

THE PARK HILLS CITY COUNCIL HELD A BUSINESS MEETING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE PARK HILLS CITY BUILDING, 1106 AMSTERDAM ROAD, WITH MAYOR KATHY ZEMBRODT PRESIDING. COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: DR. JOE DAUGHERTY, SARAH FROELICH, PAM SPOOR, JOE SHIELDS, AND STEVE ELKINS ALSO PRESENT: CITY ATTORNEY, DANIEL BRAUN AND CITY ENGINEER, JAY BAYER

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Motion to approve September 9, 2024, meeting minutes, with changes, was made by Ms. Spoor; seconded by Mr. Shields. Roll call: all ayes

Mayor Zembrodt received a letter of resignation from Councilmember, Monty O'Hara effective today. He and his wife, Ann, moved to Louisville to be closer to family. They had lived in Park Hills for over 30 years. Ms. Spoor wanted to thank Monty and Ann for all they did. They were a big part of the community.

After discussion and reviewing pictures of the property, motion to approve the encroachment permit for 1202 Old State Road was made by Mr. Elkins; seconded by Mr. Shields. Roll call: all ayes

I. Executive Order 2, 2024 appointing David Gray as Hearing Officer was read by Attorney Braun

II. First Reading; Ordinance No 10, 2024 updating the Abandoned Urban Property process, was read in summary by Attorney Braun. Ms. Spoor asked when the taxation would go into effect. Mr. Braun responded that it would be assessed on the 2025 tax bills.

III. Department Reports

A. Police Department – Chief Cody Stanley

Chief Stanley' report contained the following:

Reports: 8

Citations:

- 1 Warrant Arrest
- 13 Traffic citations (1 DUI)
- 7 Criminal Arrests

City Citations: 1

Additional:

459 calls for service less; 45 traffic stops, 145 Vacation/Special Area Checks, 25 Special Detail we had a total of 244 police related calls.

Calls for assistance from other police departments:

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Mutual Aid calls from other agencies: 55

Call Review:

- 2 reports & 1 arrest on Elberta Circle
- 1 report & 4 arrests on St. Joseph Lane
- 1 report and 4 traffic citations on Dixie Highway

B. Fire Department – Chief John S. Rigney

- A total of 27 calls for service were received during the month of September. The incidents are broken down by type on the Activity report.
- 2 FD members attended rescue training for incidents involving machinery and other specialized situations.
- Crews assisted Covington FD with a structure fire on Oliver St.
- FD has begun compiling preplan information for the Audubon Conservancy in the event of an accident or medical emergency.
- The 2024 pickup truck to replace our current 2006 unit has been delivered and is awaiting outfit with emergency equipment.
- October is Fire Prevention month and the FD reminds everyone to check their smoke detectors.
- PHFD will be hosting our annual “Halloweenies” on October 31st from 6-8:30.

Mayor Zembrodt thanked the fire department and Chief Rigney for fixing their HVAC system themselves at a minimal cost.

Ms. Spoor asked if the department could provide lessons at large on the basics of CPR. Chief Rigney stated that they have done a few of these training sessions in the past and typically like to team up with another agency. He will reach out to Ft. Wright to see if they would be interested.

C. Public Works – Dan VonHandorf

- Greetings Mayor Zembrodt and Council and thanks for another month.
- Fall is here, time to start leaf pickup and all of the fun stuff. Halloween, pumpkin parade, hayride and many other fun events. By the way, the hayride and pumpkin parade is this Sunday at Trolley Park at 4 p.m.
- I have the traffic counter set up at Lawton and Audubon. The highest count there has been 474 and the lowest count is 380.
- We have a couple of small paving projects coming in November. South Hamilton, behind Trolley Park, and a little area on Breckenridge past the intersection of Emerson.
- There has been some engineer work on Amsterdam Road. Just a little info, it’s coming, I know not soon enough.

Mayor Zembrodt stated that they are moving forward quicker than anticipated and hope to have it finished by April 2026.

Ms. Froelich inquired about the sign at Amsterdam and Altavia. Mayor Zembrodt replied that it shows how taxpayers’ money is being spent on the Amsterdam Road project. The deep fix will go from Sleepy Hollow to Hillcrest. Hillcrest to Trolley Park will have a

mill & overlay as the infrastructure of the road is still in good condition. Ms. Froelich asked if we have documentation of this. Mayor Zembrodts replied that we do not and that she can ask for it. Ms. Froelich said that would be great.

Dr. Daugherty asked about lead in the pipes on Rose Circle where a large tree was removed. Ms. Spoor believes it is protocol to replace pipes when the road is repaired. Mr. Bayer stated that it could have been a service pipe as opposed to the main. Pipes are not replaced back to the property during road repairs.

D. City Engineer – Jay Bayer

Gateway Development (aka Park Pointe)

The Emergency Access Drive from Old State Road has been constructed. The drive is to be maintained by the HOA. The easement may need to be revised to reflect the final pavement location. The city has asked for and is awaiting this confirmation.

A downspout collection line was recently constructed on the hillside above Amsterdam Road. Based on discussion with SD1, the line is to be privately maintained.

The city has a bond in place until the punchlist work is completed. With the long delay in completing this task, a new inspection and punchlist is suggested before the bond is released. A plat is to be prepared by the developer to dedicate the proposed right of way along Amsterdam.

Mr. Bayer was not sure if the water line was replaced on Amsterdam Road in the early 2000's when it had its deep fix from Hillcrest to Trolley Park.

Ms. Froelich asked why the city used 3 different contractors for the Cleveland Avenue curbs. Mayor Zembrodts replied that Michels started the curbs, Riegler did the upper street and QBC did the lower street. It was done in sections due to cost she added.

E. Finance Department – Julie Alig

1. Financial reports – September 2024

A. Trial Balance

B. Statement of Revenues

C. Statement of Expenditures

Mayor Zembrodts stated that the city's long-term road fund loan was paid off a year early. Motion to approve the September financial statements was made by Ms. Spoor; seconded by Ms. Froelich. Roll call: all ayes

IV. Committee Discussions

A. Infrastructure – Joe Shields

Mr. Shields stated that the committee did not meet last week but will be discussing the new sidewalk on N. Arlington at the next Caucus meeting. He asked for all of council to weigh in. He would also like to discuss maintaining the stairs behind the church and the 4 public walkthroughs.

Mayor Zembrodt stated that she has not heard back from TANK regarding the swale on Dixie Highway. Ms. Froelich asked again about the swale in front of the sidewalk on Hamilton. Mr. Shields stated that the swale already existed before the sidewalk was put in. Mayor Zembrodt said it could be discussed further at the Caucus.

Mayor Zembrodt stated that she received an email regarding a 50/50 grant for the 3 worst sidewalks. A survey will be done to determine which sidewalks to repair.

Ms. Froelich stated that the evaluation received in May regarding the PCI ratings was not updated by the city engineer. The Mayor replied that the streets were walked by her and a couple of the infrastructure committee members as well as an engineer who is a friend of the Mayors. Ms. Froelich feels that this is questionable. The Mayor stated that if you walk the streets, you can see which ones need repairs. Mr. Shields also mentioned the \$30K it would have cost the city to do the survey. Ms. Froelich asked if this was recommended. She also stated that council did not receive the report until after the road tax reduction was voted on. Discussion took place regarding the survey.

Dr. Daugherty suggested the names of those responsible for the report have their names on it. Then, each time it is updated, keep track of those doing it.

Ms. Spoor went on to explain the reason behind the possible road tax reduction that will appear on the ballot next month. She explained that the state wisely instituted a 4% limitation on the amount of revenue that could be obtained by a city in a given fiscal year. Should revenue exceed the 4% limit, the tax rate would be subject to a vote referendum. The city experienced extraordinary property value increases due to the reassessment by Kenton County PVA. This resulted in a dramatic reduction of our ad valorem tax rate from 2.09 per \$1,000 to 1.70 per \$1,000. Because the Road Tax was a voted tax, it was not subject to the state's 4% compensating rate protection. The majority of council felt it was important and equitable to give Park Hills voters the opportunity to vote on it and the proposed reduction of rate from 1.55 per \$1,000 to 1.20 per \$1,000 was an application of the 4% compensating rate protection to the Road Tax.

Ms. Spoor stated that the garbage in the park and on Dixie Highway is not being picked up on a consistent basis. She asked that we review the contract with Rumpke and begin deducting them if this continues to happen.

C. Economic Development & Business – Sarah Froelich

The committee met in September and are planning for the future, next year. They are putting together a packet of information on what they've done this year and preparing for whoever may be part of the committee in the future. They also are working on a new event permit as the Mayor requested. They did a little study. Marty Boyer worked on an audit of different event permits, and they will have something to present in November.

III. Old Business - None

IV. New Business

Ms. Froelich asked if council should discuss the vacancy left by Mr. O'Hara's resignation. Mr. Braun said Mr. O'Hara's resignation was effective today, so council has 30 days to advertise the vacancy. Once applications are in, council can decide who they

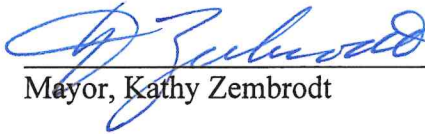
would like to replace him for the remainder of the term. There are provisions in the city's Ordinance that are as follows:

If a candidate ran in the preceding election, the city council shall vote on such candidate first. If more than one candidate ran in the preceding election, the council shall vote for the candidate who received the most votes of the unsuccessful candidates in the preceding regular election first.

He added that if this does not apply, council may vote to choose another applicant.


Ms. Froelich stated that she heard there may be some MOU's for the city about the new bridge in the Audubon Preserve and the new entrance sign by Devou Park. Mayor Zembrodt replied that Covington has them now and they are being reviewed.

8:17 Motion to adjourn Business Meeting was made by Ms. Spoor.



Mayor, Kathy Zembrodt

ATTEST:



City Clerk