

**City of Lakeview Heights
385 Circle Drive
Morehead, KY 40351**

**MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION
via Zoom
THURSDAY, April 1, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

A meeting of the City Commission was held via Zoom and live-streamed on the City of Lakeview Height's Facebook Page with the following present:

Commissioner Members Present:

Sam Mason, Mayor
Tim Miller, Commissioner
Jim Fluty, Commissioner
Mark Blankenbuehler, Commissioner
James Hood, Commissioner

Others Present:

Amanda Mason, Clerk

Commissioner Members Absent:

NONE

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mason called the meeting to order at 6:07pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

MINUTES

March 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Blankenbuehler noted two grammatical corrections that needed to be made to the meeting minutes. Clerk Mason noted those corrections and changed the master copy. Commissioner Miller made a motion to accept the corrected meeting minutes. Commissioner Fluty made a second to the motion, and the motion carried.

March 23, 2021 Special Called Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Fluty made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Blankenbuehler made a second to the motion, and the motion carried.

Old Business

No Solicitation Stickers

Mayor Mason provided the commission with an update on the status of the stickers. He indicated that the stickers should be ready by early next week and would cost the city \$2 per sticker.

Easter Treat Bags

As of 5:30 on April 1, a total of 9 children had been signed up for Easter Treat bags for Saturday's distribution. A total of \$176.16 was spent, but items can be returned if they are not needed. Clerk Mason indicated that she expected additional kids to be signed up and a few more may stop by on Saturday during distribution.

New Business

Treasurer's Report

The monthly financial report was presented by Treasurer/Clerk Mason. Commissioner Fluty made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Commissioner Hood made a second to the motion, and the motion carried.

Property Tax –

The commissioners agreed that residents needed to be personally contacted and reminded that they have property taxes that are overdue. Commissioner Fluty expressed his opinion that letters should be hand delivered to ensure that they were received and residents understood what action needed to be taken. Commissioner Miller wanted to make sure that it was handled in the correct way. Commissioner Fluty emphasized that the delivery of the information would just be for informational purposes. Commissioner Blankenbuehler referenced Ordinance 6 that outlines fees, etc. pertaining to taxes, late fees, etc. and indicated that it would provide guidance on such matters. Clerk Mason will work on composing a letter to deliver as soon as possible.

Jennifer White replacement on Zoning Commission

Mayor Mason informed the commission that Jennifer White had submitted her resignation as representative on the Joint/Planning Commission. He indicated that Shayla Ring was interested in replacing White on the Joint/Planning Commission and asked the Commission to take her into consideration as a replacement or offer another suggestion. Commissioner Fluty made a motion to accept Shayla Ring as a Lakeview Heights representative on the Morehead - Rowan County - Lakeview Heights Joint Planning Commission. Commissioner Hood made a second to the motion, and the motion carried.

American Rescue Plan

Mayor Mason shared an email from JD Chaney (Kentucky League of Cities) that provides information on the American Rescue Plan. Under this plan, the City of Lakeview Heights has a projected allocation of approximately \$41,000. Mayor Mason read the types of expenses on which the funds could be used. Although several of those expenses would

not pertain to the City of Lakeview Heights, making investments in broadband infrastructure may be an area where the city's allocated funds could be used.

Mayor Mason said he planned to reach out to some contacts that had experience in this area for additional information that he could share with the commission. Because the expenses covered by this plan can be incurred up to 12/2024, the city does have some time to learn more and make informed decisions.

Mayor Mason also provided the Commission with information on some other declarations, etc. that could impact the city. He noted that many of those declarations, grants, etc. require the city to match funds, which at present we do not have to spare.

Litigation against the city update

Mayor Mason shared that no additional requests for information from Mr. Kilburn have been received. Mayor Mason shared that what was budgeted in the prior year for attorney fees would most likely only cover $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total estimated attorney expenses incurred thus far, and as such, the commission would have to take the accumulating legal fees into consideration when looking at next year's budget.

Commissioner Miller asked whether or not the city had insurance to help cover such expenses. Mayor Mason said that at this time, no. In previous years, such insurance has been investigated but had been too expensive to purchase. He indicated that the Commission could revisit that again, if desired.

2021-2022 Budget

Mayor Mason indicated that there are a number of areas that need to be addressed in next year's budget, including other options for revenue, current litigation fees, employee expenses, desired plan for what we want the city to look like in 10 years, etc.

Commissioner Miller indicated that he does agree that city needs to look at a long-term plan. He voiced the importance of residents understanding why taxes could possibly be increased and what those funds would go toward if an increase did occur.

Mayor Mason indicated that several streets need paving, but with only around \$4000 in our road fund, that would not cover the paving expenses.

Utility Cabinet

A cabinet may need to be purchased to allow space for storage of the remaining COVID supplies.

City Building Work Day

Mayor Mason told the Commission that there are several issues outside as well as inside the city building need to be addressed and suggested that we hold a work day to help

take care of such needs. The storage room/closet needs to be cleaned out, as well as the closet in the office. Leaves in the gutters of the building also need to be removed.

Commissioner Miller suggested pulling files out of the different locations and setting them up around the edges of the room to begin with in order to get a better idea of how to proceed. Mayor Mason asked Clerk Mason and Commissioner Miller to work together to create a plan and organize work days at the city building.

Commissioner Fluty wanted to pass along a comment that he received from Jerry Bowen, one of the local volunteer firefighters who expressed their appreciation of the donation of foggers. Mr. Bowen indicated that the foggers have been used extensively and are greatly appreciated. The Commission expressed satisfaction knowing that the donation is being put to good use and meets the needs of our local first responders.

Park Play Equipment

Mayor Mason said that the bridge in the park was still broken and unsafe. He wanted suggestions as to how we should proceed with getting the play ground equipment back up and operational. Mayor Mason appointed Commissioners Hood and Blankenbuehler to work on a solution. He asked them to also look at the picnic tables and other items to see if any repairs need to be made.

Building Opening

Mayor Mason will seek clarification from Frankfort and the CDC to determine when buildings can be safely opened for extended use, rentals, etc. The city will formulate a plan for the reopening of our city building as soon as we can safely do so.

Regional Office for Driver's License

The city received a call from an individual who wants to work with us to ensure our residents know that individuals must go to the new Regional Office for drivers' licenses renewals. We will place that information on the city's website and put it in a newsletter for distribution to residents.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business pending and through unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 7:31p.m.

Sam Mason, Mayor

Amanda Mason, City Clerk/Treasurer

Zoom Meeting Information:

<https://zoom.us/join>

Zoom Meeting ID# 974 637 3650