

Cold Spring City Council December 8, 2014

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 caucus meeting has been cancelled and replaced with this special council meeting which will be the last meeting of the year due to the holiday schedule. Since this is a special meeting, by law we are required to follow the published agenda. Roll call showed the following council members present – Lisa Cavanaugh, Lou Gerding, Dave Guidugli, Kathy Noel, Adam Sandfoss, and Christopher Vaught. Also present were Police Chief Ed Burk, City Clerk Rita Seger, Administrative Officer Stephen Taylor, and City Attorney Brandon Voelker.

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

The November 24, 2014 council meeting minutes were reviewed by all. Lou Gerding made a motion for approval and Dave Guidugli seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was presentation of awards. Before announcing the winners of the annual Light Up Cold Spring contest, Mayor Stoeber stated that there are two special presentations with this being the end of a couple of careers in the city with two council members who have chosen not to seek re-election. This is their last official meeting. Mayor Stoeber stated that both have had long tenures as council members with the City of Cold Spring, and they should not be leaving without proper recognition.

Mayor Stoeber invited Dave Guidugli to step forward. Mayor Stoeber stated that he has been a loyal friend as well as a loyal part of the city for many years and has always been a true sound of reason at all of our meetings. He read a proclamation to Dave Guidugli and presented him with a small gift as a token of our appreciation. A round of applause followed.

Mayor Stoeber invited Kathy Noel to step forward. He stated that he and Kathy go way back, beginning with Planning and Zoning and the moving on to city governance business. He read a proclamation to Kathy Noel and presented her with a small gift as a token of our appreciation. A round of applause followed.

The Light Up Cold Spring contest awards were announced. Mayor Stoeber thanked the Park Board for going out and judging all of the houses and for all that they do for the City. The winners are of the Light up Cold Spring contest are Douglas and Lisa Lonneman, 455 Darlas Drive. They will receive a mantel piece as recognition for the hard work that they did. A contest winner sign will be placed in their yard. The honorable mentions were Roger and Judith Jones of 11 Glenridge Drive. Roger Jones also found time to run and win the position of city council member. Honorable mentions were also awarded to Ron and Diane Casebolt of 27 Sabre Drive, Lloyd and Linda Hodges of 5392 Winters Lane, and Glen and Cathy Elsener of 22 Glenridge Drive. The honorable mentions will receive crystal tree ornaments to thank them for all of their hard work to beautify our city.

Dave Guidugli stated that we have one more award to give out. Councilman Adam Sandfoss invited Mayor Stoeber to step forward. He stated that as everyone knows, this is Mayor Stoeber's last meeting tonight, after many years of service to the city. When Councilman Sandfoss was first elected in 2010 as his first foray into public service, the mayor looked out for him and led him along the way, even though their personal politics were very different. Councilman Sandfoss then read a proclamation to Mayor Stoeber, giving a brief summary of his many accomplishments with the city. A gift was presented to Mayor Mark Stoeber as a small token of our appreciation and thanks. A standing ovation followed.

Ordinance 14-1012 was read in summary form for the second time, **updating the Police Policies Procedures Manual**. Dave Guidugli made a motion to **adopt Ordinance 14-1012** and Adam Sandfoss seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed six yeses and no noes. **Motion carried.**

Municipal Order 14-06 was read, **re-appointing Rev. Joseph Boone to the Ethics Commission** for a three year term to expire 12/31/17, and **re-appointing Tom Freppon to the Board of Adjustment** for a four year term to expire 12/31/18. Adam Sandfoss made a motion to approve these appointments and Lou Gerding seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

Municipal Order 14-07 was read, **appointing Dave “Angelo” Penque to the Cold Spring Board of Adjustment** to fill a vacancy left by Brian Rieger, with a term to expire 12/31/15. Kathy Noel made a motion to approve this appointment and Christopher Vaught seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

Council comments followed.

Lisa Cavanaugh thanked Mayor Stoeber, Dave Guidugli and Kathy Noel for their service to the community. Though they may not have seen eye to eye on a number of things, they have done good things for the community and it is appreciated by the residents and herself. She also wished the residents a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Kathy Noel thanked the residents for having given her the opportunity to serve the city. It has been an honor.

Dave Guidugli agreed with Kathy Noel. He stated that he has served many years on council with a couple of gaps in between. It has been fun, but it is time to leave. Thanks for eighteen years of fun.

Adam Sandfoss congratulated and thanked the Mayor for his service, as well as Kathy Noel and Dave Guidugli. It has truly been an honor to sit here with them for the last four years as well as Councilman Moore. Everyone had differing political ideologies yet they worked together for the betterment of the city. They have learned so much more about individual strengths and weaknesses and how we all can work together for the greater good. It has been his pleasure working alongside all of them.

Christopher Vaught thanked Dave Guidugli and Kathy Noel for their service to the city, as well as Mayor Stoeber. As someone who has grown up in this city he thanked them for their work and dedication in making the Cold Spring what it is today. He has really benefited from that and he thanked them.

Lou Gerding brought out an old newspaper which had an article which was written before Mark Stoeber's election as Mayor in 2002. The article listed some goals which Mark Stoeber and he had that were similar – to provide for a more efficient and orderly management of city services, do more for the safety of the people, and provide a plan for replacing streets without assessing property owners. The mayor has reached these goals with the help of Dave Guidugli, Kathy Noel, and all of council. Councilman Gerding stated that many times he has passed the city building at midnight, or on Saturdays and Sundays and Mark Stoeber was always here working hard for the citizens of Cold Spring. He has accomplished a lot. First and foremost was the street replacement program. Another accomplishment was the placement of the Veterans Memorial, and as a veteran Lou Gerding thanked him for putting that in place. The park expansion was another accomplishment. We have gone from three parks and now have five fully functional parks which people can drive to enjoy and have a picnic. At the time when he and Mark Stoeber were both on council, there were some disgruntled people who wanted the Cold Spring and Highland Heights police departments to merge. They had a nice PowerPoint presentation, however Mark Stoeber with his accounting background and Lou Gerding with his background in finance stopped the merger which proved to be a very good thing due to recent issues. We knew the police department needed a lot of work at that time and Mayor Stoeber put that in place. Councilman Gerding believes that we have the best police department now in Campbell County and maybe in all three counties. He thanked Mark Stoeber, Kathy Noel, and Dave Guidugli for their accomplishments. Mark Stoeber thanked Lou Gerding for his comments.

As a prelude to the adjournment call, Mayor Stoeber thanked the people that are here tonight, who have been with him from the beginning to serve the city, all a little different and a little older. He cut his teeth with the people from Sturbridge who are here tonight, and they are good people. There are times as a mayor when you wander around a little bit and maybe get a little lost in your sauce, but the Sturbridge people always kept him where he needed to be, a local politician, and a local mayor just doing the things that you are supposed to be doing locally and he appreciates that. His family is here. His sons were ages 9 and 12 when he took office. Joseph and Anthony have become outstanding young men, and are here with their wives and with their children, his grandchildren. Life has changed and he couldn't be prouder. He and his wife moved to Cold Spring twenty years ago, and two and a half years after they moved to the city he asked his wife if it would be okay if he became involved and she agreed. She probably didn't anticipate eighteen years or what was involved. The first years as mayor, he and council met fifty times. That is the dedication of the councilmembers that he had. More importantly, whenever you commit to something you are un-committing to something else. Whenever you go toward something you are leaving something else. During all that time with meetings and phone calls, he was leaving his wife. She took care of things and helped raise his children, and did things around the house that he couldn't get to. Nothing is free. His commitment to the city wasn't free. It was a lot of work on his part, but a lot of that price was paid by his wife and he is eternally grateful. He is grateful to his sons for growing up to be fine young men. He recognized his sister in law Jean, and stated that his biggest fan and political adviser was his wife's mother, Helen.

He recognized those present tonight who have had a long history with the city. Besides the extended service of Dave Guidugli and Kathy Noel, he thanked former councilman Rob Moore for his service and partnership, Stuart Oehrle who was a longtime, dedicated individual to the city, and Charles Gray, who has passed recently. Charles Gray once said that "the smart man knows when to talk, the wise man knows when not to". Mayor Stoeber stated that he didn't learn that piece of advice. He thanked them all for their long term service to the city. A lot has happened in the city is because of their service. Lou Gerding was very gracious in talking about accomplishments that they had as were team members together but few people realize that Lou Gerding is the longest serving political official in the City of Cold Spring. In 2016 the City of Cold Spring will be 75 years old. Lou Gerding alone has served one third of that time. Mayor Stoeber thanked him and stated that Councilman Gerding is not done yet because he is beginning yet another two year term as Cold Spring councilmember. He extended thanks to Adam

Sandfoss for bringing youth into the city. We need youth involvement and if you are thinking about being involved, look to Councilman Sandfoss as to what youth can bring to the city.

Mayor Stoeber stated that as a mayor and leader you are lucky and fortunate when you have a right hand man and he has been fortunate to have had three. His right hand man has always been our city attorney, Brandon Voelker. He was just cutting his teeth out of college when they got started, and he has brought the city through a lot of issued and through successful conclusions of two lawsuits that no one in the entire state of Kentucky was willing to step forward and do. Brandon Voelker along with Council said we could do it, and he won the cases. He has gone from a young kid just cutting his teeth to a highly accomplished attorney both civilly and in his private practice, but more importantly, he has been a good friend and he thanks him for being there for him.

Additionally he another right hand and it was a woman. He was very fortunate coming in as a mayor. Besides having had Lou Gerding, Dave Guidugli and Kathy Noel as a seasoned councilmembers, the most important help to him was Carole Huber, a long time city clerk. Carole was extremely professional, took him under her wing, guiding him on things that he should or should not consider doing, and showing him what he needed to do. As she got him up and running, eventually it progressed to informing him of things that were going on in the city that he needed to know about. She was an extremely helpful in getting him settled into a new position. He was new to the city and since Carole Huber had deep roots in the city she was able to help him in many ways. Sadly she passed away and it was a great loss for him and his family. Rita Seger was her understudy for quite a few years. Rita had huge shoes to fill and she did wonderfully. She put herself through City Clerk education, becoming a certified municipal clerk and today she is the epitomy of class and professionalism. Cold Spring has been the fastest growing city in the state of Kentucky, twice, from 1500 to 6000 and Rita Seger has had her hands full in a variety of ways but has handled things wonderfully. We took over the stormwater business which is highly confusing for our residents and Rita was out in front handling all of those issues. From an administrative standpoint, she issues 3,000 city tax bills per year for many years. Of that, only four bills have not been paid. It is a compliment to Rita, to Brandon Voelker, and most importantly to our residents. We have one of the best city collection rates in the tri-state. He has been fortunate to have had three right hand people.

Since he is a part-time mayor and handles many of the city issues through his blackberry/droid, he relies on great day to day assistance. We have a high quality top notch police department thanks to police Chief Ed Burk who has turned our police force into a highly respected group of professional policeman that he and council get a tremendous amount of compliments on. At the same time we have Steve Taylor who has helped him tremendously. Administratively, he takes care of all of the nuts and bolts of what is going on in the city other than what is done in policing. Mayor Stoeber thanked him for all of his help. He also thanked Dave Rogers who really handles all of the Public Works work. He thanked our boards and commissions. We have quite a few volunteers. Park Board, Planning and Zoning and all of our other boards are volunteer boards and he thanked them all for being here. Bill Von Strohe and the Code Enforcement board members had many choices in their senior years of life they decided to contribute, and they put together our Code Enforcement Board from the ground floor and he thanked them for stepping forward. We have many volunteer Board Members or former members that are here tonight and he thanked them all. The City doesn't run without the help of these volunteers.

He thanked the Cable Board cameraman Brent, along with his wife. They spent a lot of time in the rain and cold on Saturdays and Sundays videotaping so our residents could view events at home. He enjoyed knowing him and his wife. Mayor Stoeber took this opportunity of thanking his sons' wives who are here. They have enriched his life, and you can only comprehend the joy of having grandchildren. This is his final meeting and Mayor Stoeber stated that he will miss everyone and is very glad that they are here, not so much to celebrate his departure, but so that he can look at everyone in the eye and say thank you for having been a meaningful part of his life. He wishes everyone the best as they move through the rest of their lives. Goodbye.

Lou Gerding made a motion to adjourn the December 8, 2014 special council meeting, and Kathy Noel seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approved:

City Clerk:

Mayor: