

April 5, 2016
Commission Meeting

The City of Cynthiana Board of Commissioners met in regular session April 5, 2016 at 5:30 P.M. in the Commissioner's Room at City Hall. Present were Mayor Smith, Commissioners Grayson, Mattmiller, Slade and Griggs and Attorney Lair.

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order.

CALL TO ORDER

Jason Rice with New Beginnings Worship Center presented the invocation.

JASON RICE
INVOCATION

VISITORS

Mayor Smith welcomed everyone and stated he wished we could have this large of a crowd at every meeting, not just meetings with controversial issues. Tonight we are discussing the Needle Exchange Program. Mayor Smith stated that this subject has been on his mind all weekend. He has prayed for the humility to keep an open mind and listen to the facts. Mayor Smith asked that as we discuss this issue tonight for us all to remember that the enemy is not one another in this room, the enemy in this community is drugs. Mayor Smith asked that as we discuss this subject tonight; do it with respect and with love to one another even those whom we disagree. Mayor Smith stated that three people are on the agenda, they will have 10 minutes each. Mayor Smith also asked that no matter what decision is made tonight let us all get into the fight against drugs and addiction.

NEEDLE EXCHANGE
PROGRAM

Mayor Smith recognized Dr. Crystal Miller with Wedco District Health Department Public Health Director. Dr. Miller reported that Kentucky has almost double the rates of overdoses as the average for the United States. Overdose is the leading cause of accidental death in the United States. Heroin overdose deaths increased by 550% between 2011 and 2012. Heroin drug overdose rates continue to rise. Harrison County is in the top in the state of overdoses. One of the major problems with sharing needles is the rise of HIV and HEP C. In the United States each year 8,000 are newly infected with HIV and 17,000 with Hep C. This is a public health issue. This program is to prevent the spread of disease. The needles are retractable needles. Kentucky Medicaid spent \$50 million dollars last year on 1000 Hep C cases. The benefits of this program are to save taxpayer's dollars, advance public safety, reduce the transmission of disease, and serve as an entry point for other health services.

DR. CRYSTAL MILLER
WEDCO PUBLIC
HEALTH DIRECTOR

Dr. Miller explained that the first time someone comes in they will receive 40 retractable needles; they will meet with a nurse, and be given a unique identification number. After the third time coming they will be required to bring needles to exchange. This program is not just needles. It is education, safer sex supplies, overdose prevention, drug treatment education etc. This is not a program to enable drug use; it is to prevent the spread of disease.

Dr. Miller answered questions of the Commission.

Mayor Smith recognized Reverend John Chamberlin.

REV JOHN
CHAMBERLIN

Reverend Chamberlin stated that we are all united in admitting to the heroin problem. Reverend Chamberlin announced that he had brought the Needle Exchange Program up to his church. In one voice they were all against it. Reverend Chamberlin stated he has (4) four bullet points of why he is against the Needle Exchange program. 1. Against the enablement. 2. Believes there would be limited participation in the program. 3. What message does it send to others? 4. Elimination of a consequence makes any vice look more appealing. Reverend Chamberlin stated that he believes those who are in favor of the Needle Exchange Program are tainted in their objectivity. Reverend Chamberlin stated he is drawing the line at the Needle Exchange Program and is asking the Commission to do the same.

No questions for Reverend Chamberlin.

Mayor Smith recognized Karen Adams.

Karen Adams stated that she is representing Champions for a Drug Free Harrison County as well as that she is a counselor for individuals who have issues or are addicted to drugs or alcohol. Ms. Adams stated she is here in support of the Needle Exchange Program. Champions is in its 9th year in Harrison County and while it has been in existence the substance abuse problem has grown more dramatic, more urgent, and more catastrophic. Ms. Adams stated that there is not a person in this room without exception who is not impacted by substance abuse in our community. This is about health and wellbeing of the people you represent. Ms. Adams asked the Commission to vote yes to the Needle Exchange Program. Champions will be hosting the first annual 2016 Community meeting April 11, 2016 at Cynthiana Christian Church at 5:30 p.m. and Ms. Adams invites everyone to attend. Ms. Adams thanked the Commission for the opportunity to speak.

KAREN ADAMS WITH
CHAMPIONS FOR DRUG
FREE HARRISON
COUNTY

Commissioner Grayson questioned about what information is included in the schools. Commissioner Grayson believes that we need to educate rather than go in the direction of the Needle Exchange Program. No more questions for Karen Adams.

Mayor Smith recognized Tana Toller.

Tana Toller has a group consisting of over 250 people in Cynthiana and Harrison County. This group is called Heroin Kills Harrison County Kentucky. Ms. Toller is a mother of a three year old and lives in a nice section of Church Street that backs up to the railroad track and an alley. Ms. Toller has a fenced in back yard that her daughter could play in safely, but now she has to go into her back yard and check for needles before she can let her daughter go out and play. Ms. Toller reported that she has spent her time looking for needles and picking them up on the streets. Needles have been found numerous times. Commissioner Mattmiller asked that if they went out right now could they find needles? Ms. Toller answered absolutely. Ms. Toller stated that any step would be a help. We need to protect our community from disease.

TANA TOLLER HERION
KILLS HARRISON CO.KY

Mayor Smith had a question for Chief Ray Johnson. How often have your officers come in contact with needles and how do you stand on this program? Chief Johnson answered that it is a fairly common occurrence. This is a battle we will have to fight. The more tools to fight the better. Chief Johnson says we should move forward with the program.

MAYOR QUESTIONS
CHIEF JOHNSON

Mayor Smith recognized Chris Turley. He used to be a Kentucky State Trooper. He was stuck with a needle while on duty. If this program helps save one person from contracting HIV or Hep C then it's worth it. Mr. Turley believes the pro's out way the cons.

Mayor Smith questioned Chief Jay Sanders. Chief Sanders reported that his men come in contact with about 10 a week.

CHIEF SANDERS

Commissioner Grayson questioned how many times you use a needle. The answer was until it is dull

Commissioner Griggs stated that she has researched this topic when she found out it was going to be brought up tonight. Commissioner Griggs reported that there are a couple issues going on here, one is drug abuse. The Needle Exchange Program will not prevent drug abuse. Programs have been going on for years. Just say no. Commissioner Griggs said that she has told her children that she can't be with them 24-7, but if you don't start it, you don't have to stop. She stated that many parents, aunts, grandparents have told the same things to their family, but "guess what? Some of them still do it." Commissioner Griggs feels that this program does not entice them to use. The purpose of this program is to prevent the spread of disease. Commissioner Griggs explained that in her mind this program is to help not only the user but a loved one of a user. There are people right now that have a disease, not because they are a user, they have never used, and never will, but because they love someone who does.

COMMISSIONER
GRIGGS STATEMENT

Mayor Smith reported that he thought all parties did a great job presenting their pros and cons. Mayor Smith recognized Judge Alex Barnett. Judge Barnett commented that nobody hates drugs more than he does. Judge Barnett stated that he was instrumental in starting Champions when he first got elected. He said that if Champions and other groups for a Drug Free Kentucky are signing off on this and they are the experts; then we should too. If we can save one person than this program is worth it. Judge Barnett is one who believes all life matters.

MAYOR SMITH
JUDGE BARNETT

Mayor thanked everyone for being civil at this meeting. Mayor Smith asked that no matter what the outcome of this vote, everyone please get involved, join in the fight.

Commissioner Slade made a motion to allow Wedco District Health Department to implement the Needle Exchange Program. Commissioner Griggs seconded. Vote: Commissioner Slade: yes; Commissioner Griggs: yes; Commissioner Grayson: abstain; Commissioner Mattmiller: yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

MOTION TO ALLOW
WEDCO DISTRICT
HEALTH DEPT TO
IMPLEMENT NEEDLE
EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Mayor Smith reported that there are minutes to approve.

Commissioner Mattmiller made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 15, 2016 Regular Commission meeting. Commissioner Slade seconded. Vote: Commissioner Mattmiller: yes; Commissioner Slade: yes; Commissioner Grayson: yes; Commissioner Griggs: yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

APPROVE 3/15/2016
MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Smith recognized Attorney Lair. Attorney Lair read the second reading of ordinance #1547.

LEGALS
2nd READING
ORDINANCE #1547

COLLECTION OF TAXES

Commissioner Grayson made a motion to accept the second reading of ordinance #1547. Commissioner Slade seconded. Vote: Commissioner Grayson: yes; Commissioner Slade: yes; Commissioner Mattmiller: yes; Commissioner Griggs: yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

MOTION TO ACCEPT
2nd READING ORD
#1547

Attorney Lair read the second reading of Ordinance #1548.

2nd READING
ORDINANCE #1548
UPDATE ON SIDEWALK
ORDINANCE
MOTION TO ACCEPT
2nd READING
ORDINANCE #1548

Commissioner Slade made a motion to accept the second reading of ordinance #1548 updating the sidewalk ordinance. Commissioner Mattmiller seconded. Vote: Commissioner Slade: yes; Commissioner Mattmiller: yes; Commissioner Grayson: yes; Commissioner Griggs: yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Smith recognized Commissioner Grayson.

FINANCE REPORT

Commissioner Grayson made a motion to pay the following bills:

PAYABLES REPORT

General Fund \$ 144,627.99

Water & Sewer Fund \$ 92,933.94

Commissioner Mattmiller seconded. Vote: Commissioner Grayson: yes; Commissioner Mattmiller: yes; Commissioner Slade: yes; Commissioner Griggs: yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

Commissioner Grayson reported cash in bank:

General Fund \$ 597,933.08

Water & Sewer Fund \$ 132,180.60

Municipal Road Aid Fund \$ 95,187.19

Commissioner Grayson recognized Officers Vance Meighan and Justin Jett for helping a gentleman in a wheel chair that was coming from the hospital. It was very nice for them to help.

Mayor Smith recognized Commissioner Slade.

PUBLIC SAFETY
REPORT

Commissioner Slade reported that the K-9 equipment should be arriving soon and put Hano into service. This should help with the drug issue. We are interviewing some certified officers this week and should have the Police force fully staffed soon.

Mayor Smith recognized Commissioner Griggs.

MAINTENANCE DEPT
REPORT

Commissioner Griggs reported that personnel have been busy cleaning lots preparing for mowing season. Work has been continuing on water lines. Top soil is being delivered to do landscaping in the water line and sewer line construction areas. Commissioner Griggs also announced that brush pick-up will start April 11 and we continue for three weeks.

Mayor Smith recognized Commissioner Mattmiller.

PUBLIC UTILITIES
REPORT

Commissioner Mattmiller reported that the main licking pump has been installed and will be hooked up in the next couple weeks. The

Sewer Rehab project is continuing. The paracetic acid pump has been installed at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The storm drain between Lola and Charlotte is scheduled to be completed this week, weather permitting.

Rental housing inspection drive-by visual inspections are complete on the (18) properties with the most turnover. Four of these properties will need an interior inspection. Notices will be sent out and inspections will be done starting next week.

CODE ENFORCEMENT
REPORT

Commissioner Mattmiller made a motion to authorize to advertise for a part-time Rental property inspector/Assistant to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Slade seconded. Vote: Commissioner Mattmiller: yes; Commissioner Slade: yes; Commissioner Grayson: yes; Commissioner Griggs: yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

MOTION TO
ADVERTISE FOR
RENTAL PROP
INSPECTOR

Mayor Smith reminded the Commission that there will be a strategic planning meeting on March 22, 2016 at 5:30 pm in the Commissioner's room at City Hall.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Smith announced that he has been working with Planning & Zoning on permit fees pertaining to abandoned and dilapidated property. Planning & Zoning has agreed to waive permit fees on these properties until June 1, 2016.

ALTUIS BROADBAND

Mayor Smith reported that he received a call this week from Altuis Broadband. They are interested in putting something on our water tower. They are willing to offer \$200 per month or (4) free services. Mayor Smith wants the Commission's input on this.

Mayor Smith reported that the Westside Redevelopment Project is still looking to qualify candidates. Mayor Smith reminded that the Strategic Planning Committee workshop is scheduled for next Tuesday the 12th at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Smith announced that the Splash Pad Grant that Commissioner Mattmiller talked about at the last meeting, we are going forward with that grant. Mayor Smith stated that he has to be authorized to sign a resolution for that purpose.

RESOLUTION 2016-2
LAND & WATER GRANT
APPLICATION

Commissioner Mattmiller made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign Resolution 2016-2. Commissioner Griggs seconded. Vote: Commissioner Mattmiller; Commissioner Griggs: yes; Commissioner Grayson: yes; Commissioner Slade: yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2016-2

Commissioner Slade made a motion to authorize Mayor Smith to sign the Land & Water Conservation Grant Application for the Splash Pad at FRVP. Commissioner Mattmiller seconded. Vote: Commissioner Slade: yes; Commissioner Mattmiller: yes; Commissioner Grayson: yes; Commissioner Griggs: yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO
SIGN APPLICATION
FOR LAND & WATER
GRANT

Commissioner Slade made a motion to go into executive session to discuss acquisition of real property pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)b. Commissioner Grayson seconded. Vote: Commissioner Slade: yes; Commissioner Grayson: yes; Commissioner Mattmiller: yes; Commissioner Griggs: yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Mattmiller excused himself from executive session.

Commissioner Slade made a motion to return to regular session.
Commissioner Grayson seconded. Vote: Commissioner Slade: yes
Commissioner Grayson: yes; Commissioner Mattmiller: yes;
Commissioner Griggs: yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

RETURN TO REGULAR
SESSION

Mayor Smith reported that no action taken.

Commissioner Slade made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner
Griggs seconded. Vote: Commissioner Slade: yes; Commissioner
Griggs: yes; Commissioner Grayson: yes; Commissioner Mattmiller:
yes; Mayor Smith: yes. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

Jamie Hutchison, City Clerk

James Smith, Mayor