

December 17, 2024

A regular meeting of the City of Hopkinsville City Council was held Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Hopkinsville Municipal Center Council Chamber, 715 South Virginia Street, Hopkinsville, Kentucky. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Knight.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Councilmember Crabtree opened the meeting with an invocation. Mayor Knight then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Presiding Officer: Mayor James R. Knight Jr.

Council present: Honorable Natasha Sophia Francis
Honorable Bruce Smiley
Honorable Don Marsh
Honorable Chuck Crabtree
Honorable Amy Craig
Honorable Travis Martin
Honorable Doug Wilcox
Honorable Robert Terry Meek
Honorable Jamie Lienberger
Honorable Steve Keel
Honorable Jason Bell
Honorable Matthew Handy

Staff present: City Clerk Brittany Byrum
City Administrator Troy Body
City Attorney H. Douglas Willen
Chief Financial Officer Melissa Clayton
Chief Technology Officer Darryl Anderson
Police Chief Jason Newby
Fire Chief Steve Futrell
Assistant Public Works Director Dave Herndon
CDS Executive Director Tom Britton
CDS Assistant Executive Director Holly Boggess

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Knight made comments and announced upcoming events. He then presented plaques of appreciation to outgoing council members.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS, COMMITTEES, AND GUEST SPEAKERS:

Hopkinsville Water Environment Authority – Hopkinsville Water Environment Authority President and CEO Derrick Watson provided a video presentation of the new Hopkinsville Clean Water Plant. He then recognized Director of Engineering David Blane for 30 years of service. Mayor Knight presented a plaque and key to the city to David Blane for his dedication to Hopkinsville Water Environment Authority.

Heltsley Farms J&R, LLC Zoning Request – Mr. Britton reviewed a recommendation to zone 366 acres of property located at 3645 Russellville Road to I-1 (Light Industrial District), AT-1 (Agricultural Transitional District), and B-4 (Arterial Commercial District). Councilmember Keel moved to direct the city clerk to draft an ordinance amending the zoning map; seconded by Councilmember Martin. There being no discussion, all members voted aye.

Monthly Financial Statement – Ms. Clayton presented the November 2024 financial report and answered questions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Craig moved to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2024 regular meeting; seconded by Councilmember Lienberger. There being no discussion, all members voted aye.

Councilmember Marsh moved to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2024 special called meeting; seconded by Councilmember Martin. There being no discussion, all members voted aye.

ORDINANCE 36-2024 NEWCOMB OIL CO., LLC ANNEXATION (SECOND READING):

Ms. Byrum read Ordinance 36-2024 annexing approximately 4.106 acres of property known as Newcomb Oil Co., LLC into the City of Hopkinsville limits. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Marsh; seconded by Councilmember Smiley. There being no discussion, Ordinance 36-2024 passed on second reading by roll call vote with all members voting aye.

MUNICIPAL ORDER 45-2024 L&N DEPOT PROPERTY TRANSFER:

Ms. Byrum read Municipal Order 45-2024 authorizing the mayor to execute a purchase agreement in the amount of \$175,000.00 between the City of Hopkinsville and Railmark Holdings, Inc. and Railmark Foundation Ltd. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Martin; seconded by Councilmember Craig. There being no discussion, Municipal Order 45-2024 passed by voice vote with all members voting aye.

MUNICIPAL ORDER 46-2024 KITCHEN FOOD COMPANY GRANT AGREEMENT:

Ms. Byrum read Municipal Order 46-2024 rescinding Municipal Order 41-2024 and authorizing the mayor to execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$4,500,00.00 between the City of Hopkinsville and Kitchen Food Company Limited. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Martin; seconded by Councilmember Craig. Following discussion, Municipal Order 46-2024 passed by roll call vote with all members voting aye, except Councilmembers Crabtree, Handy, and Lienberger who voted nay.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 28-2024 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Ms. Byrum read Executive Order 28-2024 creating the Economic Development Committee and appointing Councilmembers Jason Bell, Chuck Crabtree, Don Marsh, and City Attorney H. Douglas Willen. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Keel; seconded by Councilmember Lienberger. There being no discussion, Executive Order 28-2024 passed with all members voting aye.

OTHER:

None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmembers Handy, Keel, Lienberger, and Meek made comments.

CLOSED SESSION:

This item was no longer necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Crabtree moved to adjourn at 6:43 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Martin. There being no discussion, all members voted aye.

Minutes approved at the city council meeting held on the ____ day of _____ 2025.

PRESIDING OFFICER: _____
Mayor James R. Knight Jr.

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk Brittany Byrum, CMC