

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Minutes of Kenton City Council

Meeting

Lilienthal Southeastern, Inc., 1-800-837-1904, Re-Order 66865K

Held September 12, 2022

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17TH REGULAR SESSION:

Kenton City Council met in their 17th Regular Session on September 12th, 2022, at 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers. Present: President Joel Althausser, Sue Fox Buroker, David Beazley, Antwillia Davis, Ray Lawrence, Pegg Wren, Anda Tudor, Robin Jones, Law Director John Schwemer, Mayor Lynn Webb and Safety Service Director Cindy Murray.

Prayer given by President Althausser and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

MINUTES:

Althausser: You have copies for the minutes from our August 22nd meeting, as you read through those did anything jump out as needing corrected, or deleted or added? Hearing no comments, they'll stand approved as submitted.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Althausser: Our only item that was submitted, that Emma had in your packets, was the Kenton Hardin Health Department minutes and that was from July 26th. Any comments on those?

PETITIONS:

Althausser: We do have a new item under new business. There's a liquor license transfer, as far as LLC ownership. Hopefully you got a change to look at that and we will take that up in new business.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Althausser: Police Department has a written report. That's for August. Anything you want to add?

Lieutenant Lutes: No.

Althausser: Anything you have to report to us?

Lutes: I would like City Council to know that our three new cruisers are ready and the officers have been using them. So, we do have them finally.

Althausser: Great. Working out alright so far?

Lutes: Yup.

Althausser: Any questions? Fire, Chief is here. Bruce, anything you want to talk to us about?

Chief Donnelly: No, nothing tonight.

Althausser: Okay, great! Parks & Rec, Jacqueline is here, Jacqueline you want to, or development, economic development, whichever you want to talk about.

Jacqueline Fitzgerald: So we had a really good engagement at the fair, with our fair booth and we shared some really good ideas for communication with the community. Our theme was, "Did you know?". So, there was a lot of questions, a lot of information that was given out that people weren't aware of and we had some QR codes that they could scan and find information out that would take them to our City Site, and I think people were very pleased with that. We appreciate everybody that sat in the booth and volunteered their time. Along with that we did, "Improve with us.", so it was curbs and sidewalks, improved entrance to the city, downtown cleanup, parks and greenspace, and code enforcement. You could take a bead and you could vote in a mason jar, which you wanted to see and the most that we saw was curbs and sidewalks. That seems to be what we had the most votes on. The second most was code enforcement and then we just did a little thing, "Color with us." So, anybody could come by and color an outline of maybe what the City of Kenton would look like and a bunch of

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building and stuff. So, it was kind of fun. Jayna Jansen is new to our community. They moved here from Texas. They have family that lives here in Kenton. Cindy, myself, that's our niece. She helped put that together for us and did a wonderful job. So, I'd like to personally thank her for her time and talent. Frances Lake, so for the veterans, there was a collaborative effort. I'd like to thank Councilman Lawrence for helping with this. The Elks Lodge 157, veterans can sign up for, to get free fishing permits for 2023 season. Tuesdays 4-6, Thursday 4-6, Saturdays 8-noon. They can go and get those at the office at the quarry at Frances Lake. Tuesday nights at the quarry we're still doing the kayak tours from 7-8.

Beazley: Is that going well?

Fitzgerald: It has. I think at first people were a little unaware until we got some information out. Now Tuesday was, Tim helped us get that through and I'm sure he will promote that some more for us. So, yes, it has, and Chuck and Kristin Moore have been very gracious, volunteering their time and resources on doing that to get awareness out. That lake is beautiful and so, a maximum of 10 people. You can go to the City's Site and sign up if you want to or you can show up but if you sign up it kind of helps let them know how many people are coming so the first 10 and it's all weather related. So, if people sign up it gives them a way of, Kristin and Chuck Moore, to call those people and let them know, "Hey, it's not great weather. Don't come out."

Althauser: Jacqueline, so, how many, do we have kayaks? You bring in your own kayak?

Fitzgerald: So, yes so, we've kind of put it out there on Facebook. So, they have everything, they, Chuck and Kristin Moore have everything there for you. Lifejackets, the kayaks, the canoe too if you want to bring your kids. I think there's two canoes and it's all, it's a collaborative effort with Cabela's and the Kenton City Schools, Chuck Moore's class, and that's how they've obtained all those things. So, we're very fortunate to have that piece.

Althauser: So we don't have to, you wouldn't have to buy the boat permit to do this. Since you're using...

Fitzgerald: Right, it's just a tour and practice but if you like it and you want to go get a kayak then you do have to get a permit. Anything that goes on the lake has to have a permit. Weight limit of 250. It's great. Some of their pictures are fabulous. So, we have a lot of good things going on out there. Side note with that; I met with a couple different companies for kayak launcher, part of our Capitol Budget, what that looks like, a dock, the ramps where they back their boats into, so that took place last week. Just getting quotes on that. So, a lot of good things happening out there. We still have people signing up to stay at the quarry, at Frances Lake, Saulisberry Park, so we're doing very, very good there. Our next Park and Board meeting will be next Wednesday, September 21st, we'll start here at City Council Chambers and then we will head to all the parks to do a walking tour, inventory, see what our parks look like. 6 o'clock. Anybody's welcome to do that. It'll probably take us a couple of hours. Our seasonal mowers are still hard at work mowing all the parks, city properties, and the nuisance properties. They've been very helpful when we've had storm damage, picking up tree limbs and stuff so our city crew guys can keep doing what they need to do. So, a shoutout to those guys for doing a great job, Justin Hale and Jim Fletcher. They're also right now, if you see our summer flowers are coming out. They've helped with removing those and I'd like to thank all the volunteers that helped water downtown flowers. Shoutout to Sue Bailey, she always gets everybody together and coordinates an effort with the calendar and stuff. So, she does a great job with that. Architectural Review Board, we meet Wednesday, this Wednesday September 14th to review a downtown building owner's request for façade and windows. Please note: if you are a downtown building owner and you are going to do any changes to your building façade, example color, windows, sidewalks, you need to come to the City Building and get a permit to make any of those changes. We have a lot going on that's good and I appreciate the opportunity to work here at the City. Thank you, City Council, for the opportunity, I appreciate it.

Althauser: Thank you Jacqueline. And if you didn't have a chance to see the fair booth, it was very good. It was a very well put together fair booth. I thought last year it was definitely worth the time, and this year even more so. So, thanks again for all of you for doing that, for everybody that was involved. Okay, Income Tax, there's a written, a hard copy of a report. Any comments or questions

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about that report? Alright then, no Auditor tonight, no Treasurer tonight, then we are, Law Director, John, anything you want to add? Cindy Murray?

Murray: The first thing I want to talk about is the Electrical Aggregate. I just want to remind the citizens that they now should be seeing Energy Harbor on their bills and the rate should be .0561. So, if they're getting charged more than that, I think we have information on our website on how to get out of your current supplier and get in with Energy Harbor to get that rate. Next thing is, we are working with Ohio Northern University for some of their Capstone Projects. They're going to focus on the downtown. I think some of the things they're going to look at is the truck routing, to see what they can come up with. What's some of the other things we talked to them about? The building facades, the, just different things for the downtown. So, just want to let you know that. You'll see, if you see some students walking around, looking around at the streets, or up at the buildings, that's what they're doing. So, the week of 9/26 we're going to be doing a lot, you're going to be seeing a lot of OHM downtown. We're going to start our potholing for utilities so that they make sure we know exactly where the utilities are. We're also going to be doing smoke testing. We're going to work with OHM, our guys are going to work with OHM to do smoke testing in this 9 block area and a little bit outside. Trying to see what's tied in to the sanitary sewer. We're going to review the chalk and block work that was done for the I & I for the phase two of the infiltration study that they're doing so you'll be seeing a lot of OMH probably for the next month. We did receive some, I don't want to say bad news but, disappointing news, maybe that's a better word. We did not receive the small cities grant for phase 2 of Detroit Street. Basically, they said they knew that ODOT was doing a traffic study so they wanted to see what came of that traffic study since the original traffic study used the intersection of Forest Road and 68. So, they didn't want to do a lot of work, give us that money, in case that would all change as to what the truck traffic was going to be routed. So that was a little bit of a disappointment. So, just another little fork in the road.

Althaus: So, they kind of left the door open though? Depending on, they left the door open depending on the traffic study?

Beazley: Phase one is still scheduled?

Murray: Phase one is still a go.

Beazley: Which goes up to Eliza?

Murray: Right. Anybody have any questions for me?

Althaus: Thank you Cindy. Mayor Webb?

Webb: So, the most phone calls I have received lately is Trick-or-Treat. So Tim, not cats, not anything else, it's Trick-or-Treat. October 29th, Saturday, afternoon 3-5 and again, I just need to reiterate that the City is not involved with the Halloween Parade. It has been The Optimists. So, I haven't heard from them, I don't want to assume, but we do not. So, we handle Trick-or-Treat.

Althaus: And yes, it's during the daylight, and yes that's okay.

Tim Thomas: What's Ohio State's schedule that day?

Webb: Couldn't tell you. I think it's, it might be, I think they might be a noon game. Maybe, or a 3:30 game. I think it is TBa. So, that's the headline for the paper tomorrow, Trick-or-Treat. Again, I just want to reiterate the fair, plus the other piece that I love the fair, but it's so great to see; one, how everyone is out. Police, Fire, EMS, outstanding. The presence there, outstanding. Such professionalism, and then each of you guys that also not just represent our city but you also represent so much more and how you sit in your booths and it's just a good, it's just a neat thing to see how y'all serve in other areas. So, I appreciate that. John's kids probably the best colorers on our page. They were a real joy, having them across the aisle a little bit so, that was fun. Also, a neat thing out at Frances Lake if you want to catch, the bald eagle is back. So, if you want to drive out on that nice new road and sit and watch him, it'd be kind of neat. Other than that, the horizon looks very bright, in my opinion. So, a lot of good stuff happening. All yours.

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Beazley: Mr. President, in response to your question Ohio State is at Penn State time to be determined. Probably a night game.

Althaus: White out.

Beazley: That would be my guess.

Webb: At Penn State.

Beazley: So, it should not be in conflict.

Webb: Right.

Althaus: All the more reason to have it during the daytime. Alright well, moving on.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND/OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Althaus: Finance, there's a written report. Anything you'd like to add to that?

Beazley: I would like to add Mr. President, that prior to our next session on the 26th we are meeting at 6pm. This will begin in earnest, our budgeting, and we will be spending very little time on those year end things going forward. So, anyone interested in budgeting process, or has some skin in the game on some special projects, I would encourage you to attend. I would anticipate October would be every meeting. So, we'd be meeting finance every two weeks. Going forward until the budget process is complete. Thank you, Sir.

Althaus: Any questions on that report or the comments made?

Beazley: Much of the report will be forthcoming in the Legislation.

Althaus: Right. MOP have any report, anything to talk about?

Pegg Wren: MOP has not met but we are going to schedule a meeting sometime within the next couple of weeks.

Althaus: Anything for Utilities?

Robin Jones: We have a meeting this Wednesday at 3:30.

Althaus: And streets?

Ray Lawrence: We'll meet the 28th.

Althaus: And finally, Legislation.

Antwill Davis: 28th.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Althaus: Regional Planning?

Beazley: Regional Planning did not meet in September.

Althaus: Parks & Rec? Anything you want to add Robin to the Parks & Rec Report?

Jones: No, not really. Jacqueline covered everything but you know everybody's welcome to come out and take a look at all the parks and make some decisions and the Quarry is really beautiful back there. Now the street's paved and so that's Wednesday at 6.

Murray: Is it this Wednesday?

Jones: Next Wednesday, the 21st.

Althaus: Grove Cemetery, anything with, going on there?

Davis: Open house on the house we're selling from 4-6 tomorrow.

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Althaus: Tree Commission? Sue?

Sue Fox Buroker: to my knowledge they have probably a meeting this Thursday.

Murray: No, we met last, do you want me to report since you weren't here?

Althaus: Yeah, go ahead.

Murray: They had a meeting last Thursday.

Buroker: I was unaware.

Clerk: Sorry.

Murray: So, there was a meeting last Thursday and we issued the contract to Don Hull Tree Service. We can get all the trees taken down within the budget. So, great.

Buroker: So, they don't meet this Thursday then?

Clerk: Yeah, that was my fault, sorry about that.

Buroker: That's okay. I don't think I was available last Thursday anyways.

Althaus: Okay, BKP will meet a week from tonight. Of course, this past week they were also very busy with the fair. They had two units out there pretty much all week and so we'll get a report on that and anything else that's going on I should have that in two weeks.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Althaus: We do have a revision and that's a revision for the managing member of Spirit 68 LLC. That is out on Route 68, 1123 Fontaine. Basically, it's just a change in the LLC ownership from Regina Fleece to Terri Fleece. I said that wrong. From Terri Fleece to Regina Fleece. Same options apply. I can't fathom what any issue would be but we have the option for a hearing or not.

Motion by Mr. Beazley to waive the liquor license hearing for Spirit 68, LLC, 1123 Fontaine St. second by Mrs. Davis.

Althaus: Any discussion?

(Roll call vote, 7 ayes, motion carried)

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:**3RD READING:**

None.

2ND READING

None.

1ST READING

- **ORDINANCE NO. 22-026, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND FOR TRANSFERRING FUNDS FOR THE YEAR 2022, FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: First, I'd note that there's a lengthy explanation for this ordinance. David or Finance, anything you want to add?

Beazley: It was something that had certain sense of urgency. The biggest issue from a timing standpoint is proceeding forward with project engineering for the water project, my understanding. To get that in and on the schedule. Cindy if you want to talk to that, that would be...

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Murray: We're going to be, we've been working with Choice One on several different water line issues. One of them is the west north Scott Avenue and in order to have, we can apply for a lead line replacement money, if we get the grant it would pay for the replacing of, a portion of this project. But that all needed to be in, needs to be submitted by September, sometime last week. So, in order to use that money next year, I thought we needed to go ahead and get started on the engineering portion of this. So, that's why I'm asking for this now so that they can go ahead and start. In the budget for next year, I am going to be placing like 3 other projects so that we have them engineered and then we'll do them as...every budget. But we will have all the engineering done so that I'm not coming to you all the time asking you for money for engineering.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mr. Lawrence that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days, be suspended. Roll call vote, 7 ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mr. Lawrence to adopt Ordinance No. 22-026.

Althaus: Any discussion? (Roll call vote, 7 ayes, motion carried)

- **ORDINANCE NO. 22-027, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A BRIDGE INSPECTION PROGRAM SERVICE PROJECT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: John, correct me if I'm wrong, isn't this something we do ever couple years and it kind of started up after the whole...

John Schwemer: Well, and even really started before. It's just, there's state money available and you have to apply and have it approved by council. Otherwise, we have to pay the cost ourselves. Now, this, if there's any needed repairs, this does not pay for that but it pays for the inspection; which we're required to do. So, it saves us money by doing that.

Murray: Normally, this is a three-year contract. This year is for one year then they're hoping to get back on the three-year cycle. That's why I have never seen it before because it was before we came. But they do come and it doesn't cost us anything. They do come, and do the Wayne Street and the Leighton Street bridge inspections. This is where we found out last year, where we kind of got written up, or we had re-do that approach, or the transition piece between the bridge and the street that we worked with the county on last year.

Davis: Do we have timing issues here, Cindy?

Murray: No...well, I don't know when this has to be back to them.

Althaus: I mean I would say there's...

Murray: It is free.

Althaus: It's kind of a no-brainer in that, if we don't do it, then we're going to pay for the inspection services and still be on the hook for the repairs.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Ms. Jones that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days, be suspended. Roll call vote, 7 ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Wren and second by Mrs. Tudor to adopt Ordinance No. 22-027.

Althaus: Any discussion? (Roll call votes, 7 ayes, motion carried)

- **RESOLUTION NO. 22-009, TITLE ONLY; A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: Again, a routine item that we really cannot alter.

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Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mrs. Wren that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days, be suspended. Roll call vote, 7 ayes; motion carried.

Althausser: Before I ask for a motion to approve, does anyone have any questions on this? I say it's something we have to do but do you have any questions on what we're doing here? Okay.

Motion by Mr. Lawrence and second by Ms. Jones to adopt Resolution No. 22-009.

Althausser: Any Discussion? **(Roll call vote 7 ayes, motion carried)**

SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Althausser: You see all those there. The only thing I added, first of all, I would ask, are the all right and I was just going to add Parks & Rec. Not that it's a committee but, it's good to know when that is. 9/21, next Wednesday, 6pm. Meet here but you're gonna head out to look at pretty much all the parks.

Jones: And the pool too, right? You're going to the pool?

OTHER MATTERS:

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA:

None.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATION:

Buroker: Just enjoyed the Hardin County Fair, thought it was wonderful again.

Jones: Our booth at the fair looked great. So, thanks to everybody that manned that and I had a lot of positive comments on it so, appreciate that work and effort.

Althausser: I had messed up and I had forgotten we did have a couple approvals. Mayor has two different...

Webb: Tasha and Jayna

Althausser: That's Architectural Review and then you also have a Health Board right? So, we have a couple of requested approvals for council to consider and first Architectural Review Board, why don't you go ahead.

Webb: To fill in the spots of, cause it was one year, so Janya Jansen has accepted and Tasha Heydinger is the other one. Also, for the Health Board, to replace Angie Aaron, is Corey Wirbel.

Althausser: And I would say, these are, and we might be a little behind on this, my fault; more than the Mayor's. These both are worded, "with consent of council". So, are there any objections to any of those appointments?

Mayor: Thank you.

Althausser: So, let the record note there are no objections. I'll try to make these a little bit more formal in the future. We just have to get together and communicate on that a little bit better. I would again reiterate, I just want to, about the fair, I just want to shout out to the fair board for a good fair. You know you read a lot of complaining, social media. Folks, everything is changing in cost and anything that involved lots of people coming to a public place is different and it will be different, forever. It will never, ever be the same. That's the environment we live in now. So, I just, in the face of all of that; and the economy that we have, I really give a shoutout to the fair board. Trying some new things and I have

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every certainty that if you have concerns about some of the new things that they tried and you voice those, in a mature, professional manner, they will listen to those. Again so, great fair and just really happy we can host that here in Kenton. So, next meeting then for us, September 26th, 2022. Just a reminder right before that, 6 o'clock will be Finance and be prepared from here on out, for Finance to be meeting before every meeting.

Anda Tudor: Joel, I have to ask to be excused that meeting because I'll be on vacation.

Althausen: Okay Anda. Alright, anything else for the good of the order? Alright then, if there are no objections, we're adjourned.

Joel Althausen, President of Council

Emma Boutwell, Clerk