

The regular meeting of the Brandenburg City Council was held February 12, 2024 at Brandenburg City Hall.

**PRESENT:**

David Pace, Mayor  
Amy Haynes, City Clerk  
Brian Haag, Police Chief  
T.J. Hughes, Public Works Dir.  
Jessica Brown Roberts, Atty  
Steve Yocom, Sgt.

**COUNCILMEMBERS**

Charlotte Ford  
Bruce Fackler  
Mark Spry  
Bill Basham  
Bradley Johnston  
Ginger Coomes

**VISITORS:** Gene Webster-WVIH, Jason Humphrey, Dan Shook & Family, Grant Wiles, Jerry Thomas – MC Senior Citizens, Audrey Mundell, Melana Begley

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & PRAYER:**

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

**WELCOME:**

Mayor David Pace welcomed everyone to the meeting, then gave a brief synopsis of the new council room layout with new tables, chairs, and microphones. The Mayor then welcomed Jerry Thomas from the Meade Co Senior Citizens Center and pointed out the plaques given to each councilmember for their efforts in helping to fund and support the many changes taking place. The Mayor stated he was glad to see the center back open and doing well. Councilman Fackler then asked if the sidewalk project was completed connecting the adjoining assisted living apartments to the parking lot of the center. Mr. Thomas stated that the job was complete along with handrails and that many of the residents were taking advantage of the easy access.

**PLANNING & ZONING:**

Mayor Pace then introduced and swore in Brandenburg citizens Grant Wiles and Dan Shook who have volunteered to serve on the Planning & Zoning Commission. Councilmember Fackler informed them that planning and zoning is a great place to start when learning about your city.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Bruce Fackler, seconded by Charlotte Ford, to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes from the January 8, 2024 meeting. Vote of motion was unanimous.

**TRANSFERS:**

A motion was made by Mark Spry, seconded by Bradley Johnston, to approve the monthly transfers as read. Vote of motion was unanimous.

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #626:**

The ordinance was read aloud by City Attorney Jessica Brown Roberts. The area was then discussed among the Council, and the Council had maps to view for the exact location. Councilmember Fackler then asked how much I1/I2 zoning was left in the City, and Bethany Carr, Planning & Zoning Administrator, was on hand to answer any questions. She stated that there are currently approximately 520 acres remaining in those 2 zones.

**CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO KRS 61.810, SECTION 1:**

A motion was made by Ginger Coomes, seconded by Bill Basham to enter into closed session. Vote of motion was unanimously approved.

After approximately 20 minutes the Council returned to the open meeting with a motion by Bill Basham, seconded by Mark Spry. Vote of motion was unanimous.

After the closed session, Attorney Roberts introduced the guests Audrey Mundell and Mrs. Begley. She informed the Council that Mrs. Begley owns the property wanting to sell to Five Star on Nelson Lane. The County has been looking into moving Nelson Lane in order to permit the entrance onto Hwy 313. Because the property is partially in the City and partially in the County the citizens wanted to make sure that the City has no issues with moving the entrance. Attorney Roberts informed them that the City has no issue with the moving of the road, and stated that she would follow up with the attorney for the clients in order to determine what, if anything, is needed from the City regarding the issue.

**DISCUSSION OF MAIN STREET:**

Mayor Pace stated that he had spoken with Kevin Blain with the State Highway Dept., and was informed that all drainage issues had been addressed and resolved. Mayor Pace informed him that we, the City, do not feel the surface is up to standards at this time. The main issue is that 2 or 3 holes were already forming by Devries, etc..., and the other side all the way to the Moose Lodge was what the City considered sketchy pavement. He stated that he will draft a letter to Mr. Blain requesting an in person meeting. He stated there were other issues including manholes/valves covered over which must be in compliance before the City will take over the street and street maintenance. Councilman Fackler stated that he wanted to make sure that the local State Hwy Dept. was informed that they were still responsible for the road at this time. Mayor Pace stated that he and TJ had met with Tim from that office and he is aware of the delay. Councilman Spry then asked why the City even wanted to take over Main Street, and he was informed that it was part of the original agreement with the sidewalk project.

**DISCUSSION OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:**

Mayor Pace asked if the Council wished to leave the meetings at 7:00 pm or perhaps change to an earlier start time of maybe 6:00pm. Councilman Fackler stated he felt the meetings should remain at the same time due to the community being familiar with the date and time. Councilmember Spry stated he would be all for a 6:00pm start time. After some discussion the Council agreed to leave the start time as 7:00pm on the second Monday of each month. The Mayor then informed the Council that if they wish to consider any pay rate increase for either themselves or the Mayor position that the decision would need to be made by May. He stated he would follow up at each meeting until the deadline to see if a change wanted to be made by the Council. Councilman Fackler then asked City Clerk Amy Haynes to follow up with surrounding cities of comparable size to get their rates.

**OFFICE REPORT:**

City Clerk Amy Haynes presented the monthly office report for January 2024. She then noted that at the March meeting the auditors will likely be in attendance to present the 2022/2023 audit findings.

**POLICE/COP REPORT:**

Chief Haag reviewed the monthly reports for both the Police Dept and the Citizens on Patrol. He mentioned calls were down some, but they were working a major theft at Rays Ford. He also mentioned that the COP's were checking streetlights some evenings, and wanted to note that not all streetlights that are out are not paid for by the City. Some of them are privately owned lights that are not our responsibility and may not be currently "owned" or "paid for" by property owners. Chief Haag also

reported that we are still in the process of selecting an individual to fill the vacancy in his department who will have to attend the academy. After completion of Phase 1, they will now move forward to Phase 2 - interviews.

**WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT:**

Public Works Director TJ Hughes read aloud his report for January 2024. The Mayor wanted to acknowledge his department for their work on a major leak which happened when the weather was around 7 below. He said they did a great job of rotating out for warmth, and making sure that the leak was still repaired in a timely manner. Councilmember Basham stated that he felt this was the best maintenance crew that we have ever had in the City. The Mayor then updated that one of the salt spreader boxes currently being utilized by the public works department was in dire shape, as it had been purchased as used many years ago from the City of Muldraugh. He then told the Council that Outdoor Specialties, a local business, was able to provide a new plastic salt box with an electric motor at a very affordable cost. Likely less than what it would have cost to repair the old equipment.

**BUSINESS LICENSES:**

**Shavon's Salon**

Address: 240 Main Street

Type of Business: Beauty Salon

Applicant: Shavon Ransdell

A motion was made by Bruce Fackler seconded by Bill Basham, to approve the business license for Shavon's Salon. Vote of motion was unanimous.

**BellaSnow LLC, dba TwennyPho7**

Address: inside City limits

Type of Business: Food Truck

Applicant: Lewis Carpenter

A motion was made by Bruce Fackler seconded by Ginger Coomes, to approve the business license for TwennyPho7. Vote of motion was unanimous.

**Sparks Commercial Tire, Inc.**

Address: 160 Moremen Road

Type of Business: Tire Sales & Service

Applicant: John Sparks

A motion was made by Bill Basham, seconded by Bruce Fackler, to approve the business license for Sparks Commercial Tire, Inc. Vote of motion was unanimous.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Mayor Pace stated that in the first 6 weeks of the year he has now met with every employee one-on-one with their supervisor, and without. He stated that all the meetings had gone well. Pace stated he couldn't have asked for a better reception from the employees and the efforts put in by all department heads and their employees. Some items of interest were the shop being cleaned up as well as safety meetings being scheduled for each month on the Wednesday following the Council meetings. He noted

that each department will put together a presentation for the meetings and lunch, and offered to the Councilmembers that they may attend should they choose to do so. Also mentioned were the repair of the microphone/sound system in the drive thru on City Hall. Mayor Pace then mentioned that he and the City Clerk and Public Works Director had met on 2 separate occasions with Mollie Thompson from Lincoln Trail ADD on the status of our outstanding 5 grants, and to emphasize that the priority grant should be the \$1,000,000 grant for the water plant upgrade. He informed the Council that some of the outstanding grants were so aged, that there is a possibility that the City could get an additional 10-20% due to pricing changes over the years.

Mayor Pace then asked each Councilmember if they had anything to discuss. All declined with the exception of Bill Basham, who wanted to suggest that all City employees receive a \$.50-\$1.00 raise if the budget would allow. Mayor Pace advised that he and the City Clerk would look over the budget to see if it would allow for increases.

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

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David Pace, Mayor

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Amy Haynes, City Clerk/ Treasurer