ITY OF DAYTON

COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 2, 2016

A regular meeting of Dayton City Council was held on Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2016, 7:00 p.m. in the board meeting room of the Dayton Schools Administration Building, Third & Clay Street, Dayton, KY.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Boruske Present Member Gifford Present

Member Neary Present Member Lynn Present

Member Burns Present City Adm. Giffen Present

Member Tucker Present City Att. Edge Present

Member Baker Present

Mayor Boruske opened the meeting with a silent prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience:

Elmer Perry, Third Avenue, announced the Tharp Dayton Heritage Museum, 718 Sixth Avenue, will have a meeting on February 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. This meeting is open to the public. Volunteer opportunities are available to help preserve the heritage of Dayton. Mr. Perry noted in 1950 Charlie Tharp, Dayton Historian, took a picture of every house in Dayton. These pictures can be seen at the Museum.

On Friday, March 4, Dayton High School will offer the Reality Store to the Junior and Eighth Grade Classes. This gives the students a look at the cost of living once they are out on their own. Breakfast is served at 8:00 a.m. in the school cafeteria and the program will start at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Perry asked Mayor and Council to stop down and see how important the program is and noted the students take it very seriously.

Penny Hurtt, 309 Dayton Avenue, on behalf of the VFW would like to place flower pots in the rear of the Town Center by the VFW Memorial Bricks. This is to promote their Poppy Sales and ask that everyone plant poppies to show their support. Motion by Member Lynn, seconded by Member Tucker, to allow Mrs. Hurtt’s request. Motion carried—so ordered.

Rick Zumwalde announced the Purple Poulet, 603 Sixth Avenue, will open on Feb. 18, 2016.

Sandy Slusser, announced that Gents, 530 Sixth Avenue, will open tomorrow. This is men’s consignment and resale shop. The store will be open Tuesday – Saturday.

Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Boruske appointed Layne Haas to the Ethic’s Board.

City Administrator’s Report:

Handicap parking request from Elaine Richards, 623 Seventh Avenue. Ms. Richards meets all the requirement and City Adm. Giffen recommended she be given a handicap parking sign. Motion by Member Gifford, seconded by Member Baker, to approve the handicap sign. Comments: Member Neary said parking in this block is tight. Council needs to consider the impact on the neighbors. How does other cities handle this issue? Mayor Boruske noted we have an ordinance in place. City Adm. Giffen checks the area/application and makes sure it’s in compliance with the ordinance. He then makes his recommendation to council. Member Gifford said we need to trust City Adm. Giffen’s recommendation. You cannot keep people from getting sick. Member Neary suggested marking the area more clearly, such as painting the curb blue or stripes on the street. Member Burns noted that anyone with a handicap placard or handicap license plate can park in this space. Motion carried—so ordered.

Handicap parking request from Gail Johnson, 406 Kenton Street. Ms. Johnson meets all the requirements per city ordinance and City Adm. Giffen recommended she be given a handicap parking sign. Motion by Member Gifford, seconded by Member Burns, to approve the handicap sign. Motion carried—so ordered.

City Adm. Giffen announced that pictures from the open house are located in the back of the room. This is an overview of the riverfront along the water’s edge that we would like to see developed. We already have some funding for the Riverfront Commons Trial that should get us from the Bellevue Dayton line to Berry Street. What else can the city put in this space for the public to enjoy? In the back are some ideas. City Adm. Giffen will take questions after tonight’s meeting.

City Adm. Giffen reported on the closure of Kenton Street, which was discussed at the last council meeting. This was an agreement between the City and Woodcraft Mfg. Co. in 1997. It was part of the bond agreement. The city does not own the property from the guardrail to Second Avenue on Kenton Street. It’s owned by Woodcraft and they are not interested in opening up the road. A better looking barrier was suggested. The city does have a utility easement.

City Adm. Giffen received a few request that he would like the Safety Committee to look at. Maple Street between 951-1001 to see if it’s possible to have some form of a turnabout in this area. This is a paper street that was used for emergency responders to get to the field. This area is now gated. Another request to make Berry Street between Sixth & Seventh Avenue a two-way street. The one-way street is having an impact on some of the businesses.

The topic of rental rates has been discussed in the finance meetings. With expense growing in every department, we are looking at ways to get new revenue to support the carryover we use each year. The Finance Committee met and discussed raising the rental rates from $50.00 per unit to $100.00 per unit. Member Tucker said he will abstain from voting on this issue, he is a landlord in the city. Member Tucker read a list of rates from other cities.

Ft. Thomas does not charge for rental property but you have to file with the County.

Bellevue charges a $60.00 license plus $40.00 per unit.

Ludlow charges $100.00 per property (single or multi-unit).

Covington has a $50.00 license, no unit rate. +

Newport charges a $45.00 license and $35.00 per unit.

Some cities charge a flat rate and then so much per unit. Ours is just $50.00 per unit and there is no cap. Member Lynn would like the Finance Committee to review this issue again. Donna Leger, Clerk/Treas., will find out how many rental properties are currently in the city.

David Halfhill, Police Chief, introduced Officer Marksberry and our K-9 dog, Tesa. She is two years old and a multi-purpose dog. She was born in Holland, then went to Germany, then to Kansas and now the City of Dayton. Officer Marksberry has already used the K-9 to help in the Tri-State area. This K-9 replaces the previous K-9 that went to Ludlow with Officer Black.

City Attorney’s Report:

During the last few months a lot of letters were sent out for delinquent rental and occupational licenses. The results were we collected $1,269.00 and resolved 22 cases. Another thirty letters have been sent out in a new case. Eleven cases have gone to the County Attorney office for review and consideration for prosecution under our criminal misdemeanor petition.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Member Gifford, seconded by Member Burns to approve the minutes from the Jan. 5, 2016 council meeting. Member Neary made a correction under “New Business”, about Second Avenue & Kenton Street it says Member Baker & Member Neary passed out, only Member Baker passed out the screen shot of the intersection. Motion carried—so ordered.

Department Head’s Report:

Donna Leger, Clerk/Treas., submitted a copy of the financials and check register.

David Halfhill, Police Chief, submitted a copy of his report for January. The information will also be posted on Facebook. The Citizens Academy, includes all the Police Department’s in Campbell County. This will start March 1 or 2nd. The program last 12 week, once a week for about two hours. Visit the Campbell County website and click on “Police Department” to find the application or visit Dayton’s Police Facebook page for more information.

Richard McAllister, Code Enforcement Officer, announced we now have a new sign program. This is in response to Member Burns request to look at the condition of signs in the city. This data will be stored in the new program. This program can also be used for our violation tracking. We’re trying to stream line the violation and tracking process.

Member Neary asked about the vacant board ups in the city. Mayor Boruske asked Member Neary for a list of the properties so he can make sure all the properties have been addressed. City Adm. Giffen reported the vacant and blighted list was just submitted to the County. These properties will be taxed at the highest rate ($7.50 per thousand) the city is allowed to tax. Richard McAllister, Code Enforcement Officer, will keep issuing citation after citation until the property owner responds or until there’s a fine equals to or is greater than the value of the house. City codes are adequate to cover handicap ramps, all cities must abide by ADA. ADA compliance falls on the homeowner/landlord. Yes, a permit is required to build a ramp. City Adm. Giffen noted the county would handle issues on the older buildings that require permits.

Michael Auteri, Fire Chief, was not in attendance but e-mailed his report to Mayor & Council.

Standing Committee Report:

Finance (Member Lynn):

A meeting will be held to discuss the rentals and other issues that came up tonight. We’ll start working on the 2016/2017 budget sometime in March.

Public Safety (Member Gifford):

The stop sign on Vine Street by the railroad tracks has been installed. Another meeting will be called to talk about the turnabout on Maple Street.

Parks & Real Estate (Member Tucker):   
The Park Board is accepting bids for basic repair of concrete work at Gil Lynn Park, men’s & women’s bathrooms renovations and dugouts for the fields. The bids are due back by Feb. 12, 2016. The ad ran in the Campbell County Recorder. The Park Board will be working with Dayton High School on getting the field ready for baseball season.

Personnel, Law & Printing (Member Neary):

City Att. Edge will send everyone on council a draft of the new revised Nuisance Ordinance for their review. We are still working on revising the zoning ordinances, per the suggestion of County Planning & Zoning.

Member Neary asked about the status of the Main Street Manager position. Mayor Boruske and City Adm. Giffen are still working on the wording for that job position. The Industrial Park will also be incorporated into the position. This new direction will benefit the community. Member Baker would like to see the ad on several publication sites, not just in the Recorder. Member Gifford would like to have another council meeting to discuss the purpose and the other things involved in hiring this person. We all need to be on the same page. Member Baker does not want to remove any wording that would keep the city from obtaining grants. Mayor Boruske explained the Main Street Manager’s job was originally 20 hours on Main Street and 20 hours on blight. This was a fulltime job so we could be listed as Main Street gold status. When Michael Giffen was hired as the Main Street Manager the former Administrator, Dennis Redmond, made him his assistant and left out the blight part of the job. Mayor Boruske assured everyone that City Adm. Giffen can handle the job until the position is filled. City Adm. Giffen has been talking with others and defining this position is very important. He agrees we want someone soon, but knows the process and is happy to do the job until we find someone.

Economic Development (Member Baker):

Member Baker had a great meeting with the Catalytic Fund this week about Beyond the Curb. Beyond the Curb is an exclusive series of self-guided urban living tours throughout Northern Kentucky’s river cities. The date is April 24th. As many volunteers as possible are needed to smile and welcome people to our neighborhood. There will be between 14-12 houses, six or seven from Dayton and the rest in Bellevue. The registration will be in Dayton.

New Business:

A lot of people have asked about viewing the council meetings online. When do we plan to purchase new cameras? City Adm. Giffen noted there is money in the budget for a new camera. Currently, the meeting can be seen on the school news station. We tried the YouTube route but it is impossible to do in-house, so that is the reason the meeting are not showing on the city’s web page. City Adm. Giffen is open to suggestions. Member Baker noted online would be the easiest and most cost effective. Member Gifford said they cannot hear on the television. Mayor Boruske asked Member Baker to come back to the next meeting with suggestions and cost.

Member Baker asked about the website. It needs to be updated. City Adm. Giffen is working with the developer of the website. Currently we have technical issues to resolve. It takes days to upload a YouTube video and word press is a challenge. City Adm. Giffen met with two people last week and is looking into the issues.

Member Neary asked about the pension liability amount for the city? City Adm. Giffen responded, this will be part of the audit but the auditors are waiting for information from the Fire Dept. before the audit can be completed.

Member Neary noted that in the past the city had contributed to the YMCA Teen Center. Why not this year? City Adm. Giffen said the city donated in 2013 & 2014. This year the funding for the CCAP Program was put in the budget. Member Neary would like to reinstate the $10,000 donation to the YMCA. Justine Ryan contacted Member Neary. Mayor Boruske would like to look at this in next year’s budget. This will also be discussed at the next Finance Meeting. Member Burns is not against this but feels Justine should come and made a presentation before the entire Council.

Adjournment:

Motion by Member Gifford, seconded by Member Neary to adjourn. Motion carried—so ordered.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Leger

Clerk/Treas.

ATTEST:

Virgil L. Boruske

Mayor