

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF LAWRENCEBURG
MARCH 2, 2006

The Board of Mayor and Commissioners met in regular session. The following members were present: Commissioner Buford Goolsby, Mayor Allen Chapman, Commissioner Tim Dickey, Commissioner Keith Durham and Commissioner Butch Morrow.

With a quorum present, Mayor Chapman called the meeting to order. The meeting opened with Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 16 meeting, with a second by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Chapman announced a meeting on March 7th at the campus of Columbia State Community College where the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a community forum designed to gather community input on the Community 5 Star Strategic Plan. This meeting is open to the public and will begin at 5:00 p.m. and will last approximately one hour.

Anne Morrow and Susie Wilson with the Beautification Board displayed the new "Welcome to Lawrenceburg" Spring Banners purchased for display through projects of the Beautification Board.

City Administrator Terrell Sellers read a statement to the Commission: As you are all aware, I informed you, the Board of Mayor and Commissioners, of my intent to resign as City Administrator effective March 31.

After that announcement on February 16, I have been pleasantly surprised by the overwhelming support and encouragement of the Mayor, Commissioners, employees and citizens asking me to reconsider my decision.

I have had the opportunity to evaluate the position as it relates to my personal and city priorities, and I withdraw my resignation; provided my work schedule be reduced to an average of three days per week, with the flexibility to adjust my schedule as the city duty level requires. I also request that my salary be adjusted to reflect the reduced work schedule, thus saving the City of Lawrenceburg more money.

He also recommended that Ken Hinson be named Department Manager over the Administration Department.

After discussion the Commission voted to amend Mr. Sellers' contract to work an average of three days per week with a salary of \$40,000.00 with a motion by Commissioner Durham, and a second by Commissioner Goolsby. Motion passed.

Mayor Chapman made a motion to approve Ken Hinson as the Department Manager of Administration, with a second by Keith Durham. Motion passed.

Commissioner Morrow distributed recommendations from his Citizen's Action Committee concerning Litter to the Board of Mayor and Commissioners.

After many consecutive weeks of meeting in regard to finding possible solutions to our city's ongoing litter problem, our committee has developed the following suggestions and ideas for which we are seeking your help and support:

1. We are asking the Mayor and Commissioners of the City of Lawrenceburg to stress the importance of our anti-litter campaign by signing a pledge and commitment to keep all city property, city right of ways, and city parking lots clean, mowed, free of weeds, and free of litter at all times. We ask that the Mayor and Board of Commissioners notify all department heads of your commitment and support of this effort and ask them to co-ordinate duties among their respective departments to assure its success. We also ask that you notify all city employees and encourage them to do their part

- by picking up any litter they see on the grounds of their departments and parking lots, and in short, ask them to set good examples for the entire community. We will also be asking other governmental agencies throughout the community to follow suit by signing a pledge and making a commitment regarding their properties.
2. We recommend that your current policy of picking up unwanted household items such as couches, stoves, refrigerators, etc. on a monthly basis be discontinued and a policy established in its place to hold this sort of pick up only twice per year (once in the Spring, once during the Autumn season). We recommend that the new policy pick up should be for only two weeks per session, during which time our citizens may have these types of items picked up by City employees by calling and requesting this service. Any other time during the year, they must arrange for a private company or individual to pick up these items, or haul them to the landfill themselves. Of course, this policy change must be publicized well before it goes into effect, therefore we recommend that you consider changing the policy either on July 1, 2006, at the beginning of the city's fiscal year, or at the very latest, on January 1, 2007. In order for this policy change to be successful, people must be ticketed and fined if they do not abide by the new policy and there must be no exceptions.
 3. We will include in our anti-litter campaign an appeal to the civic clubs and churches in our community to adopt a portion of one of our highways or an intersection somewhere in our city to keep clean and litter-free. Members of our committee will soon send letters and make contacts to the clubs and churches and ask them to make this commitment.
 4. In this same regard, businesses throughout our city will soon be asked to make a pledge to keep their properties, including their parking lots, clean and litter-free. As a government body, your commitment to this campaign is paramount and will be used as an example to encourage our business community to follow suit. Letters will soon be sent to the members of the business community from our committee to ask for this commitment and pledge. After our campaign is in full force and all businesses are invited to make a commitment, we will recommend that the City Ordinance be amended if necessary and properly enforced with the inclusion of a warning and then a fine imposed on businesses that do not keep their properties, including their parking lots, clean and litter free.
 5. The news media will also be asked to make a commitment to our campaign by presenting news stories concerning the government and business pledges, and other items of interest.
 6. Our campaign will also include inviting the school system to make this same pledge and commitment in regard to their individual properties. We feel it is imperative that our students be taught the importance of keeping their school grounds neat, clean, and litter-free, and we will ask that each school's student body be a part of the solution to this problem.
 7. To convey the importance of the pledges and commitments we receive for this campaign and to also offer an incentive to be a part of the solution of our litter problem, our committee suggests that a "wall of fame" be erected with the names of all the businesses and agencies featured to make this pledge. A spot for this "wall" has not been chosen as of yet, but we would ask that it be placed somewhere at City Hall where it can easily be added to and viewed by the public.
 8. Our law enforcement agencies and the court system will be asked to make a more concentrated effort and commitment to solving our litter problem by finding ways to increase enforcement and applying more stringent corrective measures to violators of the litter law. One area of concern is better enforcement and more stringent penalties for violators of the city's tarp law.
 9. We are also considering the formation of a 'Litter Review Panel' that will be made up of private citizens who will hear violations of the litter ordinance, and who will be empowered to issue fines and/or corrective measures. If organized, the panel will work closely with the Codes Enforcement Department in regard to solving litter problems and eyesore areas throughout the city.
 10. Our Codes Enforcement Department will be asked to step up their

enforcement of the City's Litter Ordinance by canvassing the city on a daily basis and making litter enforcement a top priority in their department. Other ways the Codes Department will be asked to help is to arrange for the inmates from the Clifton Prison to conduct clean ups within our community on a monthly basis.

There is one common ground we have found in our discussions with various department heads, Commissioners, and other interested individuals – we all want a cleaner and more beautiful city. We also all know the benefits of visitors receiving a good first impression - which will ultimately become a lasting impression - as they travel through our city.

However, making our city a cleaner and more appealing area takes a resolve and commitment from not just one or two departments or groups of concerned people ...it takes every one of us. We must be obligated to this task for much longer than a week, a month, a year, or even a decade. It must be an ongoing process that we never completely surrender or complete.

Making a commitment of this magnitude means that we must change the mindset of our entire community and a pledge to communicate and work together to obtain this common goal. And, our leaders must be the first to make this unprecedented commitment.

We deeply thank each of you for your leadership, support, and help in making Lawrenceburg a better, cleaner, and more beautiful place to live.

Signed by: Bobby Thompson; James Y. Moore; J.W. Durham; Shirley Greene; James Whitehead; Butch Morrow.

Commissioner Morrow made a motion that the Commission accept this report and that anything needing action will come back before the Board for Approval. Commissioner Durham made a second to the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Morrow also discussed a proposal for improvements in the auditorium, and stated he wanted to be on the agenda under "Old Business" to discuss these findings further.

Commissioner Dickey suggested a feasibility study be done on having a central maintenance shop for city vehicles. He also stated that our large trucks, etc. must be repaired by a mechanic that is T.D.O.T. certified.

Attorney Betz presented one resolution for the Commission's consideration.

RESOLUTION(S)

2006-2-3 A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF LAWRENCEBURG, TENNESSEE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BUFFALO VALLEY INC. FOR PROPERTY TAXES - PILOT

Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Morrow, with a second by Commissioner Dickey. Motion passed unanimously.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mayor Chapman made a motion to adjourn, with a second by Commissioner Morrow. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Attest: _____
City Administrator