

The regular meeting of the Brandenburg City Council was held March 14, 2022 at the Home & Garden Building at the MC Fairgrounds..

PRESENT:

Ronnie C. Joyner, Mayor
Amy Haynes, City Clerk
Brian Haag, Police Chief
T.J. Hughes, Public Works Dir.
Rachel Brown, City Atty
Tim Hendley, Sergeant

COUNCILMEMBERS

Charlotte Ford
Bruce Fackler
Bryan Claycomb
Bill Basham
Bradley Johnston

VISITORS: Gene Webster-WVIH, Rodney Ford, Bric Pace, Ginger Coomes, David Woodward, Mark Spry, Ryan Skaggs, David & Sharon Pace

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & PRAYER:

The meeting was called to order @ 7:00pm and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer led by Bruce Fackler.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Bill Basham, seconded by Bruce Fackler, to approve the February meeting minutes as submitted. Vote of motion was unanimous.

COUNCIL VACANCY:

Each candidate interested in the vacant Council position was given 2 minutes to address the Council regarding their interest and qualifications.

- 1) Bric Pace – Brief dialogue about why he would like to be appointed. Once an employee here, served on committees, as well as Ky State Board of EMS and Air Ambulance trained. Mr. Pace feels that his experience with real estate investment and real estate sales is also a plus. He is a lifelong citizen of Brandenburg.
- 2) Ginger Coomes – Born and raised in Meade County, moved to Brandenburg in 2019. Took part in the Leadership of Meade County classes in 2015 which peaked her interest in serving her community. She is a huge proponent of revitalization of downtown Brandenburg. She is currently works at Abound Credit Union and will be retiring in the next few years and would love to serve her community.
- 3) David Woodward – Resident of Brandenburg for several years, lifelong resident of Meade county, served in several appointed and elected positions, including Muldraugh Planning and Zoning and City Council. Plans to retire soon, and would like to spend his time working for the citizens of Brandenburg.
- 4) Ryan Skaggs – Lifelong resident of Meade County, including the last 8 years in Brandenburg. Has served in several positions with the fire service in Ekron, and would like to serve to assist with the revitalization of Brandenburg.
- 5) Mark Spry – Born and raised in Meade County, left for several years for work, moved back in April of 2018. Was grateful for the opportunity to speak before the Council and would be grateful for the opportunity to serve.

CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was made to enter into closed session per KRS61.810 Section 1(B) and Section 1(F), by Bryan Claycomb, seconded by Charlotte Ford, and the vote was unanimous.

After a brief closed session of approximately 15 minutes, a motion was made by Bryan Claycomb, seconded by Bruce Fackler, to return to the open meeting. Vote of motion was unanimous.

As a result of closed session no action was taken regarding 1(B)

A motion was made by Bradley Johnston, seconded by Charlotte Ford, to nominate Ginger Coomes for the replacement to Michael Kelly's vacated spot on the Brandenburg City Council for the remainder of the existing term. By show of hand, Bradley Johnston and Charlotte Ford voted in favor of Ms. Coomes, Bruce Fackler voted no, and Councilmembers Bryan Claycomb and Bill Basham chose to abstain. Ginger Coomes was appointed as a new council member by majority vote. The Council wished to thank everyone for their interest in serving. Ms. Coomes was then sworn in by Mayor Joyner and participated in the remainder of the meeting.

PLANNING & ZONING:

*Re-zoning of property at Bypass Road and Broadway known as the traffic triangle. On a motion by Bill Basham, seconded by Bruce Fackler, the motion passed with a unanimous vote to approve the rezoning as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

*Rachel Brown, Attorney then read aloud the Second Reading of Ordinance 585 - Amending Bldg and Electric Permit & Rezoning Fees. A motion was made by Bryan Claycomb, seconded by Bradley Johnston, to approve the Ordinance as read. Vote of motion was unanimous.

ORDINANCE #586:

After some discussion regarding the changes proposed in the Ordinance, a motion was made by Charlotte Ford, seconded by Bill Basham, to move forward with the first reading of Ordinance #586. The ordinance was read aloud for the first time by City Attorney Rachel Brown.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Office: The monthly office report was presented by Amy Haynes, City Clerk. Councilman Bruce Fackler asked to address the discussion of bills which was skipped prior in the meeting. He questioned a large deposit into the MRA account made in February. Amy noted that the deposit was reimbursement of funds from the State which the City had already spent for paving.

Police: The monthly report was presented by Chief Brian Haag for both the Police Department and the Citizens on Patrol. Chief Haag also updated that on the same day of the meeting there had been some late night/ early morning car break-ins and thefts, as well as a short pursuit. He stated that one suspect was in custody, and other individuals had been identified. He reminded all citizens to lock their vehicles, as well as not leave any items inside which are likely to be stolen, including the keys.

Chief Haag then discussed the notification system in Meade County known as CODERed. He stated that system can be used for emergency situations, as well as localized issues such as boil water advisories, etc...

Chief Haag addressed the opening for the School Resource Officer, and stated that a committee would be formed to interview the qualified applicants, and the plan was to have someone in place by July 1, 2022.

Water/Sewer:

TJ Hughes presented the monthly water/sewer report. He then addressed the mowing contract for the City parks, and informed the Council that last year's contractors had agreed at this time to continue mowing for an additional \$40.00 increase per week, to bring the cost to \$500.00 weekly. He and the Mayor stated that the price may be addressed again in the future due to the rising costs of fuel. Mr. Hughes then reminded the Council that April is spring hydrant flushing time, and as a result there could be discoloration of water when doing laundry.

WWTP Update: The Mayor updated that construction was continuing as planned, but a Change Order had been received regarding the resetting of an electric pole, with an approximate price tag of \$25,000.00. He stated that as of the meeting date, negotiations were still taking place regarding the large price tag.

PARKS: Councilmember Ford requested of T.J. that the handrails along the sidewalk in the park be painted in the spring. T.J. informed her that it was on the list for spring projects.

BUSINESS LICENSES:

Papa Haoles

Address: Inside City Limits
Type of Business: Food Truck
Applicant: Michael Pfeiffer

A motion was made by Bruce Fackler, seconded by Bill Basham, to approve the license for Papa Haoles. Vote of motion was unanimous.

Family Focused Healthcare

Address: 664 Bypass Rd
Type of Business: Healthcare
Applicant: Rebecca Ohanian-Samarin

A motion was made by Bradley Johnston, seconded by Charlotte Ford, to approve the license for Family Focused Healthcare. Vote of motion was unanimous.

Foreverett

Address: 138 Broadway
Type of Business: Tattoo Parlor
Applicant: Marion Catlett

A motion was made by Bryan Claycomb, seconded by Bruce Fackler, to approve the license for Foreverett. Vote of motion was unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor Joyner reviewed current and future projects for the City of Brandenburg.

- 1) Lawrence Street waterline upgrade – apply for Community Development Block Grant – will be available funding after September of 2022.
- 2) Water Plant Upgrade & Well – money will need to be borrowed for the project – still perusing the bids to determine why there is such a large discrepancy in bid prices.

- 3) Battletown Road / Bypass - Sewer and Water Extension – ARPA funding should cover the approximate cost of \$300,000.00 which includes road bores and approx. 1000 ft of water and sewer line.
- 4) Old Ekron Waterline Improvement – 700-800 feet of waterline from Wesbanco to Bburg Nursing & Rehab. Also feels that ARPA funds will help cover the expense.
- 5) Water Tank on Moremen Road – to eliminate any issues due to large water demands from new business and industry. Also ARPA funds.
- 6) Broadway Sidewalk from Corner Stop to the Bypass
- 7) Bathroom / Showers/ Pavilion in Riverfront Park
- 8) Bathrooms at new lift station in Riverfront park, after the completion of the WWTP upgrade.
- 9) Storage bay for salt storage – will be placed behind the maintenance building.
- 10) Welcome to Brandenburg signs
- 11) Coat & Stripe basketball courts in Nichol Park
- 12) Add additional lighting in portions of Riverfront Park that are not well lit at night for cameras
- 13) Fix the back steps at City Hall due to unsafe nature as well as water now running under the foundation of the building.

OTHER BUSINESS:

-Councilmember Ford reminded the Council that Yard of the Month was set to begin in April and run through September. She asked that all council members and citizens feel free to nominate yards each month. It was then decided that new Council member appointee Ginger Coomes would serve alongside Charlotte on the Yard of the Month committee.

-Councilmember Basham wanted to officially welcome Ms. Coomes to the City Council.

-Councilmember Claycomb asked about the status of our audit. City Clerk advised that we were informed it should be ready for presentation at the April Council meeting.

-Councilmember Johnston asked about the status of a previous lawsuit settled with the Grain Growers group and the City/County. It was noted by the City Attorney that all lawsuits had been settled in that regard.

A motion was made by Bruce Fackler, seconded by Bryan Claycomb, to adjourn the meeting. Vote of motion was unanimous.

Ronnie Joyner, Mayor

Amy Haynes, City Clerk