

City of Orchard Grass Hills

City Council Minutes

January 10, 2017

Mayor Doug Lalli called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Nick Daily
Bob Dalton
Bob McCue
April Phillips
Eric Vorseth
Scott Pierce

Others Present:

Mayor Doug Lalli
Martha Noe– City Treasurer
Ruth LeMaster – City Clerk
Greg Troutman – City Attorney
Mark Adams – City Engineer
Office Matthew Cornell
Charlie Fudold
Ryan Oldham
Kenny Burke
Jeff Worthen

Absent:

SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

City Attorney read the oath of office to the newly elected city council members Bob McCue, Bob Dalton, Eric Vorseth and April Phillips and they were sworn in to serve the next term. A vote was taken on whether to retain Scott Pierce and Nick Daily as unelected city council members. Bob McCue **made a Motion to retain Scott Pierce and Nick Daily. Eric Vorseth seconded the Motion. All were in favor. The Motion passed.** City Attorney read the oath of office to Scott Pierce and Nick Daily as city council members.

COMMUNITY FORUM

Resident has offered assistance to the city council. Two residents brought up issue that was mentioned on the Applewood Circle Facebook thread regarding a resident who put up caution tape Saturday and said this was her land that she was going to fence off the property she has owned for 15 years to keep people from trespassing. There is some dispute as to the property lines and ownership and resident is consulting realtor who is inquiring about property lines with the PVA. Originally that property was supposed to be developed into 142 condos which never happened. She has a deed to the property. Eric Vorseth will meet with Clay Jones whose father owns the adjacent land to look at his plat to see where the line is. Applewood Circle residents would like to know what is happening. If it is zoned for

commercial, then there is not much they can do. Mayor would like Eric to talk to Clay about his vandalized sign.

MINUTES

Bob Dalton **made a Motion** to dispense with the reading of the December 13, 2016 minutes. April Phillip's **seconded the Motion**. Eric Vorseth **made a Motion** to approve the December 13, 2016 minutes. Bob McCue **seconded the Motion**. **All were in favor. The Motion passed.**

POLICE REPORT

The December 2016 Oldham County police reports were emailed to city council members and discussed. Officer Cornell summarized the report and gave some details. 5 citations were made.

Three signs were vandalized. There was a truck broken into and owner had surveillance cameras. Severe damage was done to the water treatment area. Last Monday three boys were at the pit setting off fire extinguishers and taking the safety fences and dumping them into the hole. They broke windows on the backhoes. Mayor has talked to 2 parents already. Contractor at the site is angry and wants to press charges. Mayor has spoken to the engineer and would like to try to find a punishment that would not require the law involved, with youths paying \$6000-8000 in damage and apologizing to the contractor and engineer. Surveillance cameras are installed at the pump station. Mayor asks city council members to keep their eyes open. He will ask for volunteers among residents to start a neighborhood watch. Mayor would like to consult with the Sheriff's Office and OC Police to find out what makes a successful neighborhood watch. There are other incidents of vandalism aside from these.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney gave a first reading of the CITY OF ORCHARD GRASS HILLS ORDINANCE NO. 2017-01, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF ALL REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF ORCHARD GRASS HILLS, KENTUCKY, AND THE LEVYING OF AN AD VALOREM TAX THEREON FOR CITY PURPOSES.

City Attorney will give a second reading next month and if approved it will be adopted and published. The rate has not changed from the previous year.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

City Engineer has done a thorough study of roadway, speed, pedestrian, safety and traffic control signs. He showed city council two options for signs that meet the uniform traffic manual requirements. There are 50 signs in 30 locations. Some speed limit signs could be moved. Some cul- de-sacs do not have a no outlet or children at play signs. If you post double signs you need a taller post. Cost to re-do these signs would cost an estimated \$20,000 for standard signs. He will ask the sign company to put together a mockup of this. Neighborhood watch signs can also be posted. All signs will have a frame. City council discussed the necessity of certain signs.

TREASURER'S REPORT

City Treasurer presented the December 31, 2016 Treasurer's Reports. City Treasurer presented the June through July 2016 through June 2017 Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual Report. Eric Vorseth **made a Motion** to accept the December 31, 2016 Treasurer's Report. Nick Daily **seconded the Motion. All were in favor. The Motion passed.**

City Treasurer gave the City Council copies of the complete year ending June 30, 2013 audit. Her Summary of Management Notes and Deficiencies was distributed as well. 2014, 2015 and 2016 audits are in process. Auditor hopes to have these done soon so we can get back in compliance so we can receive our federal road money. Auditor has offered to come in to answer city council questions City Treasurer cannot answer.

City Treasurer is giving another 10 days to 2 residents who were delinquent in paying property taxes in 2015-2016 before asking City Attorney to file a lien. Lien attaches to the property but not the owner. City Attorney recommends not putting a lien on the property that was sold to a new owner. These amounts will need to be written off. Other delinquent payment residents have been notified.

Rental tax status letters were sent out last month and there was not much response. City Treasurer is trying to determine if they are rental properties or not. 25-30% of the properties are rentals. They are not taken care of as well as owned properties. City council discussed various solutions to the problem including fines and an ordinance enforcing a civil lien on properties which Louisville has enacted.

City has \$404,000 in municipal funds in a non-interest bearing account. Auditor suggests putting this money in an interest-bearing money market account after the audit is complete. Scott Pierce **made a Motion** to move \$350,000 in the municipal funds account to an interest-bearing money market account, with permission for the City Treasurer to move a maximum of \$50,000 back into the account if needed. Bob Dalton **seconded the Motion. All were in favor. The Motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor will send out a "state of the city" letter to residents. He requested ideas from the city council to be emailed to him by the end of January. April Phillips would like the Easter Egg Hunt to be mentioned with a request for donations. Mayor would like to reintroduce city council. Will ask residents to report suspicious activity.

Mayor would like to switch website and email to a new vendor. He would like creative feedback. He would like to approach someone for ideas and present it to the city council at the next meeting.

The Mayor's compensation cannot be adjusted from year to year for a sitting Mayor. However, there should have been cost of living adjustments in years past. He asks for the City Council to consider these allowable increases of anywhere from 3-8% per year. This is not considered a raise and can be applied retroactively.

The sewer system in the city sections 1, 2 and 3 has two houses on Siamese couplings. Roots are growing into the broken pipes. Resident is responsible for pipe all the way to main street line. Who is responsible for repairing the Siamese coupling as well as repaving where it is dug up? Veolia would have to be contacted first if any repairs are done as they have the plats, and also maintain the main sewer line.

Eric Vorseth **made a Motion** for the meeting to be adjourned. Scott Pierce seconded **the Motion**. All were in favor. **The Motion passed**. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY

Doug Lalli, Mayor and Ruth LeMaster, City Clerk

Next meeting will be on February 14, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.