

**CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 3, 2005**

After a short recess, following the Municipal Aid Road Fund Public Hearing, on May 3, 2005, Mayor Roettger opened the regular Council meeting at the Civic Center, 175 Johns Hill Road, at 7:45 p.m.

PRESENT: Council members, Harold Blocher, Steve Lehman, Greg Meyers, Jeanne Pettit, Rose Pfaff and Gene White. Also present. City Attorney Steve Franzen, Police Chief Carl Mullen, City Engineer/Zoning Administrator Dave Whitacre.

ABSENT: None.

PRAYER: Member Pettit asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of William "Bill" Verst, County Commissioner, who recently passed away. After the moment of silence Member Pettit said the prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: Everyone said the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

MINUTES: APRIL 19, 2005. The unofficial draft of the regular minutes of April 19, 2005 had been previously distributed to the Mayor, Council members and City Staff for review.

ACTION: MEMBER PFAFF MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2005, SECONDED BY MEMBER PETTIT. DISCUSSION: NONE. AYE, ALL. MAYOR ROETTGER DECLARED THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: Mayor Roettger announced he would like to change the agenda to accommodate the people present for nomination to the Parks and Recreation Board. There was no objection to this change.

Mayor Roettger announced he would like to re-appoint Sandy Shaw, Gary Chinn and Michelle Krebs to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Mayor Roettger further announced there were two openings on the Parks and Recreation Board. He stated he received two applications. He announced his nomination of Michael Vaught and Tim Machenheimer to the Parks and Recreation Board.

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ACTION TAKEN: MEMBER LEHMAN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MAYOR'S FIVE NOMINATIONS TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD, SECONDED BY MEMBER PFAFF. DISCUSSION: NONE. AYE, ALL. MAYOR ROETTGER DELARED THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

At this time, Attorney Franzen administered the Oath of Office to Sandy Shaw, Gary Chinn, Michael Vaught and Tim Machenheimer. Mayor Roettger announced that Michelle Krebs was absent. She was out of town.

SCHEDULE GUESTS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Roettger read correspondence from the Water District. This correspondence addressed the need to prioritize their water main replacement throughout the district. They are requesting a list of street repair projects in our community for the upcoming year. **OUTCOME:** Mayor Roettger turned this over to Mr. Whitacre to handle.

Mayor Roettger read a Press Release. He said it was issued by the prosecutor's office, the Campbell County Police Department and the Highland Heights Police Department. He said the headlines stated that Campbell County Police and the Highland Heights Police Department released the results of a joint investigation that targeted heroin abuse in Campbell County.

Mayor Roettger stated that, for the last 6 weeks, police officers from Campbell County Police Department and the Highland Heights Police Department have worked together. He said these departments worked together to investigate the ongoing problem of drug abuse in Campbell County. A copy of this Press Release was previously distributed to the Council members.

Mayor Roettger said these Police Departments have devoted many hours to this effort. He congratulated the Police Departments on their incredible efforts, and excellent job, to try and reduce drugs in Highland Heights and Campbell County.

STAFF REPORTS: POLICE CHIEF – Chief Mullen announced that he has had some discussion with the Mayor regarding the current speed monitor. He said the Police Department built the current speed monitor ten years ago. He said it is outdated. He said that on some streets, because of its size, it actually causes traffic problems.

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Chief Mullen stated he is requesting a new speed monitor. He stated he has received a price from Kustom Signals in the amount of \$11,645. He said this monitor is equipped with everything that is needed to work properly. He stated the new speed monitor is something that the city needs and it would benefit the City.

There was considerable discussion about this request for a speed monitor.

Mayor Roettger stated he met with the Finance Director about this issue. He said the Finance Director informed him there is some cable grant money that would be available for this purchased. He stated this purchase would meet the communication requirements of the Cable Grant.

Chief Mullen distributed a printout of the new speed monitor to the Council for their review.

ACTION TAKEN: MEMBER PFAFF MOVED TO FUND THE SPEED MONITOR USING CABLE GRANT MONEY, SECONDED BY MEMBER BLOCHER. DISCUSSION: NONE. AYE, ALL. MAYOR ROETTGER DECLARED THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CLERK/TREASURER: Mrs. Rauf responded to Member White's question at the last Council meeting concerning why the tax processing center for Occupational Licenses is in Columbus, Ohio and not in Kentucky?

Mrs. Rauf reported that the lockbox payment processing center is part of the banking service contract between Bank One and Campbell County Fiscal Court. The County is required to compete for banking services every five years. The current contract was executed in 2002 and runs for three years with up to two optional renewal years. Bank One was selected from among five proposals received. Lockbox service was one of more than 15 banking services needed. The RFP did not specify the need for a Kentucky lockbox location. She said if there are any further questions, contact Campbell County's Director of Administration, Melissa Williams.

FINANCE DIRECTOR: MARCH 2005 FINANCIAL REPORT--Mr. Benke prepared the March, 2005, Financial Report. A copy of this report was previously distributed to the Mayor, Council members and City Staff. Action will be requested at the next Council meeting.

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CITY ENGINEER/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Mr. Whitacre gave a verbal report about the culvert at Earl Meyers driveway. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

KNOLLWOOD DRAIN: Member White asked about the status of this drain? Mr. Whitacre stated he would have a report at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Roettger stated that a couple of months ago, there was discussion about a house on Harrison Avenue. He asked if there is a report about this house?

Attorney Franzen responded. He said they are in the process of filing a foreclosure suit. He said they were going to have this house condemned, but Mr. Whitacre did not think this was going to be the solution to this problem. He said Mr. Whitacre prefers that someone purchase this property. He said if it is purchased, the City could hold someone responsible for maintaining this property.

Mr. Franzen stated he just received the title report, which they needed, in order to know who to make defendants in the lawsuit.

Mayor Roettger asked about the status of the old hotel at Veterans Drive. Mr. Whitacre reported on this. He said the time allowed for submitting a plan is near expiration and the City will probably have to begin enforcement. A copy of his report about this subject is attached to these minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: STATUS OF AMERICANS SUPPORTING AMERICANS -- Member Pfaff stated she received information from person in Alexandria who is the representative. She said she did not receive any input from anyone showing interest. She said she was of the understanding that this matter was turned over to the City Attorney for review.

Mr. Franzen stated he talked with the Mayor about this, which was approximately 6 weeks ago. He said, at that time, the Mayor indicated he would like to hold up on this matter until he had more information.

Mayor Roettger stated this is a commitment that someone has to make. He agreed that it is a good idea. He said we need to find someone to make this commitment.

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Member Pfaff stated there is information online. She said she would be willing to go online, download this information, and bring it back to Council.

Mayor Roettger stated once Member Pfaff receives this information, the City could do some type of advertisement to see if we can find some citizens who would be willing to form a group to represent the City of Highland Heights.

OUTCOME: Member Pfaff stated she would go on line and bring the information at the next Council meeting.

CABLE GRANT: Mayor Roettger announced that the City received a check in the amount of \$25,120 from the Campbell County Cable Board. He said this is the City's interlocal portion. He said that Mrs. Krebs delivered this check to the Jean Rauf, Clerk/Treasurer.

Mayor Roettger expressed his appreciation to the Cable Board for this grant check.

COUNCILS' REPRESENTATIVE ON THE CABLE BOARD: Mayor Roettger reported that, due to Judith Krebs resignation as Council's Representative on the Cable Board, there is an opening on this board.

Mayor Roettger stated, after hearing of this vacancy at the last Council meeting, his daughter, Krista, expressed an interest to serve on this board.

Mayor Roettger asked if Mrs. Rauf had received any interest from anyone to serve on this board. Mrs. Rauf said "no." Mrs. Rauf also stated she also informed Mrs. Jennifer Teipel, Development Manager for Campbell County Cable Board, that Mrs. Krebs had resigned and there is an opening.

Mayor Roettger further said that he told his daughter, that due to their relationship, there is no ties between the Cable Board and the City. He said this is a completely distinct board.

Mayor Roettger gave a brief overview of his daughter's background. He said she is a practicing attorney, a CPA, she worked for years for a US Congressman in Washington DC, and she would be a good asset to this board.

At this time, Mayor Roettger nominated Krista Roettger as Councils' representative to the Cable Board.

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ACTION TAKEN: MEMBER BLOCHER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MAYOR'S NOMINATION OF KRISTA ROETTGER AS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CABLE BOARD, SECONDED BY MEMBER WHITE. DISCUSSION NONE. AYE, ALL. MAYOR ROETTGER DECLARED THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

There was discussion about whether or not to declare the old speed monitor trailer as surplus property. Chief Mullen stated that it needs a lot of work. He suggested that the Maintenance Department may be able to use it.

NEW BUSINESS: CLOSING A PART OF THE RIGHT-OF WAY KNOWN AS HILL ROAD – Attorney Franzen said, at a previous Council meeting, a gentleman had requested that Council consider closing part of the right-of-way known as Hill Road.

Attorney Franzen stated that Mr. Whitacre reviewed the legal description for the following ordinance regarding closing Hill Road. He said the City Engineer did not see any reason not to close part of the right-of-way because it was not of any use to the City.

Attorney Franzen said this property has not been sold. He said the new owner, Helen Jordan, is present. He said she has signed a written consent to closing the public right-of-way known as Hill Road. He said she is the abutting property owner.

Attorney Franzen said Ms Jordan has paid for the legal description and the survey to show precisely where the right-of-way is being closed. He said he has incorporated this into an ordinance that he will read.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE: Attorney Franzen read, in full, the First Reading of the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING A PORTION OF A PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY WITHIN THE CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS CURRENTLY KNOWN AS HILL ROAD.

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Attorney Franzen also informed the Mayor and Council that Ms. Jordan has agreed, as Mr. Hersch had previously agreed, to pay the legal costs and engineering review costs.

Being no further business, **MEMBER WHITE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING, SECONDED BY MEMBER PFAFF. AYE, ALL. MAYOR ROETTGER DECLARED THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY: _____
JEAN A. RAUF, CITY CLERK/TREASURER CMC

SIGNED BY: _____
CHARLES W. ROETTGER, III, MAYOR