

CITY OF WINDY HILLS

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
February 14, 2011

The Council and Officers of the City of Windy Hills met at the Calvin Presbyterian Church, 2501 Rudy Lane, at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Phillips called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: The following were present:

MAYOR

Louis A. Phillips

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Cheryl Cooper
Kate Greer
Jim Ising
Marianne Rademaker
Mike Skelton
Suzanne Spencer

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS

Sandy Moore
Foster Haunz
Bob Rosenbaum

MINUTES:

Councilwoman Rademaker moved to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2011 council meeting; seconded by Councilman Skelton and approved unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS, APPROVAL OF BILLS:

The financial reports for January, 2011 were moved for approval by Councilwoman Rademaker, seconded by Councilman Skelton and approved unanimously.

Councilwoman Greer moved to approve the payment of bills totaling \$30,104.65 plus \$15,025.00 from the Road Fund for snow removal. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Spencer and approved unanimously.

RESIDENTS' COMMENTS/CONCERNS:

Wendy Skelton: Ms. Skelton suggested plants be placed in an effort to hide the guy wires on Rudy Lane.

Matt Kemp: Mr. Kemp spoke on behalf of the Windsong Subdivision in regards to paving the streets in their subdivision, specifically the non-dedicated/private roads. He is requesting that Windy Hills pave their non-dedicated/private roads as was done for Coach Gate and Killiney Place (dedicated street) and offered to do what ever it would take to get this work done. The Mayor stated that their request would be considered.

Martha Davis – Asked if anything could be done about the houses on Two Springs Circle that store things in their backyard but is visible from Rudy Lane. She also stated that there are no curb cuts at Ambridge where a cross-walk is being considered. She also requested a cross walk

be placed across Rudy Lane at Hubbards Lane. She continued to say that even though the Westport Road construction is complete, some equipment has been left behind.

John Clark: Mr. Clark addressed the Council and residents present with the following recommendations regarding the Windy Hills "Green":

- The City should consider forming a public/private committee/board to explore options and make recommendations for the Windy Hills "Green"
- Recommends hiring a third party professional facilitator to:
 - Review survey results
 - Gather information
 - Explore options
- Present their options to the City Council and the community.
- Present a master plan with community input

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget, Finance & Audit: Councilman Ising reported that the City has more money this year when comparing the current year's Balance Sheet to the same time last year.

Community Events/Newsletter: Councilwoman Greer reported the newsletter deadlines for the year: May 14 for the newsletter published on June 15; August 22 for the newsletter published on September 16. She explained the reasons for the deadlines – editing, process time, typesetting time, mailing time. She also discussed the "Walk the Loop" article, stating there will be a list of people who have walked the "loop" along with a picture of one of the participants.

Ombudsman: Councilwoman Cooper requested a meeting with the Mayor to discuss the mechanics of this committee and stated she would like the position to be addressed as Ombudswoman.

Police Protection & Public Safety: Councilwoman Rademaker reviewed the report she had handed out to the Council stating that the Graymoor-Devondale Police did 19 plus hours of radar checks, resulting in 2 speeding tickets on Ambridge and 2 on Rudy Lane. There were seven "Courtesy Notices"/warnings in lieu of speeding tickets, expired license tags and red light violation. She continued to discuss the "Courtesy Notices" stating that she had contacted Chief Throneberry and informed him that the Council would like more diligent enforcement. She will follow up with a letter to the Chief stating that the City would like increased radar and more tickets written than "Courtesy Notices" given out.

Public Works: Rob Rosenbaum reported that because of the snow, this month has been slow in regards to public works and code enforcement issues. The Mayor reported that we are waiting for LG&E to install street lights at the Ambridge and Foeburn intersections with Westport Rd. It was also reported that the two benches have been installed on Westport Road, but look rather lonely with nothing around them.

Welcome/Health Fitness: Councilwoman Spencer reported that she is continuing with the “Welcome” program. Councilman Ising asked if the information packet had been updated with the new council members’ information and she stated she would make sure that they were updated if they had not been already.

Windy Hills Green/City Beautification: Councilman Skelton reported that the holes from water leaks on the Green have been repaired by the Water Company. He also stated that work has re-started on the Hubbards Lane sidewalk. He also mentioned that an article was in the “Louisville Magazine” regarding the bear carving at the Windy Hills “Green” property. Someone asked when the TARC bench would be placed at the “Green” and it was reported that the person in charge of that project had suffered a family tragedy and there might be a delay in getting the bench placed there.

Code Enforcement: See above Public Works report.

WHHAG Status Report: Martha Davis stated that the work done on Regency was completed and looked very nice. She also stated there will be some boulders placed at this site to discourage drivers from driving straight through.

Community Caring Program: Martha Davis reported she attended a meeting at Christ Methodist Church regarding an Outreach Program. She stated they will share information through their program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Strategic Planning:

Signature Entrance – David Reed is meeting with the KY Transportation Cabinet to discuss the Signature Entrances at Ambridge and Westport Rd. and Foeburn and Westport Rd.

Windy Hills Green Thoughts for Use(s):

The following thoughts and recommendations for use of the property are summaries of the presentations. The full text and any accompanying drawings/sketches are available at City Hall and we encourage you to stop in to review them.

- Councilwoman Rademaker – She stated she would like to see a Signature Entrance and favors the use of benches. She also remarked that she would like to see a clock on the property and is in favor of a small park. She also stated that the Council should take time to decide how to develop the park.
- Councilman Ising – Stated he would like to see a Green Space with a Signature Entrance and return to residential when the real estate market improves. Some additional points he made were that the property has a great identity location; it is located at a very dangerous intersection, would be nice to recoup the City’s investment and benefit from

the tax revenue, and the Green Space was a high priority on the residents' survey. He then pointed out the benefits of the Calvin Presbyterian Church property which is used for City events and activities.

- Suzanne Spencer – She passed out a handout with the information she presented to the Council. Her points were as follows:
 - Hire a Landscape Architect using a selection process
 - Consider using tax dollars for some of the expenses and paying for a plan based on the results of our survey.
 - Select a plan and implement in stages over years if necessary.
 - Local landscape architects were listed and she suggested hiring an experienced grant writer to raise funds.

Councilwoman Spencer's time allotment of 5 minutes ended and was unable to finish her presentation. (The remainder of her presentation will be available at City Hall office.)

- Lou Phillips – He stated that he would like to maintain the "Green" as a passive park for a period of time and carve out sufficient space at the corner for an appropriate signature entrance to the City. He also stated the guy wires should be removed. He recommended a City paid design for an easily maintained passive park according to the survey (if there are no other viable proposals).
- Kate Greer – She stated that the majority of the responses of the survey preferred a fairly simple plan – a Passive Park with plantings and a few benches around the area. She suggested a memorial section where a person could pay for a tree through the City in as a memorial. She said the City could hire a landscaper for a reasonable price and not too fancy.
- Mike Skelton – He suggested a Passive Park. He recommends that the City continue to maintain the property for two years and allow and encourage the residents to use the green space. He suggested that the City welcome and reasonably assist groups in their efforts to create a self sustaining park/garden in this space. He also suggested that a major goal for the City would be to recoup some, if not all of its investment in the land. He then suggested that, after two years, it appears the residents are not using the green space to a reasonable degree and /or no group has come forth with a workable plan to return the land to residential use but keep a portion for the City. Hopefully in two years the real estate market will have turned around for new home construction and increase the City's ability to recoup all or a larger portion of its initial outlay. Councilman Skelton's time allotment of 5 minutes ended and was not able to finish his presentation. Other Council members remarked about not being able to sell the property for what the City paid for it. Councilman Skelton also remarked the strip he is proposing is similar to one located in Old Louisville located on Hill Street.
- Cheryl Cooper – She said she would like to see a professionally designed signature entrance that would make a statement. She also suggested a plaque recognizing the Mayor and the year the property was purchased. She stated she agrees with resident, John Clark, who suggested a board of residents and council members. She also agrees

there should be a master plan developed rather than a mish-mash of ideas being presented/implemented.

Expense Categories – Transaction Detail by Account: The Mayor stated the City can provide account details and they are available to anyone for their review. The Clerk can print out or email the detail for any accounts requested. Councilwoman Spencer questioned the detail regarding the Children’s Christmas party and the Clerk explained that she would provide her with that detail and the detail on all of the City activities.

NEW BUSINESS

City Council Work Sessions: The Mayor stated, as a result of the Team Building Retreat, that there is a strong interest in Council Work Sessions prior to the Monthly Council Meetings. He reported the Council would have to adopt an Ordinance to reflect these meetings and include the parameters. After discussion, it was decided to have the Ordinance reflect that the meetings would be at 10:00 am on the Friday prior to the Monday Council Meeting. The meetings would be held at City Hall in the Conference Room and the public would be welcome to attend but only as observers. The Mayor asked Attorney Haunz to write an Ordinance to that effect.

Snow Removal: The Mayor reported as of January 26, 2011 the City has paid \$27,565 in snow and ice removal and as of February 14, 2011 the City has paid \$37,052. The Council members remarked that this has been an unusually snowy/icy season and hopefully it will not be the same way next year. Councilwoman Rademaker remarked the snow removal seemed a bit excessive (unnecessary) on some occasions. They agreed that, to stay on top of the snow removal, the process has to start when the snow begins.

Street Paving in Windsong Subdivision: Councilman Skelton suggested that Windsong act upon this in the same way as Killiney and Coach Gate. He suggested getting them to sign a release or lease agreement. It was mentioned that the funds received for the “Road Fund” are based on dedicated streets and the streets in question in Windsong are private and not included in the “Road Funds”. Attorney Haunz remarked that dedication would have to go through Metro Council and since the properties don’t meet the minimum square footage (lot size too small) the whole subdivision would have to be re-zoned. The best solution would be to have everyone sign off with a lease agreement or a release. It was suggested their Homeowners’ association should handle obtaining the lease agreement. Councilwoman Rademaker made a motion to include the private roads in Windsong Subdivision in the City’s street paving once a lease agreement is received. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Greer and passed unanimously.

City Social Program for 2011: Councilwoman Greer reported the following schedule and recommendations:

- Saturday, May 21, 2011 – Yard Sale; \$100 budget to include sign and advertisement

- Monday, July 4, 2011 – City Picnic; \$3500 budget to include hamburgers, hotdogs, buns, condiments, plates, napkins, ice cream, band, bouncy, stationery for announcement, prizes, Church donation and personnel for setup assistance, and drinks.
- Sunday, in late September, 2011; \$300 budget to include ice cream and a promotional sign.
 - She recommended to eliminate the shredding portion of the Ice Cream social and only include that every other year and to eliminate the Children’s holiday party stating that even though the ones that attended enjoyed it, but it was not cost-effective.

Councilwoman Spencer moved to accept the Social Program dates and cost and was seconded by Councilwoman Rademaker. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Cooper would like to purchase a large banner that the City would be able to change the information to suit the occasion and ultimately placed on the “Green” to advertise City events.

Health & Fitness Program for 2011: Councilwoman Spencer reviewed her revised Health and Fitness Initiative Proposal. She would like to declare April has Health and Fitness Awareness Month promoting it in March by having a notice in the newsletter, email notices and notices placed in residents’ paper boxes. She suggested a kick off nutrition/cooking demo at Doll’s; “Walk the Loop” t-shirt tie-dyeing event in April; Body Mass evaluation at Calvin Church; and a free water aerobic session in July. Her proposed budget was \$370. After discussion, it was decided not to have the shirt tie dyeing event, and not to pay the Clerk an honorarium for her additional work, because any additional time will be reflected in her regular pay. This brought the proposed budget down to \$195. It was also suggested to have a mini “Health Fair” when doing the Body mass evaluation to include bone density testing and blood pressure checks. Councilwoman Spencer will check into what services are available for the “Health Fair”, including checking with the Metro Health Department. It was also recommended to include in the budget a donation to Calvin Presbyterian Church for use of their facility. Councilwoman Cooper made a motion to budget up to \$350 for the Health and Fitness program. The motion was seconded by Councilman Greer and passed unanimously.

Councilman Skelton proposed that about a month or so after the Hubbards Lane portion of the sidewalk is completed the City hold a celebration similar to the gathering when the Rudy lane sidewalk was finished. He suggested everyone to meet at Hill Top Road for a ribbon cutting with dignitaries and press invited and recognizing any new recipients of “Walk the Loop” t-shirts followed by everyone walking the new portion of the sidewalk to Coach Gate and back. He also suggested parking at the new Buddhist Temple and possible of tour of their facility.

Other: Councilman Skelton would like to send out a notice to the residents that the “Green” is available for use. Councilman Skelton made a motion to notify the residents that it is okay for residents to have reasonable use of the green with no littering. Councilwoman Spencer seconded the motion. The motion failed with a vote of 2 Ayes and 3 Opposed.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: No report.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE:

- Martha Davis offered her suggestions for the "Green", stating that the space should be inviting, a planned space with a professionally designed signature entrance with the City's branding in mind. Also, the space should be a "walk to" destination.
- Laura Trachtenberg would like to see "no parking" signs at the "green".
- Mary Rita McDevitt requested that Windsong Homeowners' Association meeting could be posted in the Windy Hills newsletter.
- The Mayor reported that Rite Aid will not be opened on the Bauer property. He also reported that the speed limit will increase from 35 to 45 on Westport Rd from Hubbards Lane to the Watterson expressway.

Councilwoman Greer moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 P.M., seconded by Councilman Ising and the motion passed unanimously.

Louis A. Phillips, Mayor

Sandy Moore, City Clerk