.

Mayor Roberts stated that a second summary reading will occur at the June council meeting with a vote to adopt the ordinance anticipated.

Mayor Roberts, in his words:

I would like to make a few comments about the proposed 2025-2026 budget. As you know prices for goods and services are rising. In the coming year the costs of policing will rise 10%, from \$64/hour to \$72/hour. The cost of sanitation services will rise 6%, as will the costs of running our city government. The future costs of snow and ice removal are very unpredictable. In recent past years we have spent \$25,000 to \$40,000 on snow removal. This past year, with the severe freeze and icing, we spent nearly \$100,000. Accordingly, I have proposed \$80,000 toward snow removal and pray for a mild winter. At the same time, given the chaotic economic environment we predict that revenues may be flat, and the interest earned on our savings to be lower than in past years. So, in the proposed budget, there is a short fall in revenues compared to expenditures, requiring the use of \$333, 157 of our savings to balance the budget. The majority, \$258,000, is related to repairing and paving our roads and sidewalks and making our city safe.

Mayor Roberts continued:

The final item of New Business tonight is an Executive Order establishing membership of the Code Enforcement Board. By Ordinance, the Board shall consist of a minimum of 3 members,

appointed by the mayor, with approval of the City Council. Over the past two years the terms of two members have expired.

Executive Order 2025 -

Relating to Appointment (Reappointment) of members to the Code Enforcement Board

Whereas, pursuant to KRS 65.8801 to KRS 65.8838, the City of Windy Hills Ordinance 22-01 established a Code Enforcement Board, the members of which shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to the approval of the City Council, and

Whereas, there are currently vacancies on the Board

I hereby appoint/reappoint the following individuals to the Windy Hills Code Enforcement Board to serve/complete the noted terms of office.

Mr. Steve Miller – January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025

Mr. Ralph Williams – January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2026

Ms. Martha Davis - January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2027

Councilwoman Davis made a motion to accept the recommendations to the Code Enforcement Board, appointed by the Mayor. This was seconded by **Councilwoman Greer** and unanimously approved by the council.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

Doug Mauer, a resident in Wexford Place, asked if Rumpke will be the sanitation provider going forward. Mayor Roberts stated there was a 1-year extension on the current contract with Rumpke and we will use them for the upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1.

Jeff Feinberg asked if residents can go back to rear door pickup, like they had when Ecotech was the provider. **Mayor Roberts** stated that the cost for continuing rear door pickup was cost prohibitive but that residents can sign up for around an additional \$9.50/month (actual cost is \$9.42/month) for that service by Rumpke if they choose. This accommodation was originally provided for residents who were disabled, the most elderly, or to those where the steepness of a driveway made it unsafe for a resident to move cans back and forth to the street. It was confirmed that Rumpke can be contacted about this service which is billed by them. **Mr. Feinberg** also confirmed from **Mayor Roberts** that the back door option is only available for trash, not recycling or yard waste.

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 8:07PM.

Dr. John Roberts, Mayor

Christine Haner, Clerk/Treasurer