

**City of Crescent Springs**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**VIDEO TELECONFERENCE**  
**February 22, 2021 - 7:00 pm**

Pursuant to KRS 61.826 and OAG 20-05, the State of Emergency regarding the threats to public health presented by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and Executive Order, this meeting of the Crescent Springs City Council will be conducted by video conference, and may be attended by the public by viewing the video conference at the City's Facebook page online at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/CityofCrescentSpringsKY> Facebook LIVE

Mayor Lou Hartfiel called the meeting to order at 6:56pm.

Roll call showed the following council members present – Chad Longbons, Mike Daugherty, Justin Hartfiel, Christie Arlinghaus, Deborah Noe and Patrick Hackett. Also present were City Clerk April Robinson, Mayor Lou Hartfiel, City Administrator Mike Daly and City Attorney Mike Baker.

The following people were also in attendance of the virtual meeting:  
Police Sgt. Matt Hall  
Fire Chief Jeff Wendt

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Patrick Hackett made a motion to approve the minutes of the **February 8, 2021 Special Council Meeting**. Justin Hartfiel seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

Chad Longbons	Yes	Christie Arlinghaus	Yes
Mike Daugherty	Yes	Patrick Hackett	Yes
Justin Hartfiel	Yes	Deborah Noe	Yes

**Motion passed 6-0.**

**CITIZENS & GUESTS**

None

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

No Report

**FIRE AUTHORITY REPORT**

The January report was distributed to council prior to the meeting.  
Chief Wendt reported the following:

- 87 squad calls, up slightly from last month
- 58 fire calls, up slightly from last month
- A new squad was put out for bid today. No money will be needed from either city for at least 300 days

## **POLICE REPORT**

The January report was distributed to council prior to the meeting.

Sgt. Matt Hall reported the following:

- 10 crimes
- 25 accidents, this is an increase from last month
- 63 citations
- 53 courtesy notices
- Tuesdays and Fridays were the highest days for activity
- 56 cases were opened with a 98.5% closure rate
- The top accident areas are Buttermilk Pike (& parking lots), Anderson Road and the SB I-75 ramp to Buttermilk Pike
- There were a number of Possession of Controlled Substance charges that resulted from traffic stops
- There was 37.5 hours of overtime for January. 12 hours was for a search warrant which resulted in several arrests for Possession of Controlled Substances (PCS)
- The K-9 assisted in the seizure of \$11,000 and drug trafficking charges

There were two accidents involving cruisers during the month. The department was not at fault for either accident. One cruiser was hit on I-75 while the officer was out of the vehicle assisting other drivers. This vehicle was a 2018 Ford Explorer which has been totaled by the insurance company. The value was \$23,000.

There was an officer involved shooting that took place on I-75 during a traffic stop. This is an ongoing investigation by the Kentucky State Police. All questions were referred to the State Police.

## **CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

City Administrator, Mike Daly, reported that there is an issue with the roof over council chambers due to the ice and the snow. There is water damage in council chambers and public works has already begun removing some of the damaged dry wall. Public works cleared the roof today and Conradi Roofing stopped by to assess. Due to the weather, Conradi Roofing will return to further inspect the roof at a later date. This issue will slow the process of Wizard Construction's work completion and the installation of new carpet.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Beekeeping in the city

City Administrator, Mike Daly, requested that Mike Baker address council and advise what action the city may take regarding the complaint of beekeeping in the city.

Mike Baker explained that the city does not have grounds to cite Mr. Creamer for keeping bees. He stated that the decision needs to be left to the Kenton County Code Enforcement Board. It also stated that it would not be appropriate for the city to take action under the nuisance code at this time.

Mayor Hartfiel stated he would like to see the nuisance code updated. He would also like to have a meeting with all involved parties, regarding the beekeeping complaint, in order to find a resolution. Mr. Daly stated he would set up a meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Attorney Mike Baker conducted the reading of **RESOLUTION 2021-2** ACCEPTING THE BID OF BRANDSETTER CARROLL FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FIREHOUSE PURSUANT TO THE TERMS HEREIN AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE CRESCENT-VILLA FIRE AUTHORITY TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR THE SAME

Mike Daugherty informed council that ten (10) bids were received for the project and interviews were conducted by members of the fire department and the cities of Crescent Springs and Villa Hills. Brandsetter Carroll was selected by these members for approval by both cities councils.

Mike Daugherty made a motion to approve **RESOLUTION 2021-2**. Patrick Hackett seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

Chad Longbons	Yes	Christie Arlinghaus	Yes
Mike Daugherty	Yes	Patrick Hackett	Yes
Justin Hartfiel	Yes	Deborah Noe	Yes

**Motion passed 6-0.**

Attorney Mike Baker conducted the reading of **Reading of RESOLUTION 2021-3** AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AND FILE A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK-CV GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000 TO PROVIDE UTILITY RELIEF FUNDING TO RESIDENTS

Mayor Lou Hartfiel and Mike Baker discussed the wording of the resolution. It was suggested that the wording be changed from “in the amount of \$200,000” to read “in the amount of up to \$200,000”.

Christie Arlinghaus made a motion to approve **RESOLUTION 2021-3** with “in the amount of \$200,000” amended to read “in the amount of up to \$200,000”. Justin Hartfiel seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

Chad Longbons	Yes	Christie Arlinghaus	Yes
Mike Daugherty	Yes	Patrick Hackett	Yes
Justin Hartfiel	Yes	Deborah Noe	Yes

**Motion passed 6-0.**

Attorney Mike Baker conducted the reading of **Reading of RESOLUTION 2021-4** APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AUDITOR WITH REGARD TO REVISIONS AND POLICIES REGARDING REVENUES, DISBURSEMENTS, AND ASSETS OF THE CITY OF CRESCENT SPRINGS

Deborah Noe made a motion to approve **RESOLUTION 2021-4**. Patrick Hackett seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

Chad Longbons	Yes	Christie Arlinghaus	Yes
Mike Daugherty	Yes	Patrick Hackett	Yes
Justin Hartfiel	Yes	Deborah Noe	Yes

**Motion passed 6-0.**

Attorney Mike Baker conducted the reading of **Reading of MUNICIPAL ORDER 2021-7 ADOPTING POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AUDITOR BY WHICH THE AUTHORITY TO SIGN CHECKS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CRESCENT SPRINGS SHALL BE THE MAYOR AND THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, AND/OR THEIR DESIGNEE**

Patrick Hackett stated the council just approved Resolution 2021-4 to make the four recommendations of the auditor more extensive. The finance committee discussed which type of orders these recommendations should be and decided the orders should be researched and the results brought back to the next finance committee meeting. For that reason, Mr. Hackett explained, he would like to table this order so that the finance committee can review the findings and make a recommendation to council.

Patrick Hackett made a motion to **lay MUNICIPAL ORDER 2021-7 on the table**. Christie Arlinghaus seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.

Chad Longbons	Yes	Christie Arlinghaus	Yes
Mike Daugherty	Yes	Patrick Hackett	Yes
Justin Hartfiel	Yes	Deborah Noe	Yes

**Motion passed 6-0.**

Attorney Mike Baker conducted the **First Reading of ORDINANCE 2021-2 CREATING A NEW CHAPTER OF THE CITY OF CRESCENT SPRINGS CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROHIBIT CERTAIN DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES WITHIN THE CITY**

Mike Daly addressed council with information pertaining to ordinance 2021-2. Kentucky is one of twenty-eight (28) states that does not mention gender identity or sexual orientation in its civil rights law protection against discrimination in housing, services, public accommodations and employment. The biggest argument for passing the ordinance is that on the state and federal levels the law protects against discrimination in housing, services, public accommodations and employment but not for the LGBT community or persons. The fairness ordinance is a law that will simply update protection to include LGBT people. There has been no bill to come to the floor of the Kentucky Legislature that addresses this topic. This legislation is being done at a city level, however, there are three counties in Kentucky which have passed an ordinance.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Patrick Hackett discussed the auditor recommendations. He said that recommendations, numbers three and four, are in progress. He said that the city is contacting accountants recommended by the auditor. There has been a subcommittee formed to update the investment policy which dates back to 1994. This subcommittee is April Robinson, Nick Banschbach and Christie Arlinghaus. They will also look into investments.

Patrick Hackett referred to the distributed financial report. He said that there is still \$2.85 million in the bank and revenue has been very strong. The insurance premium taxes and gross receipts will be reviewed. There was an accounting change. The city used to carry a \$300,000 receivable on the books and the new auditor has given us the entries to clean this up right after the fiscal year. We are looking to see if there is a delay for insurance premium and gross receipts due to COVID. The city is up \$296K in revenue for the year.

Payroll with Public Works will be up due to overtime (snow) and hiring additional help to plow while employees have been out with COVID.

Patrick Hackett stated he talked to an individual in Villa Hills and found that pension will be going up 12% this year. That will have an impact on our payroll and police contract. A budget committee of three members has been formed. Committee chairs will be contacted to see what is needed for next year.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Patrick Hackett reported that the Public Works Committee Meeting was cancelled and has been rescheduled for March 3<sup>rd</sup>. You will have two reports for the next council meeting. Policy and procedure is being reviewed to include items such as snow removal and green space. We are also looking at certain projects to be completed.

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Justin Hartfiel reported the first meeting of the year took place last Monday. There was a guest speaker, Ross Patton, from the City of Covington. He is the author of a book on Economic Development and provided some great insights on items the city should be thinking about. One idea was to focus on existing businesses in the city and regularly checking in on them. The committee will begin discussing economic development priorities for 2021 including an increased focus on office space uses and beginning the process of checking in with existing businesses.

Chad Longbons informed council that Moonrise Doughnuts will have a soft opening tomorrow.

#### **EVENTS & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

The City joined the National Arbor Day Foundation at a cost of ten dollars. The city will be able to purchase saplings, to distribute to the community, at a bulk rate. Due to COVID we will have a drive through Easter event on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 2pm. Bagged candy will be given out and the kids will be able to see the Easter Bunny. A Jamming in the Neighborhood event will be held May 22<sup>nd</sup> with the addition of a couple areas. Music Fest will be held Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. These are the events in place but the committee is also looking to have a couple farmers markets in the park.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS & TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE**

Mike Daly reported that Chad Longbons is currently researching a ticket system. Cost of the system is \$250 per year max. This system will also be able to be integrated with our website.

Chad Longbons mentioned that Cincinnati Bell has reached out regarding WiFi in the park and that they are running behind due to the weather.

#### **VILLA HILLS SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Deborah Noe reported that the Chief of Police had given his report and they were told about the totaled cruiser Sgt. Hall had discussed earlier.

#### **CRESCENT-VILLA FIRE AUTHORITY**

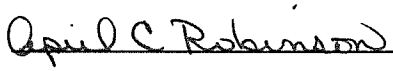
Mike Daugherty reported that the budget is still running behind and that the department is looking to request \$45,000 from the cities at this time. The shortage in the budget is due to overtime because of COVID-19. \$18,000 would be Crescent Spring's portion. This amount is not solid yet due to the squad billing starting to come up. There was a life saved back on Highknoll about two weeks ago. A woman had called dispatch with a complaint of chest pains and shortness of breath. She collapsed while on the phone with the dispatcher and the dispatcher was able to relay all of this information directly to squad personnel. Mr. Daugherty said that the equipment the city has purchased for the department is expensive but it does save lives. About a year ago someone donated an ultra violet light to the department to disinfect the

ambulances. The light has also been proven to work on COVID. The ambulances are rotated daily and the one that goes off line has the ultra violet light placed in it.

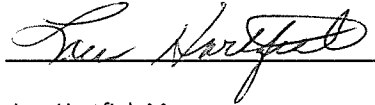
**ADJOURNMENT**

Chad Longbons made a motion to adjourn. Patrick Hackett seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion passed.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:41pm.

**ATTESTED BY:**



April C. Robinson, Clerk/Treasurer



Lou Hartfiel, Mayor

Approved: March 22, 2021