

**Minutes for the City of Worthington Hills**  
**Mail: [info@cityofworthingtonhillsky.gov](mailto:info@cityofworthingtonhillsky.gov)**  
**Website: [www.cityofworthingtonhillsky.gov](http://www.cityofworthingtonhillsky.gov)**

**Date:** May 21, 2024

**Present:** Robert Stonum                      Dennis Metcalf                      Linda Beville                      Crystal Adams  
Susan Maupin                      Dan Small                      Bev Lush

**Citizens Present:** 4 plus Rob Dewees

**Derby City Protection: 1**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Stonum with motion by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Beville. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was recited; followed by a moment of silent prayer.

**Minutes:** The April 2024 minutes were brought up for approval. Motion was made by Commissioner Adams to approve the minutes and seconded by Commissioner Beville. Vote was unanimous.

**Financial Report:** The May 2024 Financials had been distributed to the Commission for review and posted on COWH website prior to the City Meeting. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Beville and seconded by Commissioner Adams. Vote was unanimous.

**Expense Review:** The cover sheet of May invoices along with invoice copies were passed around for Commissioners to review and initial. No approval motion was needed since Commissioners had already initialed and approved.

**Service Contracts:**

- The 3 year Property Maintenance contract expires on June 30, 2024. There were 2 companies at the meeting. Maximus Lawncare and Mow Better. A couple questions were brought up by both Commissioners and the companies.
  - o Mayor Stonum advised that our property is not mowed weekly if not growing due to lack of rain (Maximus Lawncare currently works this way). Commissioner Adams advised that she had explained to Mow Better about the sprinklers and too short to cut. Evergreen Irrigation has turned the water on, but not the sprinklers. She will be watching for a water bill which would mean a leak.
  - o Commissioner Beville asked if Mow Better was licensed to remove trees or do they sub-contract? Mow Better can remove a tree up to 15 feet.

They were advised to prepare a proposal and submit it to Bev Lush, City Clerk via email. Those bids will be opened at the June meeting.

Mayor Stonum realized we had some guests at this meeting that may not know each of us so we introduced ourselves.

- Security Service Contract expires June 30, 2024. Detective Mason from Derby City Protection attended our meeting. Mayor Stonum handed out the new Security Service Agreement which had been supplied by Detective Mason showing the same pricing as current contract.
  - o Commissioner Beville stated she reads the reports that come from Derby City, but never sees Treis Condos on the reports. She would like more proof of patrolling in that area. Detective Mason agreed.
  - o Detective Mason advised that currently they are patrolling 6 hours per week even though there are 9 hours available.

Commissioner Beville made a motion to accept the Derby City Contract. Commissioner Metcalf seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote. Commissioner Adams – Yes; Commissioner Maupin – Yes; Commissioner Beville – Yes; Commissioner Metcalf – Yes; and Mayor Stonum – Yes.

- *Mailing of Tax Bills. Graphic Village is the new name of our old provider – Mail Louisville. Their proposal showed a total increase of \$70.00. Mayor Stonum handed out 2023 and 2024 proposal comparisons. Mayor Stonum advised we have used them for a few years and they are conveniently located to COWH. Commissioner Metcalf made a motion to again use Graphic Village and Commissioner Maupin seconded it. Commissioner Adams abstained since she is a previous employee of Mail Louisville. Vote was unanimous. Mayor Stonum will compile the insert letter to be mailed with the tax bills.*

#### **Legal:**

- *Memorandum of Understanding for Requesting Assistance”. This assistance would be used in an emergency. 2018 tornado - METRO would not shred trees. Commissioner Beville confirmed that COWH would have had to pay METRO to use their equipment. We could have had access to their equipment, but would have had to pay the rates. COWH must sign off on this so we will have Legal proofread. Mr. Dewees approved. Mayor Stonum made a motion to agree to accept “Memorandum of Understanding for Requesting Assistance” with Louisville Metro Government and Commissioner Maupin seconded it. Vote was unanimous.*

*At 7:22 pm, Mayor Stonum made a motion to begin Closed Session and it was seconded by Commissioner Adams. Vote was unanimous. Everyone except the Mayor and 4 Commissioners left the meeting room.*

*At 8:15 pm, Commissioner Metcalf made a motion to end the Closed Session and re-open the meeting. Commissioner Maupin seconded the motion. Everyone came back into the room.*

#### **Old Business:**

- *City Tax Ordinance explained by Mayor Stonum and why he feels we need to increase the tax rate by the allowed 4% . He made a motion to increase the tax rate by 4%. No one seconded the motion so there was more discussion. The current tax rate is .1688 and that would rise to .174 if increased by the allowed 4% property tax revenue. That would amount to an increase of \$8,000.00. Some of the upcoming expenses include salary increases for City Clerk, City Treasurer and the Commissioners along with Rumpke charges. Discussion over the rising tax rate along with other prices increasing and how it all affects our property owners. Discussion over the difference of the cost to property owners increasing 3% vs 4%. FYI – our only revenues come from property tax and insurance premium tax. Mayor Stonum had a discussion with Meadowvale about how they are handling garbage collection price increase. They may have property owners pay part of the cost. It was commented “Just because you can doesn’t mean you should.” Mayor Stonum made a motion to increase the property tax rate by 4% and it was seconded by Commissioner Adams. Roll Call Vote – Mayor Stonum – Yes; Commissioner Adams – Yes; Commissioner Metcalf – Yes; Commissioner Maupin – No; and Commissioner Beville – No. It passed.*
- *Delinquent Property Taxes reported by Treasurer Small. Attorney Dewees has filed tax liens.*
- *Budget Worksheet – Mayor Stonum explained it is up to date as of 4-30-24. Pointed out some line items. Much discussion on possible increases. Vote on the Budget Ordinance will happen at the June meeting.*
- *Ethics Committee – Dan Madison was approached to join the committee, but turned down the opportunity.*
- *Welcome Ambassadors – No one seems to be interested.*
- *Green Space Litter issue – Seems to have cured the issue and this will be the last month it will be discussed. (We were advised that Maximus Lawncare picks up litter when he works on the green space).*
- *KLC Summer Summit is June 5. \$150/attende.*
- *Radio Check tonight on Channel 8*
- *Radar Speed Sign – There is still a promotion going on where you buy 2 signs and get a 3<sup>rd</sup> one free. A few questions came up. Who maintains? Warranty? Are signs insured? Deductible? Mayor Stonum said Yes to insurance and warranty of 1 year. Suggestion that 2 signs be put across from the current ones facing the other direction. Possibly put 3<sup>rd</sup> sign in East Bay. Commissioner Adams made a motion to purchase 2 signs with 1 free; and Commissioner Beville seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Discussion about “Speed Radar Enforced” signs and Commissioner Beville offered to research them.*

- The subject of an “Emergency Workbook Plan” was brought up and discussed. Mayor Stonum advised that this subject was discussed in the past and not moved forward on. Suggested if there is an event and a street needs to be blocked off, use cones instead of barricades.
- Update on city plants
  - o 8 bushes are alive and planted. Sent pictures to Commissioner Beville
  - o Ornamental grass – Maximus Lawncare has let it grow larger and stronger. Has been trimmed. LG&E issue should be OK.
  - o Rose bushes are alive and blooming. Maximus Lawncare has trimmed them. Leave 1 more year.
  - o Crepe myrtles are growing, but still pretty small.
  - o Boydton makeover
    - **Commissioner Adams and her daughter moved rocks to cover landscape fabric. Need more rocks**
- Commissioner Beville:
  - o Spoke about the street signs. Some are blocked by mailboxes and poles. Suggested that they be made taller.
  - o Replace broken ones.
  - o She contacted Saf-T-Co 6 weeks ago, but still no response.
  - o Has contacted Lloyd Graves at Sign-A-Rama.
  - o Contacted Coldstream re: their speed bumps needing to be painted. No response.

**New Business:**

- Commissioner Adams found rocks for \$250.
  - o Treasurer Small suggested checking with Crane Landscaping.
  - o Commissioner Maupin thinks \$200 would be a fair amount to spend on rocks. Maybe use Maximus Lawncare. No motion needed for this expense since it’s part of the Boydton project which is covered by the road funds.
  - o Front island issues still outstanding. Flowers/bushes/tree trimming. Commissioner Adams still has \$4000-5000 left to improve front island makeover. Will tell Maximus Lawncare to trim trees. Plans/bid need to be received by COWH by June 30, 2024 and work done by August 31, 2024 to fall into current budget.
- Mayor Stonum explained:
  - o There is no cost increase in the KLC Bonding Renewal.
  - o City Audit. Bid from Bramel and Ackley for 2 years. Price locked in. He suggested that we have an audit both years. Discussion of audit vs. financial statement. No decision needed tonight, but COWH will need to inform Bramel and Ackley when decision is made.
  - o Middle Housing Proposal. The next meeting is June 1, 2024 at 1:00 pm. METRO may update Land Development Code to allow single family residential areas to be changed to duplexes, etc. He provided websites where we can do research on this.

**Commissioners’ Reports**

**Utilities Commissioner Maupin:**

- 4-22-24 Commissioner Beville reported no pickup from Rumpke
- 4-27-24 Received a forwarded email from Commissioner Adams in regards to Mrs. Eichenberger’s yard waste not being picked up.
- 4-28-24 I replied to both Commissioner Adams and Mrs. Eichenberger stating I would email Christopher Pierce with Rumpke on Monday morning.
- 4-30-24 I emailed Christopher Pierce letting him know about trash being missed at Treis Condos and yard waste not being picked up on Baygarden. He replied asking to be emailed right away if it happens again. He would send someone out.
- 5-6-24 Drove city for streetlight check
- 5-7-24 Received voicemail. No message left
- 5-20-24 Drove city for streetlight check

5-21-24          Attended city meeting. Read May emails. Will participate in radio check with Commissioner Metcalf.

***Property Maintenance Commissioner Adams:***

- Will participate in the radio checks with Commissioner Metcalf and everyone tonight – May 21st.
- Sent Commissioner Beville a picture of the downed speed bump sign located just before 3813 Northumberland.
- Commissioner Beville emailed a few days later and asked if I could have Maximus Lawncare trim back the ornamental grass on the Flagpole Island. I let him know and he did top it off and trim it back.
- My boyfriend and I planted the euonymus bushes on the landscaping island of Arwine. No cost to the city for our time and labor.
- Drove around the city on several occasions to check on the status of plants on the landscaping islands. Watered the euonymus bushes on Arwine a couple of times.
- Citizen concerns:
  - One citizen mentioned that the grass was really long at the house at the corner of Northumberland and Bay Run.
  - I received a call from a woman who lived on Arwine about the new bushes on Arwine. She was concerned that one of the bushes were dead but I assured her it was not. It was dropping leaves due to the stress of being transplanted but it is doing okay now. She also mentioned about that house on Northumberland and Bay Run and I told her it had been reported to 311. She also mentioned that the grass was high on the landscaping island at Arwine and I told her I would let Maximus Lawncare know.
  - Final citizen concern was from a man who emailed a question about removing solar panels, replacing roof, and then reinstalling the solar panels. He wanted to know if he needed a permit for that. I checked with Code Enforcement and they said that he did not need a permit to remove solar panels and then put them back on in the same locations after the roof was replaced.
- My daughter needed community service hours for Beta Club so she mowed and ran the weed eater on the long grass of the Arwine landscaping island while I supervised. She also dug out weeds that were growing on the pavement of the street beyond the curb.
- My daughter needed some more community service hours so I made a plan to have her work to fix up Boydton Island.
- Asked Mayor Stonum to buy some rocks to match the ones on Boydton Island but Lowe's didn't have the right kind so I had to return the rocks that Mayor Stonum bought back to Lowe's.
- My daughter and I raked and moved rocks from other parts of Boydton in order to cover the exposed landscaping fabric due to the paving project on Boydton last year. We worked together to plant some lamb's ear plants from our backyard that I've donated to COWH. This was a community service project so there was no cost to the city for our time or labor.
- This project isn't quite complete yet as there are still some more rocks to move to fill in a few bare areas and I have a few more lamb's ear plants that I can plant over on Boydton.
- I'm checking on and watering the lamb's ear plantings frequently until they are established.
- Invited Maximus Lawncare and MowBetterKY to the city meeting. Emailed both the new city meeting location.
- Sent MowBetterKY the bid spec sheet so he would have an idea of what to quote.
- Met with Mason of MowBetterKY and drove around to show him the landscaping islands and the work needing to be done there. Then, we walked the areas of the greenspace so I could show him the large areas needing to be mowed and maintained.

- Mason asked if he could have an aerial view of COWH with the areas he needed to mow and maintain highlighted so I requested this from Mayor Stonum.
- Mayor Stonum sent the aerial view to me the next day and I sent that to MowBetterKY via text and email.

**Safety Commissioner Metcalf:**

- Drove City at various times.
- Mayor Stonum and I went to P.O. each Friday except on 4/16/24 which was a Thursday
- Mayor Stonum and I went to storage area on one occasion.
- Informed Commissioner Beville of a suspicious vehicle parked at the end of Tazwell Dr. She called me on two other occasions about two other suspicious vehicles observed on camera. I informed Derby City Protection of these incidents. He agreed to note patrols through Treis Condos as Commissioner Beville requested.
- I received a call from Commissioner Maupin concerning a male living at 12110 East Bay Ct. attempting to break into a home on multiple occasions located at 12104 East Bay Ct . I informed Detective Mason of these incidents.
- On 4/29/24 I received a call from a landlord who owns a house at 4524 Pulaski Ct. She was complaining that the Mayor and an officer went into her house. I explained to her that they didn't and she hadn't filled out a vacant property form. She informed me she would do this.
- On 5/16/24 Mayor Stonum and I attended a JCLC meeting at Lyndon City Hall.
- On 5/4/24 issued parking permits to 12007 Rustburg Ct.
- On 5/5/24 issued parking permits to 4501 Micklenburg Ct.
- On 5/12/24 issued parking permits to 3821 Northumberland Dr.
- On 5/16/24 issued parking permits to 4003 Northumberland Dr.
- On 5/16/24 issued parking permits to 12008 Luray Ct.
- On 5/18/24 issued parking permits to 4405 Maxwell Ct.
- On 5/19 24 issued parking permits to 4511 Lunenburg Dr.

**Road Commissioner Beville:**

4/25/2024 – Contacted the City of Coldstream via its “Contact US” online form about the poor visibility of the speedbumps from the City entrance at Ballardsville Rd along Lunenburg up to Halifax. At this time I am waiting on a reply.

4/30/2024 – Met with Lloyd Graves from Signarama about relocating and/or replacing damaged traffic signs. The visibility of some of the signs is obstructed by mailboxes or other objects The work will be done at the following locations:

- Middlesex & Northumberland
- Northumberland and Bristol Bay
- 4115 Northumberland
- Bay Run Drive & Bay Run Ct.
- 12017 Halifax

Read reports in preparation for this evening’s meeting.

**Mayor’s Comments** – *In regards to the subject brought up and discussed last month by the representatives from Gardens of Bay Run, the mayor read his response letter.*

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 PM with a motion by Commissioner Maupin and seconded by Commissioner Adams.*

**Signatures:**

**City Clerk:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mayor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_