

**CITY OF SOUTHGATE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Oct. 21, 2020
301W. Walnut St. Southgate, KY**

Call to Order: Mayor Hamberg called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

The following answered roll call: Council Members Anderson, Hayley, Homandberg, Melville, Speier, and Robisch were present. Also present: City Clerk Barton, Finance Director/Treasurer Hudson, Police Chief Christmann, Fire Chief Beatsch and Assistant City Attorney Rhoades. Public Works Foreman Bowman was absent.

Public Comments: Coach Martin from Newport Central Catholic presented a five-year proposal for the Southgate Community Center ballfield to convert to use by NCC teams. Several Southgate residents spoke or asked questions:

Mary Bridewell said she had traffic concerns. Dave Enzweiler also expressed traffic concerns plus obstructed view issues. Joyce Hamberg said the Park & Tree Board has a long range plan for the park including additional playground and fitness equipment. Nora Williams said traffic on Walnut St. is already bad, especially on trash day. She requested no banners on the field. Marie Wiefering said traffic and speeding on Walnut St. is a problem and requested speed bumps.

John Beatsch suggested restricted parking to one side of Walnut St. Some schools will use Ft. Beech and some will use Walnut. NCC can't control how other teams travel to the field. Stephen Pangallo said why not enhance the existing field and improve it to draw people to the City. Steve Bridewell is concerned with the traffic plus lights in the field. A raised mound would not work for younger children. He asked to see a drawing of the field and other structures.

Councilman Anderson said the park has a ballfield and it should be used to its full potential and draw people to the community center. Councilman Speier asked what are the most important features that NCC needs for the field and what is on the wish list.

Based on the comments, Coach Martin said he will revise plan. Mayor Hamberg asked Council if they wanted to move forward to the next step of developing an agreement with NCC for the ball field. **There was a motion to move forward and have the committee meet with NCC to address the comments made at tonight's meeting.** The committee will bring the revised plan back to Council at a future meeting. **Motion/Second: Anderson/Melville. Approved by voice vote: Aye 4 (Anderson, Homandberg, Melville, Speier) Nay 2 (Robisch and Hayley).**

Approval of regular meeting minutes 10/7/2020. Motion/Second: Homandberg/Robisch. Approved by voice vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.

Public Works: Council Member Anderson reported the owner at 247 Evergreen asked for reimbursement for tree removal and fence repair when a tree on City property fell on his property next to the tennis court. **Motion to pay \$425 to reimburse resident. Motion/Second: Anderson/Speier. Approved by voice vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.** Mr. Anderson said Public Works has started leaf pickup. A boom lift was rented to paint the flag pole at the City Building and to move the star from the big tree at Memorial Park to the small tree for Christmas.

Public Safety: Councilman Speier distributed the SWEMS report. He discussed the potential purchase of a new ambulance. There are funds in the account when the department is ready to purchase. Police Chief Christmann reviewed his previous proposal regarding the riot gear. He could purchase the minimum equipment for approximately \$1,700. **There was a motion to spend \$1,700 for safety equipment for the Police Department. Motion/Second: Robisch/Hayley. Approved by voice vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.** Fire Chief Beatsch said the Fire Department has been busy. Two members of the department tested positive for COVID. Raffle tickets were distributed. The drawing will be held on Oct. 31.

Code Enforcement: Councilman Melville said the cleanup event for the County was held. The City will hold one on Nov. 9-15.

Community Relations & Recreation: Council Member Homandberg had no report.

Public Buildings: Council Member Robisch had no report.

Finance and Administration: Council Member Hayley reviewed the payables. **There was a Motion to cancel the second meetings in November and December. Motion: Hayley. There was no second. Motion dies.** Finance Director/Treasurer Hudson said the auditors completed their onsite field work. City Clerk Barton had no report.

Assistant City Attorney Rhoades said there is a property with a code enforcement foreclosure action. Two additional properties had foreclosure action initiated by other parties.

Old Business: Councilman Speier said the handrail was not installed by the steps at Ridgeway. Steve Bridewell, Optimist Club President spoke about the trees that needed to be trimmed at the park. Mr. Bridewell expressed his support for the Optimist Club and the activities that they conduct for the community. He spoke about the tree trimming and brush clearing at the park. An assessment of the trees was done by DJ Scully from the Extension Office and bids were received to remove or trim the trees behind and over the park equipment.


New Business: Councilman Speier said that he serves on the SWEMS board and would like to continue even though he will no longer be on Council. Council agreed.

Payment of Vouchers: Check vouchers #29908-29944 were presented for Council's review.

Mayor & Council Comments: none.

Announcements: none.

Adjournment: There being no further business, **Motion/Second: Robisch/Anderson to adjourn the meeting. Approved by voice vote. Aye 6 Nay 0.**


James Hamberg, Mayor

ATTEST: Brandi Barton
Brandi Barton, City Clerk