

The regular meeting of the Brandenburg City Council was held April 8, 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

COUNCILMEMBERS

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

VISITORS: Gene Webster-WVIH, Jordan Wilson-Grant writer, James House

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & PRAYER:

The meeting was called to order @ 7:05pm and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer led by Councilmember Bruce Fackler.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Bruce Fackler, seconded by Bill Basham, to approve the March 11, 2024 council meeting minutes. Vote of motion was unanimous.

GUEST:

City/County grant writer Jordan Wilson was on hand to update the current status of grants for both the county and the city. The county grant regarding the rubber modified asphalt has been submitted for the City side of Old Ekron Road. He stated that first all holes/dips in the road would have to be repaired before the new product can be used if the grant is approved. Mr. Wilson also stated that he would try to send monthly updates to City Clerk Amy Haynes prior to each monthly meeting to be included in the Council's packets.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

A motion was made by Basham, seconded by Ford, to approve the monthly transfers as read. Vote of motion was unanimous.

Councilperson Fackler then asked for clarification regarding 3 bills paid from General Fund to Ray's Ford during the month of March. PWD T.J. Hughes, and Chief Brian Haag, each gave a description of which vehicles were serviced.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE #627:

Attorney Jessica Brown Roberts read aloud the second reading of Ordinance 627, an ordinance adopting the Kentucky Model Procurement Code. A motion was made by Bruce Fackler, seconded by Bill Basham, to approve the ordinance as read. Vote of motion was unanimous.

OFFICE REPORT:

City Clerk Amy Haynes presented the monthly office report for March 2024. Haynes also informed the Council that the checking account for the American Rescue Funds has been depleted, and the account has been closed.

WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT:

Public Works Director TJ Hughes read aloud his report for March 2024. He then informed the Council that his department had a new hire who would be starting on April 10th. Under streets, Mayor Pace

updated that TJ had met with the paving company, and that we would now be prioritizing the order in which the streets need to be paved. He stated that we are also looking into sidewalk repairs for several areas that need attention throughout the City.

Councilman Basham then noted that at the Sr. Citizens Center the gravel appeared to be washing out and asked if the City could repair. Mayor Pace informed that it is a County road, and stated that TJ would get in touch with Jeff Padgett with the County Road Department.

The Mayor & TJ then updated that many of the City's sirens needed some updates/maintenance. TJ informed that Federal Signal was due to be here within the week to diagnose the issues and possibly repair. Mayor Pace did inform the Council that a new siren would be placed near the Welcome to Brandenburg sign on the slip lane, to address that area of the City. When that siren is up and going, the City will have 7 sirens functioning which will hopefully leave no areas where citizens are left without notification.

POLICE/COP REPORT:

Chief Haag reviewed the monthly reports for both the Police Dept and the Citizens on Patrol. He then updated that both conversions of the Ford Explorers to Citizens on Patrol vehicles were complete and they were both in use. He stated that the C.O.P members have been checking street lights as well as checking businesses after hours. Chief Haag then introduced a new employee, James House, who will start on Tuesday, April 9th, and will be attending the academy in September.

BUSINESS LICENSES:

Stop & Wash 2

Address: 1409 Old State Road

Type of Business: Car Wash

Applicant: Anthony Edwards

A motion was made by Bruce Fackler, seconded by Mark Spry, to approve the business license for Stop & Wash 2. Vote of motion was unanimous.

Han's Skin Haus

Address: 1194 Old Ekron Road Suite C

Type of Business: Esthetics/ Cosmetology

Applicant: Hannah Hockman

A motion was made by Bruce Fackler, seconded by Charlotte Ford, to approve the business license for Han's Skin Haus. Vote of motion was unanimous.

Joe's Carwash Detail

Address: Mobile

Type of Business: Cleaning / Pressure Washing

Applicant: Joe Sanderson

A motion was made by Mark Spry, seconded by Bruce Fackler, to approve the business license for Joe's Carwash Detail. Vote of motion was unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor Pace reminded the Council that if they want to increase the rate of pay for both Council members and the Mayor position, the ordinance had to be enacted by May. A discussion ensued among the present members as to surrounding area rates and thoughts on increases. Councilman Basham stated that he believes that the Mayor position is truly more than part-time, although not completely a full-time position. The current rate for the Council is \$250.00/month, and for the Mayor is \$2000/month. Councilman Fackler stated that he was okay with leaving the amounts the same for now. Councilperson Ford mentioned that she does believe that Mayor position is more demanding now, but doesn't believe that the Council has to do any additional work than previously. Councilmember Spry said that he does believe that the Mayor position does need a raise, and Councilmember Basham agreed, suggesting \$3000.00 monthly. A motion was then made by Basham, seconded by Spry, to raise the pay of the Council to \$300.00/monthly, and the Mayor to \$3000.00/monthly. Vote of motion was unanimous. City Attorney Roberts stated that she would draw up the ordinance, and it was noted that the Council would have to have 2 special meetings for the readings of the ordinance in order to comply with the first Monday in May deadline for approval.

Mayor Pace then wanted to thank Amy Haynes, Shannon Stull, and Bethany Carr, for their help with the April 3rd 50th anniversary event. A special thank you was given to Shannon Stull, who as the City Events Coordinator, took the lead and made many arrangements for the day. He then extended a thank you to Bruce Fackler for coordinating with First Baptist Church to allow the event to be held at there location. Mayor Pace then stated that he planned on meeting with the Judge Executive for a follow up meeting to closeout the event and send multiple thank you cards to all those who contributed.

Mayor Pace and TJ Hughes then shared an award which was bestowed on GRW & the City, for the WWTP P3 project. The Mayor thanked both TJ and his wife for attending the ceremony, and accepting the award on behalf of the City. He then advised that the same project is up for a national award, but that due to costs and travel, neither the City nor GRW would be sending a representative.

In reference to the WWTP project, Mayor Pace updated that he had spoken with Art Walker IV and would be setting up a meeting to address a couple of issues which still need to be resolved with the Walker Company before the project can be considered complete.

Mayor Pace then advised that he would be meeting with the State Hwy Dept. on the condition of Main Street after the completion of the paving. As it is, the Mayor does not believe that the City should take the road into the City road system, and many Councilmembers agreed.

The next item discussed was the building on the corner of Main Street and Broadway, which was recently purchased by Craig and Rachel Clark. He informed that he and Bethany had met with the couple, as well as a representative from the State, to discuss how to legally destruct and dispose of the building materials, which likely contain asbestos. Pace also advised that the tree near the sidewalk on that property would also be removed for more visibility.

The Mayor noted that on April 20, 2024, from 8:00am-Noon the second annual Buttermilk Falls Day event would be held. A full agenda is to follow, and he stated that Shannon Stull would update the Council with the details.

Chief Haag noted that April 20th was also the Little League parade, and that April 27th was the auction at Barr Realty.

Councilman Fackler noted that Lusk Lane needed to be on the top of the priority list for repaving, as well as the sidewalk on the corner of Broadway and Lawrence Street.

Councilwoman Ford then advised the Council that May would start the yearly Yard of the Month winners, and stated that she would like for the other Councilmembers to be on the lookout for years which are upkept by the property owners, not hired contractors.

A motion was then made by Bill Basham, seconded by Bruce Fackler, to adjourn the meeting. Vote of motion was unanimous.

David W. Pace, Mayor

Amy M. Haynes, City Clerk / Treasurer