

Cold Spring City Council July 28, 2014

The regular meeting of the Cold Spring City Council was called to order by Mayor Mark Stoeber. Pledge to the flag and prayer was led by the City Clerk. Roll call showed the following council members present – Lisa Cavanaugh, Lou Gerding, Dave Guidugli, Rob Moore, Kathy Noel, and Adam Sandfoss. 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.

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

Mayor Stoeber stated that the Movie in the Park, *The Lego Movie*, was held on Saturday, July 19th. This was apparently a popular movie because we had an exceptional crowd of over 100 children. As always the Park Board plans such wonderful events. The Kentucky Symphony Orchestra's Boogie Band will be performing at our Municipal Park on Saturday, August 9th at 7:00 pm. They will be playing *Oye Como Va*, 50 years of Latin Pop Hits & Crossover Classics. The July Yard of the Month was awarded to Joyce Anderson of 7 Rosa Place. She will be given a framed photograph of her home along with a gift certificate, and a Yard of the Month sign has been placed in the front yard. Congratulations to Joyce Anderson.

There will be a drawing for an American flag and pole for a resident staying until the end of this meeting. Also, at the August council meeting we will have a couple of special drawings for residents who sign up to receive a city newsletter via e-mail. If you would like to be eligible for that drawing and also to receive an electronic version of our newsletter, either phone the city clerk's office or go to our city website at www.coldspringky.gov.

The minutes of the June 23, 2014 council meeting were reviewed by all. Lou Gerding made a motion for approval and Adam Sandfoss seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Stoeber stated that the next agenda item is a revisit of a program that we did a couple of years ago that has proven to be successful. We have invited all Cold Spring businesses to take three to five minutes to come before us, educate our city officials about their business, and since this is on camera it is an opportunity to advertise their business. We try to encourage our residents to shop locally because we have a spectacular collection and scope of businesses in our city. All types of goods and services are represented in the City of Cold Spring. When you do choose where you want to buy, please buy in Cold Spring. It helps everybody.

Lyndi Soden, Care Net Pregnancy Services of Northern Kentucky addressed council. She stated that they are one of four local non-profits. They have three offices in this area, but their Cold Spring office houses their medical facility. They offer pregnancy tests and free ultrasounds for women who are facing unplanned pregnancies. They are a life affirming agency and one of the big things that they do is parenting education classes. They have an "earn while you learn" plan and they are not a "give away" place. Clients earn what they come for and they get a car seat, baby bed, and diapers every time they attend. Another popular plan is their fatherhood program. These are extensive lessons that take twenty hours to complete. A new program that they offer is the toddler program where they tackle things such as bed wetting, terrible two's and temper tantrums, and they have the one – two – three magic program, which is a time out program that is non-spanking. They are able to facilitate that with staff and volunteers and they even receive some fiscal court funding to facilitate the parenting education program. They are happy to be here. They are located in the lower level of Newman Tucker Insurance right next to the Urgent Care. They have two employees at the facility Monday thru Thursday 10 am to 5 pm. It is walk in and there is a nurse on duty once a week. Ms. Soden thanked council for allowing this presentation.

Danielle Prost, Polaris Home Funding addressed council. They are a mortgage company with a local office in Cold Spring in the bottom of the Urgent Care building. Their corporate office is in Michigan and she and her husband Ken work together at the local Cold Spring branch. They call themselves mortgage advocates because they believe that every buyer has the right to tell their story, to receive qualified advice, and the right to their time as professionals in the industry. It is very important to them that buyers never feel dismissed or that their story, whether it is perfect credit dream homeowner, or someone very down on their luck and struggling. Neither of these customers should ever feel that they don't have somebody's qualified time to help them work toward the same end result. They both want to be homeowners or refinance to a lower rate. One of the great things that the Cold Spring office has that some of the local areas don't is that they are eligible for 100% USDA funding. It is great for first time homeowners who don't have a whole lot of down payment. There may be 100 percent financing and the rates are great. Another great program is that they offer free credit, analysis and free purchase counseling. They can offer all of those services

for free, even for a college student who might need to know what to do, not just credit-wise, but how much of a down payment they need to save. They offer this service in hopes that when the client is ready, they will use Polaris Home Funding for their purchases or re-finances. If anyone has any questions, feel free to call either her husband or herself.

The mayor and council thanked both businesses for coming forward. Mayor Stoeber stated that we will have more businesses give a presentation each month, and he thanked them for being here. He stated that particularly during the recession many cities suffered tremendous businesses losses particularly during the recession, but because of our residents and our dedicated businesses, we actually had a very vibrant business participation. We only lost one or two businesses and we actually had several businesses expand during the recession. We know that by seeing our property taxes staying the same or going up. A real indicator of business vitality is payroll taxes. Where other cities saw payroll taxes absolutely plummeting, our payroll taxes actually went up. That is a sign of the durability and viability of our local businesses meaning that you have something that our residents want, and he believes that our residents do a very good job of shopping and supporting local businesses. Thank you for coming up and we appreciate your being here.

As an unscheduled guest, Jerry Schmidt of 133 Orchard Terrace addressed council. He stated that a speed bump was recently installed in the middle of that road. He has lived there 33 years and has seen very few instances of excessive speeding issues and the residents are pretty cautious. Occasionally younger drivers may speed down the street, but the residents will stop them and call the speeding to their attention. He thinks that this is an unusual step to take in their neighborhood. He has seen speed bumps installed in other neighborhoods where they have had a lot of drug traffic or criminal activity where they slow drivers from speeding away but this is over the top and he questioned why it was put there, what it will take to get it out of there and why other enforcement can't be used.

Adam Sandfoss stated that he is the one who advocated for the speed bumps at this location. As a former resident of Orchard Terrace he received a lot of complaints from residents and has actually witnessed speeding in the area. While some of the neighbors brought the speeding to the attention of violator(s), they continued to speed. We have temporary speed bumps which we can place throughout the city as well as permanent speed bumps that can be placed as we need to. Councilman Sandfoss stated that with the expansion of a number of young children in that area, after hearing multiple complaints over multiple days that it was a safety issue, he suggested to the Chief that this needed to be addressed. He would rather have a citizen complain about it than to have a kid injured or deceased because of excessive speeding. He understands the frustration with these bumps because it takes a long time to stop and can be a nuisance. Maybe in a few weeks we can re-examine it to see whether or not it has helped. He has been receiving good feedback and right now he is happy that the speed bump is there.

Jerry Schmidt stated that if this is just a temporary speed bump he can live with it and he certainly doesn't want any child injured. He lives at the end of the street and drives between 15 to 20 mph which is hard to do. He knows where the children are but understands that some people who come back there may not know where to watch out for them. Nobody consulted the residents of Orchard Terrace, but the city just came in and placed the speed bumps. The City of Cold Spring is an above scale place to live and we don't typically see this kind of thing in this kind of neighborhood. He questioned if they would be placed anywhere else in the city. Councilman Sandfoss stated that he doesn't understand why people are so upset or frustrated with the action. We place them wherever we have citizens complaining about speeding issues. Speed bumps are implemented sometimes in nearby cities as well, some being embedded in concrete. This one is only temporary until we can decide if this is just a singular event with a singular person or two, or if it is more of a problem that would take a more permanent issue.

Mayor Stoeber stated that every year at this time, he and the police chief always put in our summer newsletter to watch speeding. We find that 80 percent of all speeding violators are local and we know that because whenever our police department pulls someone over they say that they are residents and should get only a warning, or they say they are a taxpayer and they should be let go. Under that premise we have used a variety of methods and he stated that he has actually mailed entire subdivisions a personal letter saying please stop speeding, but they don't. No matter how many police cars they put in a neighborhood for enforcement, somehow they know when the police cars aren't there and they don't stop. We then have very frustrated residents and many times they want the city put in permanent speed bumps. Once you put in a permanent speed bump you are at a point of no return. We have also found that neighborhoods go through evolutions. At one point you have a neighborhood of adults with little kids and you do not have speeding, but then the little kids turn into teenagers and speeding goes way up. Mayor Stoeber assured Mr. Schmidt that these are just temporary. The whole purpose was to create a measured response to the residents that there is a speeding problem in the neighborhood, but when this is hopefully corrected the city can pull out the speed bump. It is a fine line between the inconvenience of it and the necessity.

Mr. Schmidt stated that he now understands the response and he appreciates what the city has to say. At the time he stated that it seemed like taxation without representation. Adam Sandfoss stated that he may not realize the speeding issue because is occurring in the flat area where the speed bump is now located. He saw the speeding himself along that street and it was very blatant. Mr. Schmidt stated that everyone pays for those indiscretions. He had looked at the speed bumps as being

negative on their street. They are proud of their street and he applauds city officials for doing what they do, but when something comes up, he feels that he has to step forward and say something. Mayor Stoeber applauded him for coming forward and assured him that this speed bump is temporary.

There was no old business.

Two agenda items under new business is to publicly surplus excess city inventory items. The first item was for approval of the **Police Department surplus inventory**. Adam Sandfoss made a **motion to approve** these items as surplus and Lou Gerding seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed six yeses and no noes. **Motion carried.**

The second item was for approval of the **Public Works Department surplus inventory items**. Dave Guidugli made a **motion to approve** these items as surplus, and Kathy Noel seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed six yeses and no noes. **Motion carried.**

There were no follow up citizens comments.

Departmental reports were submitted in writing. Mayor Stoeber again thanked the Parks, Recreation, and Tree Commission for doing an excellent job.

Council comments followed.

Rob Moore announced that this would probably be his last meeting. He is moving out of the city and he wanted to thank the city residents, the mayor and council members for all of their support. It has been a lot of fun. He reminded citizens that August 12th is the deadline for candidates to be placed on the ballot and encouraged everyone to consider this and get involved. It is a good thing to do. Adam Sandfoss thanked Councilman Moore for all of his years of service. When Councilman Sandfoss came on in 2010, Rob Moore took him under his wings and taught him the ropes and for that he will always be grateful. He thanked him for his help throughout the years. Lisa Cavanaugh thanked Rob Moore for his service to the city over the years. He has done a great job and has done some very positive things for the city. Kathy Noel also thanked Rob Moore for his service, but since he still has a business in the city he will not be completely gone.

Adam Sandfoss stated that he spoke earlier in the year about different healthcare issues, especially the heroin epidemic. Since we are in an election year, local and state races in many cases affect our community more than a presidential race election does. With that being said, we have one of the most prolific US Senate races in the country, and he encourages the citizens to start evaluating and researching the candidates, especially when it comes to things like healthcare issues. We have had a healthcare advocate talk this evening, and we have seen healthcare budgets decrease over the last few years, especially when it comes to community-based healthcare, and along with the heroin epidemic we are seeing things like hepatitis and HIV skyrocket because of dirty needles and IV drug usage. Those issues are the ones that are affecting this area immensely so please demand of your candidates, regardless of their party affiliation, to explain what their plan is going to be. Healthcare is not and should not be a partisan thing. Every option should be on the table and it should be discussed in open forum. He encourages all of our citizens to get involved and demand answers and actions from those that are running.

Brandon Voelker reported that there is a new law in affect that the State is doing away with city classifications 2 through 6 and you will need to adopt and use the general home rule. If you don't adopt it by January 1st you cannot get state money. Since you are in a mayor / council plan you do have the option to keep your election non-partisan, probably the soundest thing to do. It is to clean up all of the different laws for the various classes.

Mayor Stoeber stated that he would like to recognize Rob Moore's service to the City of Cold Spring. He stated his service, friendship, and working relationship is greatly appreciated. The city has greatly benefited for all that he has done. He read a proclamation and presented him with a gift of thanks. Councilman Moore received a round of applause.

There was no winner of the American flag and pole.

Rob Moore made a motion to adjourn the July 28, 2014 council meeting and Kathy Noel seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approved:

City Clerk:

Mayor: