

**OCTOBER 17, 2023
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MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VERSAILLES MUNICIPAL BUILDING/5:30 P.M.**

ROLL CALL: MAYOR BRIAN TRUGOTT PRESIDED OVER THE MEETING. ALSO PRESENT WERE COUNCIL MEMBERS CHANTEL BINGHAM, MARY BRADLEY, LAURA DAKE, LISA JOHNSON, GARY JONES, AND ANN MILLER. CITY ATTORNEY BILL MOORE WAS ALSO PRESENT.

DEPT. HEADS: BART MILLER, MIKE MURRAY, AND ELIZABETH REYNOLDS WERE PRESENT REPRESENTING THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

Public Comment

Vernon Azevido, a resident of Versailles, asked the council for careful consideration of the proposed \$6 million Parks and Recreation improvement projects that have been previously presented to the council. He noted that park improvements are important for the public safety, welfare, and social ability of local residents as well the benefits as they relate to tourism.

Ken Taylor, Treasurer of the Woodford Youth Soccer Association (WYSA) addressed the council in support of the entire Parks and Recreation improvements package, particularly turfing another football/soccer/lacrosse field at Falling Springs. He stated that WYSA currently has 554 players in their youth rec program and 495 players in the competitive program they run with Kings Hammer. He also noted that they host two major tournaments with Kings Hammer each year – one of which brought in 99 teams with a total of 1,400 players and the other brought in 57 teams with a total of 800 players. He noted that having ready access to turf is essential for their programs, especially in the winter and spring. Mr. Taylor stated that the turf field at the main stadium is currently being shared by middle and high school soccer teams, as well as the high school lacrosse team; so each team's time on the turf field is limited.

Ruby Fannin and Laura Caldwell spoke in support of the proposed Parks and Recreation improvement projects. They referenced a free forest school that they represent here in Versailles and Woodford County which provides nature and outdoor learning opportunities and currently over 100 local families participate. They noted that the outdoor play areas in Woodford County are overly unsafe and welcoming and stated that families often drive to other towns to use the parks and outdoor spaces.

MOTION BY BINGHAM, SECONDED BY DAKE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 10, 2023 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING.

The vote was as follows: Bingham, Dake, Jones, Johnson and Miller voting aye. Council member Bradley abstained.

Mayor Traugott presented Municipal Order 2023-15 which provides the City's support for the Parks and Recreation improvement projects that have been previously been presented to the council and discussed at length. Rich Pictor, Executive Director of Parks and Recreation, was present to answer any additional questions regarding the projects.

Council member Miller asked if an outside accounting firm would be hired for billing and invoicing. Mr. Pictor stated that the large Big Spring Park project will have a management firm but all other billing and invoicing will be handled by their employees.

MOTION BY BINGHAM, SECONDED BY BRADLEY TO APPROVE AND ADOPT MUNICIPAL ORDER 2023-15 COMMITTING FUNDS TOWARD JOINTLY FUNDED PROJECTS INCLUDING THE IMPROVEMENT OF BIG SPRING PARK, NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS, BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELDS, PICKLEBALL COURTS, AND A NEW MULTI-PURPOSE TURF FIELD.

The vote was as follows: Bingham, Bradley, Dake, Jones, Johnson and Miller voting aye.

Mayor Traugott presented a contract with QK4 for engineering of the Lexington Street Streetscape Project. He noted that the contract is for \$90,000, while the budgeted amount for the engineering is \$100,000. He stated that the difference of \$10,000 is being held back to cover grants costs that may be incurred when applying for a grant.

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MOTION BY BRADLEY, SECONDED BY MILLER TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR TRAUGOTT TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF VERSAILLES WITH QK4 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$90,000 FOR THE ENGINEERING OF THE LEXINGTON STREET STREETScape PROJECT.

The vote was as follows: Bingham, Bradley, Dake, Jones, Johnson and Miller voting aye.

Mayor Traugott opened a discussion of a “Main Street Manager” full-time position. He stated that they would be doing away with the currently Event Coordinator contract position and he would like council input. The new position would oversee all aspects of the downtown project when it is completed, all city events, as well as other tasks including the city newsletter and employee events such as an annual Christmas luncheon and an annual health fair. Mayor Traugott proposed that the position be a Grade 33 with a pay range of \$55,000 - \$111,000. He stated that he would prepare a draft job description to be considered at the next council meeting.

Public Works Director Bart Miller presented a negotiated bid from Wayne Construction for the construction of a salt storage building in the amount of \$33,000. He noted that they had advertised for sealed bids and received one bid for over \$121,000 which the council rejected on September 26, 2023. He stated that the council had also voted to authorize negotiations for the construction of a salt storage building, which needs to be completed before winter.

MOTION BY DAKE, SECONDED BY BINGHAM TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE NEGOTIATED BID AS PRESENTED BY WAYNE CONSTRUCTION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SALT STORAGE BUILDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,000.00.

The vote was as follows: Bingham, Bradley, Dake, Jones, Johnson and Miller voting aye.

Mr. Miller also presented a quote, in the amount of \$11,500, for base asphalt for the salt storage building.

MOTION BY DAKE, SECONDED BY BINGHAM TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE QUOTE AS PRESENTED BY MAGO CONSTRUCTION FOR THE BASE ASPHALT FOR THE SALT STORAGE BUILDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,500.00.

The vote was as follows: Bingham, Bradley, Dake, Jones, Johnson and Miller voting aye.

Mayor Miscellaneous

Mayor Traugott gave a shout out to Front Porch Pickins for delivering and setting out hundreds of pumpkins at City Hall and in the barrels throughout downtown.

He announced a Chili-Cook Off Fundraiser on Thursday, October 19th 11:00am – 2:00pm at the Courthouse benefitting Susan Jones with Woodford County Animal Control.

He noted that October 25th at 9:00am is the Recovery Ready designation announcement in the Woodford County Fiscal Courtroom.

Mayor Traugott stated that Friday, October 27th Kentucky League of Cities will present on the Annexation Task Force in Frankfort.

He also announced the Boo Bash downtown Versailles on Friday, October 27th 4:00pm – 6:00pm. There will be food trucks downtown between 6:00pm and 7:00pm with the Thriller parade beginning around 7:00pm. There will be an outdoor showing of Hocus Pocus on Court Street immediately following the parade.

Trick or Treat will be October 31st 6:00pm – 8:00pm county-wide.

He reminded everyone to get out and vote on November 7th!

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Council Miscellaneous/ Committee Reports

Council member Bingham announced Saturday, October 28th there will be a Soul Food Feast at Simpson Chapel Church benefitting the Hometown Interpretive Park.

Mrs. Bingham also invited everyone to attend the Woodford County Walk for a Cure on October 28th at 9:00am.

Council member Dake announced the Girl Scouts “Scare Away Hunger” food collection event at Kroger on October 28th 4:00pm – 8:00pm.

Ms. Dake discussed the possibility of a free mobility assessment or walk audit of Versailles. She stated that Midway Council member Hicks had recommended this free service offered by Troy Hearn, who would take a group of local volunteers to look for opportunities for improvement.

Council member Johnson, in reference to the Main Street Manager position description, suggested using the Four Point Approach as developed by Main Street America and referenced on the Kentucky Main Street Program website.

Ms. Johnson invited everyone to attend the Young Life Woodford County Annual Dinner Banquet at Journey Church on Tuesday, October 24th at 6:30pm.

Department Directors

Public Works Director Miller praised the recent work of the WCHS lacrosse team as they have begun painting fire hydrants through an agreement between the City of Versailles and the WCHS Sports Boosters. The lacrosse team is the first group of volunteers and in their first round of work they painted fifty-three hydrants. This agreement provides for student athletes and their parents the opportunity to paint hydrants and the City pays the Booster Club \$20 per hydrant.

City Clerk Elizabeth Reynolds invited everyone to attend a Fall Fun Event at Woodford County Fairgrounds on Saturday, October 28th with all money raised benefitting Versailles resident Anaiah Wilson who is fifteen years old and battling leukemia.

Russ Crabtree, with Woodford County Emergency Management, announced a local emergency planning meeting at noon this Thursday.

Mr. Crabtree also stated that work on the Courthouse Generator Project will begin next week and during construction there will be parking spaces lost across from Amsden Coffee.

Mayor Traugott adjourned the meeting without objections.

APPROVED:

BRIAN TRAUGOTT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ELIZABETH C. REYNOLDS, CITY CLERK