

CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 21, 2024

Attending In-Person: Mayor Doug Farnsley; Council Members John Clark, John Evans, Frank Fulcher, Don Gibson, Sara Hines, and David Holmes; Police Chief Jeff Sherrard; C.A.O and City Clerk John S. Carter

Participating Remotely: Director of Public Works Ron Cundiff

Call to Order

Mayor Farnsley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Clark moved to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2024 regular council meeting, seconded by Council Member Gibson, and the motion passed unanimously.

Comments from Citizens

- Mr. Mike Fisk, Chief Sales and Marketing Officer for Evergreen Liquors, addressed the council about the store's impending loss of its lease at Prospect Point on January 1, 2026. Mr. Fisk stated that the current Prospect ordinance requiring one-half mile distance between retail package liquor stores prevents Evergreen from relocating their store within the city limits. He asked that the city council approve the proposed ordinance that would eliminate the distance requirement so that Evergreen can stay in Prospect.
- Council Member David Holmes commended the mayor for his efforts to repair neighborhood sidewalks over the last two years. He requested that the city also pursue adding new sidewalks in areas without sidewalks, such as Deep Creek and Fox Harbor neighborhoods.

Mayor's Report

- The mayor invited the city council and all Prospect residents to a reception at Hunting Creek Country Club to honor retiring Police Chief Jeff Sherrard on October 15, 2024, at 5 pm.
- The mayor invited all council members and their spouses to attend the annual Jefferson County League of Cities dinner to be held on November 21, 2024, at The Jeffersonian.
- The new Art in City Hall exhibition opened on Sunday, October 13th and was attended by approximately 200 people. In conjunction with the opening, the Art Committee organized an Artists Market in the library on Saturday and Sunday where artists offered their works for sale.

- The mayor reminded candidates for city council to submit their promotional material for the city newsletter no later than October 22, 2024.
- The mayor spoke of his confidence and high regard for Asst. Police Chief Tony Denham and Sergeant Michael McKeenan. He thanked the council for their probative questions of both officers at the October 15, 2024 special council meeting and urged them to approve his nomination of Tony Denham as Prospect's new Police Chief.

Financial Reports

The City Administrator presented a synopsis of the city's finances for September 2024.

- Cash on hand totaled approximately \$3.4 million.
- Interest earned on investments for the first three months of the fiscal year was approximately \$46K.
- Monthly revenue and expenditures met budgeted expectations.
- The restricted Road Aid Fund totaled approximately \$283K, however, the city just made a payment of approximately \$250K for this summer's paving.
- As of October 21, 2024, over 91% of all 2024 real estate tax bills had been paid. The city is now transferring excess operating funds into its investment portfolio.

Commission and Board Reports

On behalf of the Forestation Board, Board Member Herb Shulhafer presented an oral report.

- The Board's certified arborists, Andrea Hanlon, and Chase Bank had a productive meeting this past week wherein Chase agreed to and has planted four red point maples to replace the trees mistakenly removed during construction.
- The city's Canopy program typically held once each year was expanded to two times this year to allow residents to replace trees lost during April's tornadic storm.
- Arbor Fest was held this past Saturday and was expanded from 50 to 75 trees this year.

Other Reports

On behalf of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee, Council Member Holmes presented an oral and written report.

- Accolades were given to committee member Sallie Schneider for organizing the kids' craft event for Prospect's 50th Birthday Party.
- The committee welcomed new student member, Abby Potter, who recently volunteered for the 50th Birthday Party and represented the city at the recent "Touch the Truck" event.
- Two Eagle Scout projects were recently completed. The first project was an information kiosk in Little Hunting Creek Park built by Harrison Red. The second project was an information kiosk at the trailhead of Eagles Way Boardwalk that leads to Putney Pond built by Jacob Early. The city has been the beneficiary of 40 Eagle Scout projects in recent

years and there are plans to create plaques to honor the contributions of each Eagle Scout and identify their projects.

- Registration is currently open for the Harrods Creek Trail Bash scheduled for Sunday, November 24th.

On behalf of the Investment Committee, Committee Chair Susan Nicholson presented an oral and written report.

- The city's investments are all currently managed through the Kentucky League of Cities Investment program. The city is currently invested in a money market fund, an enhanced income fund, and an S&P 500 fund.
- The investment fund was down this past fiscal quarter due to withdrawals used to fund city operating expenses.
- The city is adding \$5,000 to the S&P 500 fund each month, which has been a successful strategy as that investment earned has \$4,700 rather than \$900 it would have earned had it remained invested in the other two funds.

Council Member Gibson reported regarding Jefferson County League of Cities [JCLC] activity.

- On September 19, 2024, JCLC met with guest speakers Alex Posorske of TARC and Jeff O'Brien, Executive Director of the Economic Development Cabinet for Louisville Metro Government. Mr. Posorske spoke of a significant drop in riders since 2021 and the subsequent 50% cut in its budget. Mr. O'Brien spoke on the need for increasing housing in the city, and of ideas on how to increase and reduce the cost of housing.
- On October 17, 2024, JCLC met with guest speaker Cindy Sullivan of TreesLouisville to discuss how to improve the city's tree canopy.
- The annual JCLC dinner is to be held on November 21, 2024, at The Jeffersonian with featured speaker Dr. Ryan Quarles, President of Kentucky Community & Technical College System.

Police Report:

Police Chief Sherrard reported:

- The details of the written report on arrests and call responses were presented.
- Housewatches have increased now that the department is nearly fully staffed.
- The department has received its three fully outfitted new police cruisers.
- The department has redesigned its logo and ordered new patches for officers' uniforms and decals for police vehicles.
- The Chief discussed his hire and work experience over the past 12 years. He expressed his appreciation to Prospect's residents, mayors, city councils, and city employees he has worked with during his tenure as Prospect's Police Chief. The chief also expressed his high confidence in Tony Denham and Michael McKeegan assuming the leadership of Prospect's police.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Mayor Farnsley nominated Tony Denham as Prospect’s Police Chief effective November 1, 2024. Council Member Evans moved to approve the nomination, seconded by Council Member Fulcher. A roll call vote was held: Yea: Clark, Evans, Fulcher, Gibson, Hines and Holmes. Nay: None. The motion passed 6 -0.
- Council Member Fulcher moved to approve the first reading of **Ordinance 645, 2024: A AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT AND MODIFICATION OF CHAPTER 114: REGULATING DISTANCE BETWEEN PACKAGE LIQUOR SALES**, seconded by Council Member Clark. A roll call vote was held: Yea: Clark, Evans, Fulcher, Gibson, Hines and Holmes. Nay: None. The motion passed 6 -0.

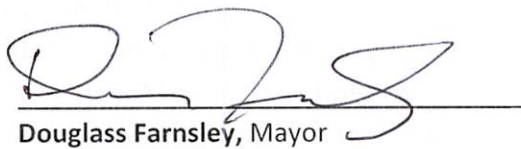
Adjournment: Council Holmes moved to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Hines, and the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Farnsley declared the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Prepared by:



John S. Carter, City Clerk

Approved:



Douglass Farnsley, Mayor

This meeting was live-streamed on YouTube.