

## **CITY OF WILMORE MINUTES**

**June 5, 2023**

The Wilmore City Council met in a regular session on Monday, June 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Harold L. Rainwater presiding. Council members present were: Andy Bathje, Jim Brumfield, Kim Deyer, Leonard Fitch, Wes Metcalfe and David Riel.

Attorney Robert L. Gullette III was present.

Not present:

### **MAYOR REPORT/PRESENTATIONS**

State Representative Dan Fister was present at the meeting.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilmember Riel made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Brumfield to approve the minutes of May 15, 2023. There being no discussion, all members voted aye.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **ORDINANCE 2023-1 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WILMORE, KENTUCKY, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD JULY 1, 2023 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024, BY ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT (FIRST READING)**

Councilmember Brumfield made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Deyer to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2023-1.

Councilmember Bathje asked if this includes the 2% increase for water and sewer rates. The Mayor said that it did. Councilmember Bathje suggested that we need to go higher on water and sewer rates. He would like to see a 10% increase since we have not seen a good increase since 2016. It does not make sense to him to not bring in enough income for a basic utility to make sure the infrastructure is getting fixed.

After a discussion, members voted by roll call 5-1. Brumfield, Deyer, Fitch, Metcalfe and Riel voted aye. Bathje voted nay.

**ORDINANCE 2023-2 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WILMORE, KENTUCKY, RELATING TO THE AMENDING OF FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023 (FIRST READING)**

Councilmember Brumfield made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Deyer to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2023-2. Councilmember Metcalfe asked if this is amending last year's budget. Members voted by roll call 6-0.

**ORDINANCE 2023-3 AN ORDINANCE INCREASING WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES (FIRST READING)**

After a discussion on which line item the rates come out of the budget, Dave Carlstedt stated that he and Lori meet to discuss the budget and how much Lori is worried about the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. Dave stated that the numbers on the budget are not real. He would like to do more than a 2% rate increase. He stated that everything is more expensive now. We do not do any projects with our own money because we just do not have it.

Councilmember Brumfield addressed Dave's comments. The first comment is about Dave's statement that the numbers are not real and how much that surprises him. Dave stated that they are real in the sense that we are going to make the auditors happy. Councilmember Brumfield's second comment is that he appreciates the side bar meetings of panic but they are never brought before the Council until budget night and then the Council is put under the gun at the Council budget meeting. He is not happy that nothing is ever brought to the Council stating that they cannot do a project because they do not have any money. The Council would like to know things about the budget before they have to make the decision about the budget.

Councilmember Riel asked if we are in the black. He agrees with Councilmember Brumfield that the Council needs to know things beforehand.

Councilmember Riel made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Deyer to establish the water rates at 5%.

Councilmember Bathje appreciates the comments that were made about being included in the budget discussion before the Council meeting. Councilmember Deyer suggests having budget meetings prior to the budget. Lori Vahle stated that she did not know until early afternoon that anything, but a 2% increase was going to be in the budget. Dave Carlstedt stated that this is not news to anyone and that there is no shakedown going on. Councilmember Brumfield understands that employees have conversations about the budget but what would be good is if we brought any situation before the whole Council.

Members voted by roll call 5-1. Bathje, Deyer, Fitch, Metcalfe and Riel voted aye. Brumfield voted nay.

**ORDINANCE 2023-4 AN ORDINANCE INCREASING HIGH BRIDGE WATER RATES (FIRST READING)**

**ORDINANCE 2023-5 AN ORDINANCE INCREASING SOUTHEAST COUNTY WATER RATES (FIRST READING)**

Councilmember Deyer made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Bathje to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2023-4.

There was a discussion on how the rates for High Bridge and Southeast County are different for the city.

Councilmember Deyer withdrew the first motion.

Mayor Rainwater asked if we could make a motion on Ordinances 2023-4 and 2023-5.

Councilmember Deyer made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Metcalfe to match the amount but not the percentage in the amount per 1,000 gallons for High Bridge and Southeast County water rates. There being no further discussion, members voted 5-1. Bathje, Deyer, Fitch, Metcalfe and Riel voted aye. Brumfield voted nay.

**RFH FY 23 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER**

Councilmember Brumfield made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Bathje to authorize the Mayor to sign the audit engagement agreement. There being no discussion, all members voted aye.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCE 2023-7 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND ENACTING A COMPREHENSIVE PAY PLAN FOR THE NON-ELECTED CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WILMORE IN ACCORDANCE WITH KRS 83A.070(2)**

Councilmember Brumfield made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Bathje to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2023-7. There being no discussion, all members voted aye.

**RESOLUTION 2023-3 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE UPDATED REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN AS THE OFFICIAL COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN OF JESSAMINE COUNTY.**

Councilmember Brumfield made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Riel to adopt Resolution 2023-3. There being no discussion, all members voted aye.

Finance Director Lori Vahle

Police Chief Bill Craig

Fire Chief Jimmy Powers

Director of Utilities and Public Works - Dave Carlstedt

Dave gave an update on the garbage. Jessamine County and the City of Nicholasville already have a joint agreement with CKY Hauling. We cannot join the agreement with them. We will have to have a bidding process to outsource the garbage. The new company will pick up the garbage in two days. This whole process will take 4-6 months to get out of the garbage business. The next step is for the Council to decide if we want to move forward.

Councilmember Brumfield made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Deyer to move ahead with the bid process for outsourcing solid waste and recycling. There being no discussion, all members voted aye.

Councilmember Brumfield would like to be on the committee.

Lori Vahle asked what it means to still be involved in the billing. Dave responded that whatever the dollar rate that they declare is then it still stays on our bill, they pay us and then we write them a check once a month or quarterly. We do not handle any operational phone calls. We will have to rewrite our solid waste ordinance. They will pay us a franchise fee.

Director of Facilities & Cemetery- Vince Lewellen

Director of Community Development - Judy Woolums

Director of Parks and Recreation -- Amy Fitch

## **COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS**

Councilmember Brumfield addressed the barn behind 304-306 Thacker Dr. City Clerk, Sharon Moore stated that the barn is in the process of being condemned. Planning and Zoning and the Health Department will visit the property and decide if it needs to be condemned.

He also asked about the recycling issue that was addressed at the beginning of the meeting. Dave Carlstedt explained that we stopped accepting paper because Lexington did not accept it anymore. Lexington then started accepting it, but the Jessamine County Recycling Center said that if we bring contaminated paper they would reject our loads. We made a decision internally that we would not accept paper. Councilmember Brumfield said that the Council would like to know about the recycling rules and what they need to tell the citizens. Councilmember Bathje would like to have the recycling trailer back in public somewhere so residents can put their recycling in there on their own.

Councilmember Riel does not think that the Council needs to decide what happens on Rice Street. Chief Craig recommends making it one way from E. Main Street towards Bethel Pointe and make parking on the right-hand side.

### **MAYOR COMMENTS**

### **ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

### **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND GUEST SPEAKERS**

### **REPORTS FROM THE FLOOR**

Residents from Bethel Pointe addressed the issue with Rice Street parking near Drinklings. There are cars parked on both sides of the street and it is difficult to get through there. They would like for Rice Street parking to be limited to one side. The first parking space by the fire hydrant is dangerous if any car is parked there that is larger than a Volkswagen because it blocks the view of who is coming the other way. They would like to see that become a no parking spot. One resident from Bethel Pointe is to have the residents turn left on Walters Lane to leave instead of turning right to go in front of Drinklings. There are concerns about safety issues for emergency vehicles getting through.

Another issue addressed is why Wilmore has not changed the recycling list to accept the items that Lexington and Jessamine County now accepts.

Mayor Rainwater encouraged people to park on Main Street.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Mayor Rainwater asked to go into closed session.

Councilmember Bathje made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Brumfield to go into closed session pursuant to KRS 61.81(1)(b). at 7:34 p.m.

There being no discussion, all members voted aye.

Councilmember Brumfield made the motion, seconded by Councilmember Bathje to come out of closed session at 8:30 p.m. No action was taken.

Motion by Councilmember Brumfield to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** *Harold L. Rainwater*  
Mayor Harold L. Rainwater

**ATTEST:** *Sharon Moore*  
Sharon Moore, City Clerk