

**CITY OF DRUID HILLS
COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES
For
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017**

A. The monthly meeting of City Commissioners was called to order by Mayor Ben Franklin at 7:00 PM in the Family Life Center of Broadway Baptist Church, 4000 Brownsboro Road.

B. **Present:** All Commissioners were present.

Guests: City Ethics Officer Cary Thale, 4002 Druid Hills Rd.

B. Minutes for the meeting held February 13, 2017 were reviewed. No corrections were requested.

Motion to accept the Commission meeting minutes as corrected.

Motion made by: Westfall

Seconded: Barbour

D. Treasurer's Report:

See attached spreadsheets for detailed account balances.

1. Monthly financial reports:

The City has a total of \$ 235,447.85 in available funds---

\$ 227,775.61 in the General Fund and \$ 7,672.24 in the Road Fund.

Mr. Kirchgessner reviewed revenue and expenses incurred by the City since the last Commissioner meeting.

2. Status of 2016 property tax bills.

Mr. Kirchgessner advised that he has heard from three of the four outstanding residents who still owe 2016 property tax bills. These should be paid by the end of the week. He is still trying to locate ~~Andrew Binford,~~ ~~3910 Elm Ave.~~ This is the only resident with an outstanding bill that he has not been able to contact.

3. Report on FY 2015/2016 Annual audit.

Mr. Kirchgessner asked if Mayor Franklin or the Commissioners had any questions after reviewing the audit report more thoroughly. There were no additional questions.

4. FY 2017/2018 budget preparation.

Mr. Kirchgessner again reviewed his budget preparation information with Mayor Franklin and the Commissioners. Additional data points discussed were:

1. LG&E has requested a 6% rate increase. Final rate increase still to be determined. He will use this percentage for the budget.
2. Mayor Franklin asked that a line item for extra police patrols be added to the budget. He asked that \$1000.00 be allocated for the patrols. While Mr. Franklin does not anticipate using additional police patrols he would like to fund it just in case it is needed.
3. Maintenance for the City web-site will be allocated \$1000.00. City Clerk Westfall will review the initial contract for this service--- the City signed a 5-year contract with Harcourt & Conway. The contract time period has not expired and the annual fee is specified in the contract.
4. The auditor has quoted \$4500.00 to do the annual audit next year. Mr. Kirchgessner has offered \$3800.00 (this year's fee \$3700.00). The Commissioners discussed the increase and strongly requested that Mr. Kirchgessner negotiate a better rate for this service.
5. City Clerk Westfall agreed to reduce next year's Tree Maintenance budget to \$ 3000.00. Since the trees were pruned this year no further work should be needed for a couple of years.
6. Increase the tree replacement line item to \$1000.00 from this year's \$500.00.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as given:

Motion made by: Gipe

Seconded: Barbour

E. City Attorney Report:

City Attorney Jobson had no report.

F. OLD BUISNESS:

1. Status of blighted property (Miller, 4000 Elfin Ave.). Trash & boat removed from rear yard?

Mayor Franklin found out that Metro IPL closed this case in November, 2016. If the City wants to pursue this ongoing problem we will need to file a new complaint with IPL.

2. City street tree pruning.

City Clerk Westfall reported that this work has been completed.

3. Speed Humps.

Commissioner Arnold reported that Jim Bealmear's (3902 Olympic Ave.) dog had recently been hit and killed on their street. The dog was hit by a tradesman working at another house on the street. He was reported as speeding by witnesses. Mr. Arnold suggested a different type of speed/traffic stop that he has seen in St. Louis. Discussion followed with several of the Commissioners again expressing an interest in installing some type of speed deterrent. Mayor Franklin will arrange for an officer in a marked car to park on Elfin Ave. to monitor speeds on that street. Mr. Arnold will bring pictures and additional information about the traffic stops he mentioned to the next meeting.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Tree removal approvals.

There were no requests this month.

2. Request for Plan approvals:

Mayor Franklin received no requests this month.

3. Community events:

Mayor Franklin advised that the Jefferson County League of Cities meeting will be held Thursday, 3/16/17 at 7:00 PM. The topic will be insurance issues for cities.

4. Community service project?

City Clerk Westfall advised that Operation Brightside will be holding their annual clean-up throughout Louisville. Is there any interest in putting together a team from Druid Hills to participate? Mayor Franklin did not want to pursue this service project.

5. Transitional housing coming to Druid Hills?

Cary Thale, City Ethics Officer, told Mayor Franklin and the Commissioners that the City of Windy Hills recently found out that one of their houses had been purchased by Oxford House, a company that operates transitional housing. This is housing for adults who are completing drug rehab programs.

Mayor Franklin talked to the Mayor of Windy Hills, Jim Ising, to get more information about this type of housing and what, if anything, cities could do about it. There is no conditional use permit required by Metro IPL to operate a "transitional" house in a community--- a permit is required for a "rehabilitative" house. Transitional houses are single sex and are staffed as needed by employees of the operating company. Residents are to be employed or in school while living there. Maximum occupancy is determined by the zoning code of the area but can vary from 5-9 adults at a time. No alteration to the current residential

structure is allowed, nor is any on-street parking or signage.

Some concern was expressed about the possibility of one of these houses operating in Druid Hills. To-date, there does not seem to be an interest from Oxford House to set-up another facility in this area. Mayor Franklin asked City Attorney Jobson to check and see if Druid Hills has any deed restrictions that would prohibit such a facility from operating within the City.

- I. **Next Meeting:** Monday, April 10, 2017 at Broadway Baptist Church, 4000 Brownsboro Road.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.