

**Cold Spring City Council
Special Meeting
January 10, 2011**

The special meeting of the Cold Spring City Council, as advertised, was called to order at approximately 9:00 pm by Mayor Mark Stoeber. Members present were Lou Gerding, Dave Guidugli, Rob Moore, Kathy Noel, Stuart Oehrle and Adam Sandfoss. Also present was City Attorney Brandon Voelker. The purpose of this special meeting is to enter into Executive Session, per K.R.S. 61.810 – F. Personnel, the appointment and ratification of wages for a City Administrative Officer, and to enter into Executive Session, per K.R.S. 61.810 – C – Litigation.

Mayor Stoeber stated for the record that the mayor and all current council members have been officially sworn in and issued the oath of office.

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

Lou Gerding made a motion to enter into **Executive Session, per K.R.S. 61.810 F. – Personnel**. Stuart Oehrle seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Rob Moore made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Kathy Noel seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

No action was taken during this executive session.

Rob Moore made a **motion to appoint Stephen Taylor as City Administrative Officer for the City of Cold Spring and to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract with Stephen Taylor consistent with the terms presented to council by the Mayor, including a rate of pay of \$30 per hour, which are attached to minutes**. Kathy Noel seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed six yeses and no noes. **Motion carried.**

Stuart Oehrle made a motion to enter into **Executive Session, per K.R.S. 61.810 C. – Litigation**. Lou Gerding seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

Stuart Oehrle made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Kathy Noel seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

No action was taken during this executive session.

Adam Sandfoss made a motion to adjourn this special meeting and Kathy Noel seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approved:

City Clerk:

Mayor:

Cold Spring City Council January 24, 2011

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 - Lou Gerding, Dave Guidugli, Rob Moore, Kathy Noel, Stuart Oehrle 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.

Mayor Stoeber requested one addition to the agenda, under Old Business 9 A - brief update on the Glenridge traffic light.

Mayor Stoeber stated that in December, elected council members had their technical swearing in before January 1st so that necessary action could be taken at the beginning of their new terms. We don't want to miss the opportunity of thanking council for going through the election process and being willing to serve the community. They will be officially sworn into office before family and friends tonight. We are honored to have Kentucky District Court Judge Karen Thomas present to perform this ceremony. She is a great friend of the city. Our officers speak highly of her. Mayor Stoeber stated that he had the opportunity of observing Judge Thomas' courtroom and she moves through her docket in a very efficient and fair manner.

Judge Thomas thanked the mayor and council and said it is her great pleasure to swear them in. Being a civil servant is the best thing that we can do. Being a part of and giving back to the community is fulfilling, hard, and sometimes long and unrewarded work, but without all of you and your dedication, the city government just wouldn't work. Congratulations and thank you for all that you do. Mayor and Council were asked to stand while Judge Thomas issued the Oath of Office. Congratulations and applause were given by all.

Mayor Stoeber congratulated Dan Corry and Chris Revell of our Public Works Department, for having successfully completed and graduated from the University of Kentucky Road Scholar / Road Master program, which is part of their continuous education in order to help the residents of our city.

Police Chief Ed Burk introduced Officer Jacob Zink to the community. He stated that Officer Zink graduated from the academy and is now going through police officer training courses. This training differs from the field officer training courses in that it is more geared to community oriented policing. Officer Zink has been assigned the Brookstone Crossing area as his neighborhood focus. He will be interacting and working on any problems within that specific community. He has had an exciting beginning of his career, with two robberies in one night, and with a vehicle driving through a building. Officer Zink thanked everyone for this opportunity and he looks forward to working in our city.

Steve Taylor was introduced as our new part-time city administrative officer. Mr. Taylor is a resident of Cold Spring and we are glad to have him aboard.

The Campbell County Library, Cold Spring Branch is a tremendous asset in our city which often goes unheralded. Mayor Stoeber stated that they have some quite diverse, practical and highly informative programs. At each council meeting he plans on reading events being held at the Library during the upcoming month as items of interest. The programs scheduled for this time frame are: January 25th, Intermediate Photoshop; February 1st, Advanced Photoshop; February 3rd, Adventure Club gets a visit from the Buckeye Search & Rescue Dogs; February 21st, a Tween Program: Celebrate Black History with a visit from the Cincinnati Museum Center's program: the Underground Railroad; and on February 26, Resume Preparation and Interview Techniques.

The mayor's annual State of the City was next on the agenda. Mayor Stoeber thanked the citizens of Cold Spring for expressing their confidence in him and allowing him to serve as Mayor of Cold Spring for another four years. This service is an immense responsibility but he truly enjoys it. Mayor Stoeber extended his thanks to the four members of council who are returning to continue their service. He welcomed the two new council members, Kathy Noel and Adam Sandfoss for stepping forward. Last year's council gave one hundred percent of their time and energy and truly had heart for the betterment of the city. Each were strong of thought and opinion and were open-minded and had a great spirit of cooperation. Mayor Stoeber is confident that our current council will be likewise over the next two years. Mayor Stoeber offered thanks to the spouses, family members and friends for their support and understanding, which allows mayor and council to do what they do.

Mayor Stoeber stated that 2010 was a year of records. By following our strategic plan and taking advantage of leveraging the city's financial strength, the city planned and executed the largest street replacement program in the city's seventy year history, with twelve streets being totally replaced and two streets being resurfaced. In addition to that project, last February we had the largest snowfall on record. This past December was the largest December snowfall on record. During 2010 we experienced two one hundred year rains in the city. Public Works repaired and updated the culverts on Ripple Creek and Weavers Lane, oversaw the new gas main placed on Weaver and Winters Lanes, resolved a standing water drainage issue in Granite Spring, upgraded Sunshine Park, replaced numerous sidewalk sections, renovated the Community Room, and repaired the parking lot at Friendship Park.

The Police Department is starting to advance its' focus efforts on community policing. Officer Andy Hyett conducted DARE graduations for all three elementary schools and represented a number of other school events; Lieutenant Wayne Hall did an outstanding job of policing in Glenridge and Ivy Ridge, breaking the barrier of officer and title with residents referring to him by first name; Officer Brownbridge has had multiple requests for "ride alongs" to help better understand policing; Officer Enzweiler has received unique insights from residents with many criminal related tips through his community connections; Sergeant Messer, Sergeant Welch, Officer Hildebrand, and Officer Robb have made positive strides in community connections as well. Officer Ratcliff has been very successful in solving and closing numerous cases in 2010, including the car theft ring that affected most Northern Kentucky counties. Welcome again to Jacob Zink as our newest officer.

As always the front office continues to shine thanks to the City Clerk Rita Seger and her assistant Teresa Knauer. They have an incredible ratio of collecting tax money for the city. We welcome our new part-time city administrator Stephen Taylor.

It has been another successful year for the Parks, Recreation, and Tree Commission, and their time and efforts are very much appreciated. Mayor Stoeber offered Paul Bogen, a founding member of the Park Board, his best wishes as he leaves the Park Board and moves to other community service opportunities.

The City is financially stable, having tax rates lower and having the lowest per capita spending rates than virtually all other Northern Kentucky cities.

As the city moves forward in 2011, we will continue to follow a disciplined strategic plan and be very cost conscious when building our annual budget using our typical "zero based" budgeting approach. The major focuses will be threefold community-wide initiatives. First is a Community Art Show showcasing talented young artists from our three elementary schools. The principals are excited about the project which is in its early stages. The second initiative is to engage in a collaborative partnership with The Brighton Center, a community outreach organization for those in need right here in Northern Kentucky. In the past, our residents have shown great compassion and giving by supporting our troops. The Brighton Center is in great need of that same generosity to be shared right here in our local communities. The third initiative is centered on the health and welfare of our residents. Over sixty percent of Campbell County residents are overweight or obese. Mayor Stoeber stated that he has been in a fight with his weight and confesses to be out of shape. To help with this initiative, he has enlisted the assistance of a local resident Jessica Hartig as fitness and wellness advisor for the city. She owns "Fit Life with Jessica" where she conducts "bootcamps" throughout the county and trains clients at work or home. Mayor Stoeber reviewed her numerous credentials. With Jessica's advice and insight, the city will partner with St. Elizabeth Hospital's Corporate Wellness Division who will bring great resources to our effort. We will explore and gain information from wellness programs used by other cities, and will be contacting the City of Covington who has partnered with a National Program called Healthy Mondays. We are seeking to join NKU's Healthy Monday coalition. Fitness and wellness information will be included in items of interest at every council meeting, the newsletter and our web page, which will include Mayor Stoeber's own personal trials and tribulations along the path of fitness and wellness.

In closing, Mayor Stoeber thanked our residents for their continued support. He stated that your voice is very important. Please express your ownership in the community by letting your elected officials know what you think, want, like and don't like.

There will be a drawing for an American flag and pole for a resident staying until the end of this meeting.

The minutes of the December 13, 2010 special council meeting were reviewed by all. Lou Gerding made a motion for approval and Stuart Oehrle seconded the motion. All were in favor with the exception of Kathy Noel and Adam Sandfoss who were recused since they were not in office at the time of the meeting. Motion carried.

The minutes of the January 10, 2011 special council meeting were reviewed by all. Lou Gerding made a motion for approval and Stuart Oehrle seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Steve Laird of Home Depot addressed council. As he mentioned in previous meetings, Home Depot has a volunteer program and with springtime coming they would like to be able to help the community with any parks that need to be fixed up, or residents who are having a hard time with yard work. He stated that they will give out gift certificates to the Yard of the Month winners, once that program starts up again in the spring.

As an addition to the agenda, Mayor Stoeber reviewed the results of the last study for the traffic light request at the AA Highway at the Glenridge / Ivy Ridge Subdivisions in which the State disappointingly made a decision not to add a traffic light. The city had requested that Kentucky Transportation District #6 meet with the residents to explain their decision. The District denied that opportunity and instead asked for a meeting with city officials to go over the various items. In December, Chief Burk visited District 6 and obtained the information from the traffic study and at the same time asked for the information from the 2004 traffic study. Chief Burk did an excellent job of analyzing the information and we found that the 2004 study was looser in accurate detail than one would expect in a study of something that important. The most recent study missed some fairly obvious items such as the remedial action taken in having a blinking light installed at that location. That action and a variety of other issues were not taken into consideration. We sent a letter to District 6 to advise them of the discrepancies. We requested that an additional study be done and also requested another public meeting so that District 6 can meet with the residents who deserve the facts and information. Mayor Stoeber believes that another study either has been done or will be performed soon. If the light is turned down because of raw data, there should be no issue at all with presenting that raw data in a public environment. We are a transparent and open city and we expect that District 6 should acknowledge that they are public servants and should have a public meeting at the appropriate time. Mayor Stoeber will keep everyone posted.

Resolution 11-01 was read, **officially appointing council members to standing sub-committees**. As a background eight years ago the City of Cold Spring thought that cooperation and communication between mayor and council was so important that the city formed standing sub-committees between Personnel, Finance, Safety and Public Works. By law, the council has to appoint two members to the sub-committees by the end of January. The appointments to these committees were discussed during the January caucus. Rob Moore made a **motion to approve Resolution 11-01 validating these appointments**, and Stuart Oehrle seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all were in favor. **Motion carried.**

Regarding the liaison appointment to the Cable Board, because of the transitions of representation, the Cable Board would like to have all new members appointed at the same time. They have asked that this appointment be delayed for a month or two before the transition from Dave Guidugli to Lou Gerding.

Municipal Order 11-01 was read, **appointing new member Anthony Ponting to the Planning and Zoning Commission to fill a vacancy, and reappointing Donna Schmidt to the Planning and Zoning Commission, both terms to expire January 31, 2015**. Lou Gerding made a **motion for approval** and Kathy Noel seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all were in favor. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Stoeber pointed out that our former Planning and Zoning chairman, Steve Taylor, has resigned to become the city administrative officer. Mr. Taylor is not only a resident but has a history of service to the community and has done a fine job on Planning and Zoning. Thanks to Donna Schmidt who has stepped forward to become chair of our Planning and Zoning Commission, and thanks to Christopher Vaught, who first stepped forward to become a member of Planning and Zoning and has now volunteered to become vice-chair of that Board. We appreciate that level of energy.

Departmental reports were reviewed. Chief Burk recognized Sergeant Brian Messer, who earlier this evening received an Outstanding Volunteer Award from the Cooperative Extension Center for his volunteer services last year. Sergeant Messer explained that juveniles who recently received their drivers license and then received a state citation for a traffic charge, are given the opportunity to take a program at the Co-op Center by the courts. If they complete this program, then their record is cleared of that citation. His part is with accident reconstruction. He shows them photographs of actual traffic accidents, a scare tactic showing the reality of what will happen to them if they continue doing these types of things while operating a vehicle. If this brings something positive to even one person, it is worthwhile doing.

Stuart Oehrle offered his congratulations to Public Works for their snow removal. He stated that many residents have commented on how nice the roads looked after our recent, all day snow event.

Mayor Stoeber asked Chief Burk for an update on residents using our Police Department website to report code enforcement issues. Chief Burk explained they are also using that website for speeding complaints, parking violations, and animal complaints, which the police follow up on. If you go to their website, www.coldspringpd.org, you can click on the tab, fill out the information and send it in. You can remain anonymous or include your name for a follow-up.

Mayor Stoeber said that Officer Burk was our temporary Code Enforcement Officer, but did such an outstanding job, that he has now inherited that position. We look forward to having the officers help him with their eyes and ears. The website is just another avenue for the residents to communicate with the city and particularly with the Police Department on issues that they would like to see resolved.

Fire Chief Jerry Sandfoss, Central Campbell County Fire Department, was present and stated that last year was a very busy year. They made over 2,000 runs, with only ten structural fires with a total loss of \$49,000. The Fire Department arrived very quickly and kept the losses down to a minimum. His department does a tremendous job and they work very hard. Chief Sandfoss sent his appreciation to the Cold Spring Police Department and Public Works. They work together as a team and do a lot of good things together. Public Works did a great job on the streets this year and it is appreciated. Chief Sandfoss stated that they too are concerned with fiscal responsibility. There is only one fire district that has lower taxes than Central Campbell County Fire Department.

Kathy Noel gave thanks to the residents for electing her to her fourth term on city council and stated that she has a campaign promise to keep. She campaigned on serving without pay, so she is donating her money back to the Cold Spring Police Department to be used at the mayor's discretion, with the money possibly going to a flag pole at the police department. The second item involves a presentation to Mayor Mark Stoeber. She requested that he come forward.

Kathy Noel stated that Lorene Friedman, president of the Blue Star Mothers of America, Northern Kentucky Chapter 5, could not attend tonight but asked Councilwoman Noel to make this presentation since she is a mother of a captain in the army, a Blue Star mom, and part of their organization. They would like to recognize Mayor Stoeber's fourteen years of service to the Cold Spring community. The City of Cold Spring has adopted a military unit and he has always supported our Veterans. They requested that Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear recognize Mayor Stoeber's service and accomplishments on behalf of others. Honorable Mark Stoeber has been commissioned by Governor Steve Beshear as a Kentucky Colonel, the highest honor awarded by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Congratulations and applause were given by all. Mayor Stoeber thanked everyone involved for giving him this honor.

Lou Gerding stated that at a recent Board of Adjustment meeting, the applicant was not prepared with all of the information so it had to be postponed. Mr. Gerding requested that the administrative officer check to see if the applicant gets charged a second fee when this happens. He stated that we need to take action because we have to have Staff there and it costs the city quite a bit of money. Councilman Gerding also commended whoever put the letter together to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet regarding the traffic light at the AA Highway at Glenridge. It was extremely well-researched, thorough and detailed. It expressed all of councils' feelings about that traffic light. Mayor Stoeber stated that he put the words together but Chief Ed Burk did the research and provided the details.

Dave Guidugli requested that the interlocal agreement with the county for snow removal be placed on the February caucus agenda.

Adam Sandfoss stated that he is happy to be here and looks forward to working not only with members of council but also with surrounding cities to help create a great next two years not only for Cold Spring but for the entire county.

Rob Moore stated that a variety of different issues were discussed at the public works committee meeting, and one item is that people seem to think that they can just shovel their snow out onto the public streets. Councilman Moore requested that this be placed on the caucus agenda to discuss ways that this can be taken care of.

The winner of the American Flag and pole was resident Jerry Sandfoss.

Lou Gerding made a motion to adjourn the January 24, 2011 meeting and Stuart Oehrle seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approved:

City Clerk:

Mayor: