

**CITY OF SOUTHGATE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2021
Community Center 301 W. Walnut St.
And Facebook Live meeting**

Executive Order 20-03 Meeting protocol for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) PURSUANT TO KRS 61.826 and OAG 20-05, THE STATE OF EMERGENCY REGARDING THE THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH PRESENTED BY THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC, AND MUNICIPAL ORDER, THIS MEETING OF THE SOUTHGATE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE CONDUCTED BY VIDEOCONFERENCE. ALL CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS MAY BE ATTENDED BY THE PUBLIC BY VIEWING THE VIDEO CONFERENCE AT THE CITY'S FACEBOOK PAGE ONLINE AT: <https://facebook.com/cityofsouthgateky/>

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

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

There was a Motion to amend the agenda to suspend the Newport Central Catholic (NCC) proposal for the ballfield since NCC has rescinded their proposal. Motion/Second: Robisch/Owen. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.

Public Comments: Mr. Brock Muller commented on the responsibility of City Council in their handling of the ballfield issue and asked for growth and change in the future rather than stagnation. Greg Hirsch spoke in favor of the NCC proposal. He said the improvements would benefit the City.

Council Member Anderson spoke about the Facebook comments regarding the NCC proposal that were made by Southgate residents and his disappointment. Mayor Hamberg summarized the events leading to the NCC ballfield proposal. He asked that public comments be more respectful in the future.

Approval of regular meeting minutes 1/20/21. Motion/Second: Hayley/Melville. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.

Public Works: Councilman Melville reported that the Public Works has been working on snow removal. The dump truck is in the shop for repair. Public Works Foreman Bowman said that Ford will be paying for a truck rental during repairs. The repairs are covered under warranty.

Public Safety: Council Member Anderson reported that at the Jan. 12 SWEMS meeting there was discussion of a new ambulance purchase. Police Chief Christmann said the City building garage has been turned over to the Police Department. New locks will be installed. Chief Christmann reported an accident on Dexter. The City hand rail by the steps was damaged by a motorist. Duke Energy will not repair the damage where the electric line leads to the house on Alexandria Pike. Damaged occurred when a driver hit a pole on Alexandria Pike. Councilman Messmer asked if the City could do anything to prevent this from happening in the future. Police Chief said the main cause was driver inattentiveness to the road. Fire Chief Beatsch reported the new radios should be arriving next week. The Fire Dept. has received bids for the new fire truck. The price range was \$625,000-700,000. It will be ordered in March. Chief Beatsch commended Public Works for their work on clearing the ice/snow on the roads.

Code Enforcement: Councilman Messmer reported 46 new notices were sent since Code Enforcement Lauber's last report.

Community Relations & Recreation: Council Member Owen reported on the potential dog park. The committee met with City Engineer Shumate who created a drawing with measurements. Councilman Owen also met with a group of people interested in pickle ball. There was discussion of using the existing tennis courts for this. The players will bring their own nets and temporary lining equipment. They will have access to the left side court. There was a motion to allow access to the tennis courts for pickle ball games. **Motion/Second: Owen/Melville. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.**

Public Buildings: Council Member Robisch reported that he met with the Fire Department regarding additional storage space needed. He is getting quotes for a building (16x24 ft). Councilman Robisch will report at the next meeting.

Finance and Administration: Council Member Hayley said she reviewed the payables. She made a **Motion to approve the December financials. Motion/Second: Hayley/Anderson. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.** Finance Director/Treasurer Hudson reported that the auditors have revised the draft of the audit. She anticipates auditors will present report to Council on Feb. 17. The City will need to do a Request For Proposal for new auditors since one of the new council members is related to a member of the audit firm. City Clerk Barton reported that FEMA should be sending reimbursement for the trails project possibly next week.

City Attorney Stewart had no report, but read the following:
Order 21-02 Declaring Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a holiday for the City staff.

Old Business: Mayor Hamberg said no incentive pay will be given to the police officers as discussed at the last meeting. City Attorney Stewart said KY statues prohibit paying bonuses unless an ordinance is in place. Cares Act doesn't allow incentive pay as an eligible expense. The **motion to spend up to \$11,000 for the 8 full-time and 1 part-time police officers** from last meeting was rescinded.

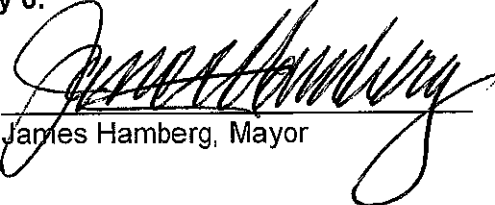
New Business: none.

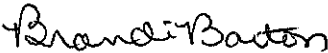
Payment of Vouchers: Check vouchers #301208-30242 were presented for Council's review.

Mayor & Council Comments: none.

Announcements: none.

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


James Hamberg, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Brandi Barton, City Clerk