

**JANUARY 3, 2024
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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: DAN KNIGHT, MIKE MURRAY, T.A. RANKIN, AND ELIZABETH REYNOLDS WERE PRESENT REPRESENTING THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

Public Comment

No public comment was received.

MOTION BY BINGHAM, SECONDED BY DAKE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 19, 2023 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING.

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

MOTION BY DAKE, SECONDED BY BRADLEY TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FOR CIVIL SITE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE VERSAILLES STORM SHELTER AS PRESENTED BY THOROUGHbred ENGINEERING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,000.00.

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

MOTION BY DAKE, SECONDED BY BINGHAM TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FOR GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE VERSAILLES STORM SHELTER AS PRESENTED BY THOROUGHbred ENGINEERING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,250.00.

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

Mayor Traugott presented two proposed Legacy Partner contracts for sponsorship of the Downtown Revitalization project. He noted that one is with Frontier Nursing with a commitment of a \$10,000 donation annually for ten years. He stated that the other agreement is with Jack Kain Ford which includes a commitment of \$500 months for 200 months. Mayor Traugott added that these contracts are overall standard and similar to the other contracts that have been approved.

MOTION BY JOHNSON, SECONDED BY JONES TO APPROVE THE DOWNTOWN VERSAILLES REVITALIZATION PROJECT SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENTS WITH FRONTIER NURSING UNIVERSITY AND JACK KAIN FORD AS PRESENTED.

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

Dan Knight, Assistant Public Works Director, presented a request to surplus a 2010 Ford Explorer (VIN# 84433) and advertise for sale on govdeals.com.

MOTION BY BINGHAM, SECONDED BY DAKE TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO SURPLUS A 2010 FORD EXPLORER AND ADVERTISE FOR SALE ON GOVDEALS.COM.

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

MOTION BY MILLER, SECONDED BY JONES TO ACCEPT THE RECORD AS SUBMITTED BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR THE ZONING MAP AMENDMENT – IVA MINAYLOVA – 172 SIMMONS STREET – 0.180 ACRES – R-1C (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-3 (MODERATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL).

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

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Mayor Miscellaneous

Mayor Traugott stated that City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 15th in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. He also noted that the MLK Day breakfast will be at the First Christian Church that day at 8:30am and the walk will begin on Martin Luther King Blvd at 4:30pm.

He noted that he doesn't have anything to be brought for discussion for the January Work Session. The council agreed to cancel that Work Session scheduled for January 9th.

Mayor Traugott announced that John Kendrick has officially retired from the City. He also noted that Rock Vance has resigned as Code Enforcement Officer. He stated that Gordie Shaw had been hired as the Code Enforcement Officer and he will be operating out of the Versailles Police Department.

He provided information and an update on the recent water main leak that caused low water pressure in the Rose Hill area. He noted that the leak was caused by a contractor that had not requested a line locate. The break was repaired and he commended the work of the Public Works employees who worked tirelessly day and night. Mayor Traugott noted that the City does not participate in the "811" program due to the high cost.

Mayor Traugott discussed the possibility of changing the location of the Legacy Arch from the most recent designs. He mentioned a few different options, including placing the arch on the state right of way but stated that it was unlikely they would provide approval or limiting Granducci Alley to one-way so the arch could be placed farther back on Court Street. The council further discussed Granducci Alley and it was recommended that the Downtown Revitalization Committee have conversations with the business owners that would be affected if it were made one-way and then bring more information back to the council.

Council Miscellaneous/ Committee Reports

Council member Bingham wished everyone a Happy New Year!

Council member Dake congratulated Council member Bingham's son, Dwayne Depp, on the recent release of his first published children's book.

Ms. Dake provided an update on the walk audit, stating that yesterday was the deadline to have everything to the state and they anticipate receiving the final walk audit documentation this week or next.

Ms. Dake stated that the seventh edition of the Versailles Newsletter will go out tomorrow.

Council member Johnson congratulated Mayor Traugott on his appointment to the National League of Cities Board of Directors.

Ms. Johnson stated that the Business Standards and Downtown Development Ad-Hoc Committee had received the Executive Summary of the traffic study that had been contracted and they plan to present the findings to the council on February 6th.

Department Directors

City Clerk Elizabeth Reynolds stated that a discussion was needed regarding the cemetery trust accounts that the City currently pays a portion of grave sales in to per Kentucky Revised Statute. She noted that there are two accounts, one for Versailles Cemetery and one for Rose Crest Cemetery. The interest from each trust is disbursed to the City quarterly, but the principal cannot be accessed. However, the statute provides that a municipality can petition the court to terminate the trust and then the principal money must be held separately from other government funds and can only be expended on cemetery expenses as noted in the statute. Mrs. Reynolds asked for the council to further discuss whether to petition for termination of the trusts and if so, then the guidelines to enact for those funds going forward. She also stated that the council had previously approved to pay for benches for the Rose Crest Cemetery pavilion out of those trust funds, but since the funds cannot currently be spent, the council would need to vote on how to pay for the benches.

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MOTION BY BINGHAM, SECONDED BY BRADLEY TO APPROVE USING GENERAL FUND TO PAY LEISURECRAFT HOLDINGS \$8,478.02 OUT FOR REPLACEMENT BENCHES AT ROSE CREST CEMETERY PAVILION.

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

The council agreed to have the Street, Stormwater, and Cemetery Committee further discuss the possibility of terminating the cemetery trusts. Council member Miller, as Chair of the committee, stated that they would meet at 10:00am on Tuesday, January 9th to discuss that as well as other items.

Steve Hunter, Planning Director, stated that work and discussions are continuing regarding the Comprehensive Plan Goals and Objectives. He noted that the next meeting will be January 11th at 5:30pm.

Fire Chief T.A. Rankin requested permission to advertise for bids for an urban search and rescue trailer, as well as equipment and training. He noted that the majority of it will be funded by a grant they have received from Homeland Security.

MOTION BY BRADLEY, SECONDED BY BINGHAM TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO ADVERTISE AND SOLICIT BIDS FOR AN URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAILER INCLUDING EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING AS SPECIFIED.

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

Chief Rankin also thanked all of the local first responder agencies for their assistance in response to the structure fire on Montgomery Avenue.

Mayor Traugott adjourned the meeting without objections.

APPROVED:

BRIAN TRAUGOTT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ELIZABETH C. REYNOLDS, CITY CLERK