

**Cold Spring City Council
Special Meeting
May 27, 2015**

The special meeting of the Cold Spring City Council, as advertised, was called to order by Mayor Mark Stoeber at 7:30 pm. Mayor Stoeber explained that the regularly scheduled council meeting was cancelled and replaced with this special council meeting due to the Memorial Day holiday. Since this is a special meeting, by law we are required to follow the published agenda. Roll call showed the following council members present – Chris Ampfer, Lisa Cavanaugh, Lou Gerding, Brenda Helton, and Roger Jones - excused was Adam Sandfoss. Also present were Lieutenant Wayne Hall, City Clerk Rita Seger, Administrative Officer Stephen Taylor, and Attorney Tim Spille who was representing City Attorney Brandon Voelker.

Mayor Stoeber pointed out exits from Council Chambers, per Fire Department regulations.

The minutes of the April 27, 2015 regular council meeting were reviewed by all. Lou Gerding made a motion for approval and Brenda Helton seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Under citizens' comments, resident Steve Roach addressed council. He stated that the Madonna subdivision had their annual yard sale this past weekend which went off very well, and he wanted to compliment the Cold Spring Police Department. They had an officer who was in attendance the entire time, and he did a great job making sure that people were not parking on the wrong side of the street and keeping everyone in line. Mr. Roach extended his thanks.

Ordinance 15-1015 was read in summary form for the 2nd time, designating the city administrator position as code enforcement officer. After this final reading tonight, Steve Taylor will have official enforcement provisions and can begin to do code enforcement. Lou Gerding made a **motion to adopt Ordinance 15-1015** and Chris Ampfer seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed five yeses and no noes. **Motion carried.**

Ordinance 15-1016 was read in summary form for the 1st time, for a zone map amendment for Paulena Drive, changing the zoning from R-RE to R-1DD. This was based on a recommendation of approval by the Cold Spring Planning and Zoning Commission. Lou Gerding made a **motion to approve Ordinance 15-1016** and Lisa Cavanaugh seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed five yeses and no noes. **Motion carried.**

Municipal Order 15-03 was read for the appointment of a Police Chief. Mayor Stoeber explained the difference between an executive order and a municipal order, which is an action by council used for a variety of different circumstances. In this case Mayor Stoeber is asking confirmation from council of his designated appointment of a police chief. The appointment of a police chief is not something that requires the legislative branch / council approval, however, Mayor Stoeber would like their approval and input. He is asking for confirmation of the **internal appointment of Brian Messer as Police Chief for the Cold Spring Police Department, and he is recommending that he be promoted to the rank of Colonel and assume the position on June 1, 2015.** Mayor Stoeber stated that he has kept council aware of what the processes were for this appointment. He put together his communications with the Police Department and the appointment of a hiring committee. Lou Gerding made a **motion to confirm this appointment** and Roger Jones seconded the motion.

Chris Ampfer questioned if this was a unanimous decision by the hiring committee. Mayor Stoeber stated that the hiring committee interview was held on Saturday, May 16th. There was a lot of discussion with Brian Messer being a Sergeant and his transition up the ranks to a Colonel. He verified with Lieutenant Hall that in larger departments, the hierarchy goes from sergeant to lieutenant to major to captain and then to colonel, but in our case it really just jumps one level. Brian Messer has been with the city for sixteen years; had three years' police experience before that; he was commander on the SWAT team; he was on the accident reconstruction team; he has a degree in organizational leadership from Northern; all of these types of things had the committee feeling confident that he would grow into the position of Police Chief quickly. The committee agreed that the city needs to support him, particularly the mayor's office and he has already done that. Brian is in the process of signing up with the Northern Kentucky, Campbell County, and State Police Chief's Association, and he will be placed in a mentorship situation with another Police Chief. We have some connections and are looking at putting him through the FBI Academy. That is the city's commitment, and Mayor Stoeber believes that Brian Messer has the strength of commitment himself to do all of the things that he needs to do quickly to become Chief.

Chris Ampfer questioned if there was a time frame that we are dealing with to achieve this. Mayor Stoeber stated that within two weeks, he will give Brian Messer a list of expectations and deadlines. There are certain things, for example enrollment in the three police chiefs' associations, and attendance at all of their meetings is mandatory. We are fortunate that the State's police chiefs' association is at the airport this year. Participation with the mentorship will be spelled out clearly. As soon

as he receives the paperwork, Mayor Stoeber will file for the FBI Academy. You attend the FBI Academy by invitation. It is a class that is held four times a year, with space for 250 people but typically 500 to 700 people apply. We do have some influence that will hopefully get him in. If the FBI accepts him then Mayor Stoeber expects Brian Messer to go through this as soon as he can.

Lisa Cavanaugh questioned if this would be an extra cost to the City. Mayor Stoeber stated that the cost for the FBI training is zero. There is SPI training in Louisville but that would cost \$7,000 to \$10,000. In the grand scheme of things the FBI Academy is the premier education. The FBI academy takes care of 8 weeks of class, full lodging, meals, and transportation, and it is all free.

Brenda Helton stated that it is her understanding that every officer put through the academy will reimburse us if they leave, depending on the time that they have spent with our department. Mayor Stoeber stated that this is true, but is not applicable to Brian Messer because there is no cost for the FBI academy. If he has to go to a conference for a week Mayor Stoeber will not put him through that process. Sometimes police agencies require annual fees of \$150 to \$200 but again he will not put Brian Messer through this process. Currently Brian put himself through school using the city's re-imbusement of tuition policy so there is some form of a re-payment program there. Right now, there is no money being spent. Chris Ampfer verified that tuition re-imbusement is available to all employees. Mayor Stoeber said that it should be understood that it is for an education that is applicable to the job that you are currently in. Roll call vote showed five yeses and no noes. **Motion carried.** Mayor Stoeber greatly appreciated council confirmation. A press release will go out tonight announcing Brian Messer's appointment will begin June 1st.

The next item agenda, which was brought up at a Finance Committee meeting, is the **Walnut Hills Academy contract.** Their lease comes due on June 1st, and there were a set of terms and conditions that the Finance Committee wanted in the agreement. Walnut Hills agreed to those. It is a five year escalating lease, and Mayor Stoeber is asking council's **authorization to sign the contract.** Steve Taylor stated that it is Walnut Hills Academy's intent to sign and present us with the contract along with a check by June 1st. Brenda Helton questioned what happens if there is a change in tenant. Steve Taylor stated that the contract includes the city's first right of refusal. If the transfer doesn't go to a day care or similar type of business the city has the right to say no. Lou Gerding made a **motion for approval** and Roger Jones seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

Chris Ampfer questioned when the budget will be passed. Mayor Stoeber replied that the 1st reading of the budget will be on June 8th. The City Clerk stated that the Municipal Aid Road Fund public hearing will be held at 7:00 pm on June 8th, and at 7:15 we will hold a special council meeting for the 1st reading on the budget. The regular caucus meeting will be held at 7:30 pm.

Roger Jones stated that he is happy that we have a new Police Chief and that hiring from within is good morale for the Police Department. Mayor Stoeber stated that it is also good for the residents because this is someone who has been here for sixteen years and who knows the city and that is very helpful.

Lisa Cavanaugh thanked Lieutenant Hall for stepping in as interim Police Chief until a new Chief was appointed. She stated that she is still looking for pictures or information for the city's 75th anniversary, and she is still trying to find out leads or directions for the possibility of a time capsule being buried somewhere. She has checked with the Historical Society and they are going to get back to her. If anyone has any ideas please contact her at the city building.

Attorney Tim Spille thanked the Mayor and Council for having him as the "fill in" attorney tonight. He thanked everyone for their hospitality and sent his congratulations to the new Police Chief.

Mayor Stoeber commented on how happy he is that Brian Messer is stepping into the position of Police Chief, and he will be officially sworn in by his June 1st appointment. At the Monday, June 22nd regular council meeting, we will have the ceremonial swearing in and Brian will receive his lapel symbols along with his badge. We will have some light drinks and snacks His family and friends will be invited and he is sure our Police Officers will attend. Mayor Stoeber extended an invitation to our residents to take five minutes out of their day to show up, welcome Brian into his new position, and more importantly show a level of support to our Police Department. He hears a lot of positive comments about our Police Department but sometimes just stepping forward, looking at the officer in the face, shaking their hand and saying thank you is a very important step.

Lou Gerding made a motion to adjourn the May 27th special council meeting at 7:55 pm and Roger Jones seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approved:

City Clerk:

Mayor: