

April 8, 2025

A special called meeting of the City of Hopkinsville City Council was held Tuesday, April 8, 2025 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 Martin introduced First United Methodist Church Sr. Pastor Dan Huck who 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 Vance Smith
Honorable Donald Marsh
Honorable Amy Craig
Honorable Travis Martin
Honorable Clayton Sumner
Honorable Seth Meek
Honorable Michael Velez
Honorable Jason Bell
Honorable Elizabeth Draude

Absent: Honorable Brandi Stallons
Honorable Chuck Crabtree
Honorable Brittanie Bogard

Staff present: City Clerk Brittany Byrum
City Administrator Troy Body
City Attorney H. Douglas Willen
Human Resources Director Kenny Grabara
Budget Officer Gary Ruebush
IT Systems Controller Zach Boehm
IT Systems Controller Thomas Williams
Police Chief Jason Newby
Fire Chief Steve Futrell
Public Works Director Mike Perry
Assistant Public Works Director Dave Herndon
Street Superintendent Josh Durham
CDS Executive Director Tom Britton
CDS Assistant Executive Director Holly Boggess

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

Hopkinsville Fire Department – Chief Futrell recognized newly hired Firefighter Jacob Newby and recently promoted Lieutenant Anthony Richardson and Captain Chad Taylor. Mayor Knight administered an oath and family members pinned their insignias.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Knight made comments and announced upcoming events.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS, COMMITTEES, AND GUEST SPEAKERS:

Ascend Elements Update – Ascend Elements Plant Manager Mark Fern spoke regarding the status of the facility. He stated construction had paused but would restart by the end of 2025 with the plant being operational by the end of 2026. He then answered questions.

3125 & 3165 Cadiz Road (Robert Meacham) Zoning Request – Mr. Britton reviewed a recommendation to zone 88.02 (+/-) acres of property located at 3125 & 3165 Cadiz Road to AT-1 (Agricultural – Transitional District) and R-2 (Single-Family Residential District). Councilmember Marsh made a motion to direct the clerk to prepare an ordinance; seconded by Councilmember Martin. There being no discussion, all members present voted aye.

4526 Lafayette Road (Barrow Development) Zoning Request – Mr. Britton reviewed a recommendation to zone 14.4966 acres of property located at 4926 Lafayette Road to R-4 (Multi-Family Residential District). Councilmember Martin made a motion to direct the clerk to prepare an ordinance; seconded by Councilmember Sumner. There being no discussion, all members present voted aye.

Legacy Hopkinsville Rental Rehabilitation Incentives Program Update – Holly Boggess provided an update on the program, and discussed completed projects, current projects and funding to date, and answered questions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Marsh moved to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2025 regular meeting; seconded by Councilmember Sumner. There being no discussion, all members present voted aye.

Councilmember Velez moved to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2025 special called meeting; seconded by Councilmember Craig. There being no discussion, all members present voted aye.

ORDINANCE 05-2025 RONALD K. BERRY PROPERTY ANNEXATION (SECOND READING):

Ms. Byrum read Ordinance 05-2025 annexing approximately 51.66 acres of property known as the Ronald K. Berry property into the City of Hopkinsville limits. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Velez; seconded by Councilmember Martin. There being no discussion, Ordinance 05-2025 passed on second reading by roll call vote with all members present voting aye.

ORDINANCE 06-2025 NEWCOMB OIL CO., LLC ZONING (SECOND READING):

Ms. Byrum read Ordinance 06-2025 amending the zoning maps of the City of Hopkinsville to zone property located at 3065 Pembroke Road as B-4 (Arterial Commercial District). Moved for adoption by Councilmember Marsh; seconded by Councilmember Sumner. There being no discussion, Ordinance 06-2025 passed on second reading by roll call vote with all members voting aye.

ORDINANCE 07-2025 TOYOTA BOSHOKU WESTERN KENTUCKY, LLC BOND (FIRST READING - SUMMARY):

Ms. Byrum read a summary of Ordinance 07-2025 authorizing the issuance of industrial revenue bonds. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Martin; seconded by Councilmember Bell. Following discussion, Ordinance 07-2025 passed on first reading by roll call vote with all members present voting aye.

MUNICIPAL ORDER 14-2025 BYPASS WAREHOUSE, LLC INCENTIVE:

Ms. Byrum read Municipal Order 14-2025 authorizing an incentive for a period of five years for Bypass Warehouse, LLC. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Craig; seconded by Councilmember Sumner. There being no discussion, Municipal Order 14-2025 passed by voice vote with all members present voting aye.

MUNICIPAL ORDER 15-2025 SURPLUS PROPERTY:

Ms. Byrum read Municipal Order 15-2025 declaring a weapon as surplus property. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Velez; seconded by Councilmember Bell. There being no discussion, Municipal Order 15-2025 passed by voice vote with all members present voting aye.

MUNICIPAL ORDER 16-2025 SOLID WASTE TRUCKS LEASE:

Ms. Byrum read Municipal Order 16-2025 authorizing lease agreements for solid waste vehicles. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Craig; seconded by Councilmember Martin. There being no discussion, Municipal Order 16-2025 passed by voice vote with all members present voting aye.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 22-2025 CODE OF ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT BOARD:

Ms. Byrum read Executive Order 22-2025 reappointing Rodney Davis, Mark Graham, and Connie McGahee. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Martin; seconded by Councilmember Velez. There being no discussion, Executive Order 22-2025 passed by voice vote with all members present voting aye.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 23-2025 CABLE TELEVISION OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY:

Ms. Byrum read Executive Order 23-2025 reappointing Kenneth Hatzakorzian. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Meek; seconded by Councilmember Sumner. There being no discussion, Executive Order 23-2025 passed by voice vote with all members present voting aye.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 24-2025 HOPKINSVILLE AND CHRISTIAN COUNTY AIRPORT BOARD:

Ms. Byrum read Executive Order 24-2025 reappointing Dr. Robert Bastin. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Martin; seconded by Councilmember Sumner. There being no discussion, Executive Order 24-2025 passed by voice vote with all members present voting aye.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 25-2025 BOARD OF ETHICS:

Ms. Byrum read Executive Order 25-2025 reappointing Jim Monroe and reappointing Rich Cooper as an alternate member. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Marsh; seconded by Councilmember Meek. There being no discussion, Executive Order 25-2025 passed by voice vote with all members present voting aye.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 26-2025 HOPKINSVILLE AND CHRISTIAN COUNTY LANDBANK AUTHORITY:

Ms. Byrum read Executive Order 26-2025 reappointing Troy Body as the mayor's designee. Moved for adoption by Councilmember Smith; seconded by Councilmember Craig. There being no discussion, Executive Order 26-2025 passed by voice vote with all members present voting aye.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmembers Craig, Marsh, and Sumner made comments.

CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Knight announced council needed to go into closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(g) to discuss an economic development proposal. Councilmember Martin moved to go into closed session at 6:51 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Craig. There being no discussion, all members present voted aye.

Councilmember Marsh moved to return to open session at 7:01 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Craig. There being no discussion, all members present voted aye. Mayor Knight indicated no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Martin moved to adjourn at 7:02 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Marsh. There being no discussion, all members present 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