

MAY 20, 2025
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MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VERSAILLES MUNICIPAL BUILDING/5:30 P.M.

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

Council member Siegelman arrived at 5:54pm.

DEPT. HEADS: BART MILLER, T.A. RANKIN, ELIZABETH REYNOLDS, AND ROB YOUNG WERE PRESENT REPRESENTING THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

MOTION BY BRADLEY, SECONDED BY BINGHAM TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2025 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING.

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

Council member Johnson noted a clarification to the minutes of the May 13th Special Work Session. She stated that the fourth paragraph from the bottom should be clarified to state that transient room tax is not being collected on “all” STRs, especially those not licensed. She stated that the tax is being collected on some.

MOTION BY BINGHAM, SECONDED BY JONES TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 13, 2025 SPECIAL WORK SESSION WITH THE CHANGE AS NOTED.

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

Public Comment
No public comment was received.

Mayor Dake stated that the entire fourth grade at Southside Elementary School had been working on a Project Based Learning (PBL) collaboration to create a flag for the City of Versailles. Mayor Dake stated that the students researched the history of Versailles, how that history impacts what is happening in 2025, and the science of flag-making. She noted that the fourth graders were divided up into 23 small groups to each design a flag. The school faculty then narrowed it down four groups. She welcomed the four groups to the meeting to present their flags to the council to vote on their choice to be the official flag of Versailles. Each group presented their design - explaining how they came up with that design and what each part of the flag represents.

Group #1 – Ian Honican, Carleigh Robey, Henry Venis, and Lilah Waters



Group #2 – Jordan Crabtree, Owen Harris, Zoe Ratliff, and Charlotte Shumate



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Group #3 – Davis Hall, Edwin Lopez, Allison Sierra, and Ella Spaulding



Group #4 – Mayleigh Brehm, Madi Greene, Dominic Lopez, and Harry Prather



After the groups were finished presenting, Mayor Dake read a Proclamation recognizing the students, fourth grade teachers, Mary Ann Adams, Brittany LeVeque, Makenzie Smith, and Stephanie Wells, and Principal Jeremy Reynolds.

Rich Pictor, Executive Director of Parks and Recreation, provided a final update on the Big Spring Park Project. He stated that the project is complete and it came in under budget. He announced that that road has been opened back up and the park is officially open. He did note that the benches and trash cans are behind and should be here in the coming weeks. Mr. Pictor invited everyone to attend the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting tomorrow, May 21st, at 1:30pm.

Council member Miller asked about the recent record floods and how they affected the park. Mr. Pictor stated that it was much better than expected and the water mainly just pooled in the grassy areas.

Mayor Dake distributed a draft line-item budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. She stated that the budget process was much the same as it has been in previous years with each department head drafting a budget for their department and then City Clerk Reynolds compiling it into one document. Then each department head works with the Mayor to finalize a draft to distribute to the council.

Mayor Dake noted that the FY2026 draft includes a 2.5% increase in general fund revenues over the prior year budget and a 3% salary increase for all city employees. She also stated that the City is absorbing the 4% increase in health insurance costs. Mayor Dake stated that general fund capital expenditures showed a significant decrease from the prior year. She noted that enterprise fund revenues are budgeted to have a nearly 5% increase over the prior year and capital expenditures increased by 7.8%. Mayor Dake provided information for the capital projects that are budgeted for each department.

Mayor Dake stated that a Special Work Session will be scheduled for Tuesday, May 27th at 8:30am to discuss the FY2026 Budget and all department heads will be in attendance.

City Attorney Moore noted that 145 Bell Avenue was discussed at the previous council meeting regarding tax collection. He stated that a family member had come forward and paid the taxes so the council no longer needs to take action on that property.

MOTION BY SIEGELMAN, SECONDED BY JOHNSON TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO KRS 61,810(1)(b) TO DELIBERATE ON THE FUTURE ACQUISITION OR SALE OF REAL PROPERTY.

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

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MOTION BY JOHNSON, SECONDED BY MILLER TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH NO ACTION TAKEN.

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

Mayor Miscellaneous

Mayor Dake announced a Ribbon Cutting tomorrow, Wednesday, May 21st, at 12:30pm for the EV Charging Station on Rose Hill Avenue.

She announced the first Sunday Social event at the Versailles Downtown Market & Entertainment District will be May 25th, 2:00pm – 5:00pm featuring Mo Bell Music.

Mayor Dake also reminded everyone of The District Market Days, with the next one being Saturday, May 31st, 8:30am – 12:00pm.

Mayor Dake mentioned the Special Work Session again that will be held next Tuesday at 8:30am.

Council Miscellaneous/Committee Reports

Council member Jones stated that he will not be able to attend the two ribbon cuttings tomorrow.

Council member Johnson praised the work of the Southside Fourth Grade students, stating that she was impressed with each of the flags presented.

Council member Siegelman brought up a large pothole on Lexington Street, which is a state road. He asked Public Works Director Miller if we can look into the possibility of the City doing repairs to state roads that are inside the City and then being reimbursed for those repairs. Mr. Miller stated that it can definitely be discussed at the next quarterly meeting with District 7.

Department Directors

The council discussed how they would vote for the City flag. They decided to each send their vote to City Clerk Reynolds by 10am tomorrow so that the winner can be announced before the end of the school year.

Public Works Director Miller presented two invoices from Aqua-Aerobic Systems totaling \$13,339.70 for the emergency purchase of an SBR Mixer for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He stated that the Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) is a fill-and-draw activated sludge system for wastewater treatment. He asked the council to approve the recent purchase.

MOTION BY SIEGELMAN, SECONDED BY JOHNSON TO APPROVE THE EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF AN SBR MIXER FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FROM AQUA-AEROBIC SYSTEMS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$13,339.70.

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

Fire Chief Rankin reminded everyone to be weather aware tonight.

Police Chief Young asked for approval to purchase a small portable drug incinerator from Elastec in the amount of \$6,010.00. He noted that this is a budgeted item.

MOTION BY SIEGELMAN, SECONDED BY JOHNSON TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE QUOTE AS PRESENTED BY ELASTEC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,010.00 FOR A SMALL PORTABLE DRUG INCINERATOR.

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

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Deputy Brian Clark, Emergency Management, noted that the National Weather Service NOAA Weather Radio Transmitters are down for a scheduled outage for system wide upgrades. He stated that residents should use alternate means for weather alerts such as the local news and Woodford Alerts.

Mayor Dake adjourned the meeting without objections.

APPROVED:

LAURA DAKE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ELIZABETH C. REYNOLDS, CITY CLERK