

**OCTOBER 15, 2024
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MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VERSAILLES MUNICIPAL BUILDING/5:30 P.M.**

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

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

MOTION BY BINGHAM, SECONDED BY JONES TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2024 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING.

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

Council member Dake noted that the draft of the October 1st minutes include a statement regarding a public comment from resident Eddie Galbreath which should be corrected to state that he was there to speak regarding “the ceasefire in Gaza”. Ms. Dake stated that Mr. Galbreath had stopped in prior to the start of tonight’s meeting to distribute a Resolution to the council members in support of the ceasefire.

MOTION BY BRADLEY, SECONDED BY MILLER TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2024 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AS AMENDED.

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

Public Comment

Joan Parton read a letter, signed by herself and twenty-two other residents of Margaret Hall, in opposition of Council member Ann Miller’s candidacy for Mayor.

Magistrate Larry Blackford spoke in support of Council member Mary Bradley’s candidacy for Mayor, noting her more than thirty years of experience.

William Sanders, NAACP Chairperson, thanked the council for their monetary support of the recent NAACP Banquet and thanked those that were able to attend.

Bob James, HOA Board President, addressed the council regarding two items. First, he encouraged the City to apply for a tree planting matching grant offered by Kentucky Utilities. He noted that the grant provides up to \$5,000 for the purchase of trees. Secondly, he asked the council to consider a Neighborhood Grant Application from The Shire. He stated that while the Municipal Order states that it will not be considered until February because they have already received the grant twice before, they would like to be considered because the planting they would like to do would be best done before winter. Mr. James also offered his assistance to any neighborhood that would like to apply for the grant but isn’t sure how to go about it.

Council member Johnson provided clarification on the mayoral vacancy and outlined the Kentucky Revised Statutes regarding the appointment of someone to fill the vacancy. She noted that Municipal Order 2023-01 gives her authority only to preside over city council meetings. She stated that Executive Order 2023-04 gives Council member Bradley executive authority in the absence of a mayor. Ms. Johnson stated that based on the opinion of City Attorney Moore, and KLC Attorney Morgain Patterson, any council member that is nominated for the vacancy should leave the room prior to a vote being taken. The vote would then be considered to pass with a 3-2 majority vote. She noted that this is the last scheduled meeting prior to the appointment going to the Governor and a special meeting can only be called with the signature of four council members.

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MOTION BY MILLER, SECONDED BY BINGHAM TO APPOINT COUNCIL MEMBER MARY BRADLEY TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF MAYOR OF VERSAILLES.

Council member Bradley stated that she would not be participating in the vote and left the room at 5:48pm.

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

Council member Bradley returned to the meeting at 5:50pm.

MOTION BY JONES, SECONDED BY JOHNSON TO APPOINT COUNCIL MEMBER LAURA DAKE TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF MAYOR OF VERSAILLES.

Council member Dake stated that she would not be participating in the vote and left the room at 5:50pm.

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

Council member Dake returned to the meeting at 5:51pm.

Council member Johnson stated that she is willing to accept the nomination to fill the mayoral vacancy and noted that she received the highest number of votes in the 2022 election for council. Ms. Johnson reiterated that if the council does not come to an agreement then the appointment will be turned over to Governor Beshear.

Council member Dake stated that it appears the council will not come to a consensus.

MOTION BY DAKE TO APPOINT COUNCIL MEMBER LISA JOHNSON TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF MAYOR OF VERSAILLES.

The Motion failed due to lack of a second.

Public Works Director Miller presented the following quotes for sewer line repair at 204 High Street. He noted that there is currently townhouses being built on the lot which previously held apartments that were destroyed by fire. It has been determined that the sewer line that services that lot has collapsed and needs to be repaired. He recommended the low quote as presented.

Buchanan Contracting	\$13,950.00
Dig It Excavating, LLC	\$16,025.00

MOTION BY DAKE, SECONDED BY BRADLEY TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE QUOTE AS PRESENTED BY BUCHANAN CONTRACTING FOR SEWER LINE REPAIR AT 204 HIGH STREET IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$13,950.00.

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

Fire Chief T.A. Rankin presented Change Order #0014 for the Versailles Fire Station #1 Renovation Project. He noted that he change order is for zero dollars, and includes removing the full view glass on the overhead doors and adding a column at the door opening. He requested approval from the council to clean up the construction contract and agreement.

MOTION BY MILLER, SECONDED BY BINGHAM TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #0014 FOR THE VERSAILLES FIRE STATION #1 RENOVATION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF ZERO DOLLARS.

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

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Council member Dake stated that the Electronic Vehicle Charging Stations Ad-Hoc Committee had been working to find a way to offer EV charging stations in Versailles. She stated that they began discussions with Plug Spot LLC, a private company that currently has charging stations in Springfield and Campbellsville. Ms. Dake presented a contract with Plug Spot LLC for council approval. She noted that the committee worked with Tony Miles, Owner of Plug Spot LLC, to determine three locations to place two level 2 stations each. The tentative locations are the city lot off Rose Hill Avenue (beside Jane's School of Dance), the Versailles Presbyterian Church lot, and the Falling Springs parking lot near the Woodford Theater. She stated that the city lot location would be free, and each additional location would be fifty dollars per month. Ms. Dake stated that she had already met with the church who agreed to have the public chargers placed on their lot and Tourism had agreed to pay the monthly utility fee of \$50 for two years for the chargers at that lot. The City would be responsible for the \$50 monthly fee for the Falling Springs location.

Mr. Miles was present to provide further information about the chargers and the proposed contract. He noted that each location would have two level 2 charging stations with each station having the ability to charge two vehicles at a time so there would be four parking spaces designated for charging. He stated that his company charges \$0.30 per kilowatt of charge, which for example would mean an hour charge would cost about \$3.00. He said that a full charge, from zero to 100% would take about 3.5-4 hours, with most people charging for about 50 minutes at a time to reach a full charge. He noted that a level 2 station costs approximately \$10,000 installed and a level 3, which charges much faster, costs between \$100,000 and \$200,000 installed.

Council member Miller asked about having two locations (city lot off Rose Hill Ave and Versailles Presbyterian Church lot) within two blocks. She suggested just having one location downtown and then having charging stations somewhere on the Kroger end of Versailles would be more beneficial. Council member Dake and Public Works Director Miller both noted that the committee worked to find locations that were public lots and walkable to places where people could spend time while waiting for their vehicles to charge. Ms. Miller mentioned the city owned lot off Marsailles Drive being a possibility.

Ms. Dake stated that the hotel downtown had said that they had potential visitors call and ask about EV charging stations before booking reservations and were not able to visit since there isn't anywhere to charge their vehicles. Mr. Miller noted that this was part of their focus when determining locations as a committee.

Council member Jones asked about liability if the unit happened to malfunction and damage a vehicle that is being charged. City Attorney Moore agreed that he was not satisfied with the liability wording in the proposed contract. Mr. Miles stated that he would be happy to have his attorney reach out to Mr. Moore and come to an agreement on that language.

Rich Pictor, Executive Director of Parks & Recreation, serves on the EV Charging Stations Ad-Hoc Committee. He stated that they already see a significant number of electric vehicles at Falling Springs.

Council member Dake noted that everyone on the committee is in agreement on the proposed locations. She also stated that more locations could be added later.

MOTION BY JOHNSON, SECONDED BY DAKE TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION AND MANAGEMENT OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS CONTRACT PENDING THE LANGUAGE IN SECTION 6 RELATING TO LIABILITY IS AMENDED TO MEET THE CITY ATTORNEY'S APPROVAL.

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

Council member Dake presented the AARP Smart Growth America Safe Streets For All video which features Versailles. She noted that the AARP Rural Lab were here October 2nd and 3rd to film the video which will be shown at the Livable Communities Workshop virtual conference tomorrow and Thursday. The video features Assistant Public Works Director Dan Knight and Planning Commission Engineer Mary Beth Robson.

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Public Works Director Miller noted that Versailles was awarded TAP Grant funding for Wilson Avenue for approximately \$300,000.

Council Miscellaneous/ Committee Reports

Council member Johnson noted that Bob James had spoken during the Public Comment portion of the meeting about a Kentucky Utilities grant and she stated that the application is due by the end of October. She requested council approval for the City to apply for the grant.

MOTION BY BINGHAM, SECONDED BY MILLER TO APPROVE SUBMITTING A GRANT APPLICATION ON THE BEHALF OF THE CITY OF VERSAILLES FOR THE KENTUCKY UTILITIES PLANT FOR THE PLANET MATCHING GRANT.

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

Council member Johnson reminded everyone of the following upcoming events:

- **October 17 – 5:00pm – 7:00pm Ghouls Pink Out, downtown**
- **October 24 – 6:30pm – WCHS Homecoming Parade, downtown**
- **October 24 – 7:30pm/8:30pm – Girls Powderpuff Football games at Community Stadium**
- **October 25 – 7:00pm – WCHS Homecoming Game at Community Stadium**
- **October 27 – 1:00 – 5:00pm – WCHS Open House/Farewell Walkthrough**
- **October 27 – Boo Bash/Woodford Spooktacular/Thriller Parade, downtown**

Council member Bingham invited everyone to a Going Away Celebration for Woodford County Food Pantry Director Sharon Hardin at the Food Pantry, Saturday, October 19th 11:00am – 2:00pm.

Mrs. Bingham also noted the In My Warrior Era Breast Cancer Awareness Walk on Saturday, October 19th 9:00am – 12:00pm at the WCHS track.

Department Directors

Public Works Director Miller stated that the city is on the search for a Christmas tree for downtown. He provided the specifications and asked anyone interesting in donating a tree from their yard, to please contact the City of Versailles.

Drew Chandler, Emergency Management Director, stated that there may be recovery money on the table in relation to the recent storms. He noted that they are gathering information and may be filing a claim.

Mr. Miller stated that tree limb pickup is continuing per the regular ordinance specifications and that leaf pickup will begin next week.

Fire Chief Rankin asked to have a Public Safety Committee scheduled in the coming weeks to discuss a joint Fire Science Program with the Woodford County High School.

Chief Rankin stated that they recently pick up their new grant funded Urban Search & Rescue Trailer. He noted that multiple fire departments will be here training on it all week.

Chief Rankin also announced that the Versailles Fire Department found out today that they have been awarded a \$96,000 Homeland Security training grant.

Council member Johnson adjourned the meeting without objections.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

ELIZABETH C. REYNOLDS, CITY CLERK