

**Council Meeting #726 Minutes  
November 16, 2022**

Mayor Heather Jansen called the November 16, 2022, Meeting of City of Villa Hills Council (Meeting #726) to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Dennis M. Stein Municipal Building, 719 Rogers Road, Villa Hills, Kentucky. Mayor Jansen led Council in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Lipson called the roll. Those in attendance:

**Mayor Jansen  
R. Baehner  
J. Cahill  
S. Ringo  
C. Stover  
S. Thompson  
S. Wadsworth**

**Jennifer Lipson, City Clerk  
Bryan Allen, Police Chief  
Derick Yelton, Public Works Director  
Joe Hill, City Attorney**

A quorum was present.

The first order of business for the meeting was approval of the minutes of the October 19, 2022, Council meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Baehner, seconded by Ms. Stover. A vote was taken All voting in favor, Motion passed.

The next item on the agenda was Police award presented by Chief Allen. Chief Allen recognized Officer Horseman for her lifesaving efforts performed on September 25, 2022. Units were dispatched to the Buttermilk Pike overpass for a suicidal subject. Officer Horseman, a Fort Mitchell Office, and a concerned citizen, Mr. Zimmer, talked with the subject to try to de-escalate the situation. Subject became agitated and started to fall, Officer Horseman, the Fort Mitchell officer and Mr. Zimmer swiftly acted and grabbed the subject and prevented them from falling to the ground below. The subject was taken to the hospital for assistance. For Officer Horseman's actions, she was awarded the Villa Hills Police Department Honorable Service Award.

**Committee Reports:**

**Police:**

- Chief Allen presented a Power Point of the October 2022 Police report.
- Chief Allen reported on crimes, accidents, overtime, training and K-9 activity. He noted of the 62 hours of overtime for the month, 12 were for a canine demonstration, 16 hours for court, and 19.5 hours were for a search warrant, which resulted in arrests.
- Chief Allen noted that most accidents locations occur on Buttermilk Pike between Anderson Road and the interstate. Council inquired about the cause of so many accidents along that stretch, Chief Allen noted that most accidents were caused by inattention, and drivers attempting to beat the lights. The traffic lights have been adjusted numerous times by the State Highway Department to increase traffic flow.

However the volume of traffic and lack of ability to widen the road over the railroad tracks slows the flow of traffic.

- K-9 had 8 narcotic searches in September, one of these searches resulted in the seizure of \$2,130 from the search warrant in Crescent Springs, and 2 arrests.
- Chief Allen reviewed that part of the monthly training was Body worn cameras, and gave an update on the AXON agreement and that the new cameras now have a sensor on weapons, that once a weapon is drawn, the camera will be activated. The new software also has redaction software, which is useful for records requests.
- Officer Mairose is finishing her field training and the plan is to have her on her own within a month.

### **Safety:**

- Mr. Baehner reported that the results of the speed stealth study on Riverwatch was reviewed and they found no chronic issues with speeding. There are isolated cases of speeding, but nothing chronic.
- Mr. Baehner informed Council that the letters mailed to the residents on Cecilia and Orchid resulted in 22 responses. 11 were for the removal and 11 were against it. On both sides of the issue, safety was a priority. The committee discussed the input received and is recommending that the stop sign remain in place, but an amendment to the city ordinance be made that will address the parking restrictions, which was the center of the issue.
- Mr. Baehner advised that there was discussion in the Safety meeting from Crescent Springs regarding the lack of a secondary means of egress from Crossings subdivision.

### **Public Works Committee:**

- Mr. Thompson gave the Public Works Committee report.
- Mr. Thompson reported that Public Works committee invited KYTC to their monthly meeting, as well as the City's engineer and Bayer Becker representatives. KYTC has put the brakes on moving forward, advising the City, that due to receiving grant money for the project, the City now needs to perform an Environmental study, as well as a Historical study. This will delay the project until 2024 or 2025.
- Ms. Wadsworth inquired about how price increases will affect the costs by waiting. Mr. Thompson advised that the OKI grant already has additional funds allocated to the grant, above what was requested, for inflation. Additionally, if the costs continue to rise, the City will have the ability to go back and request an increase in funding.
- Ms. Stover inquired about water drainage issues along Old Collins. Mr. Thompson advised that Old Collins is being redone and curbs will be added, and should resolve the issue..
- Mr. Thompson updated Council about a request for assistance from a resident for water issues along Orchid. There was discussion about who is responsible and that this issue is a homeowner issue on the rear of their properties. A comprehensive stormwater study may need to be completed to see where the water is coming from, and if the City did anything to cause the issue. Several members felt that the City should not be involved. Mr. Thompson plans to meet with the City Engineer to get his opinion on the issue.
- Mr. Thompson reported that the committee is discussing how to handle the sidewalk issues. PDS was commissioned to evaluate sidewalks in the city. 2 different inspectors were rating and evaluating sidewalks using different criteria. Logistically to make program work, it could be more work for Buck, if City sends letters for the resident to make repairs. There was also discussion about the City fixing and owner reimbursing the City. City needs to have a plan in place and money budgeted. Several Council

Members are not in favor of the City absorbing the cost. City needs to ask PDS about overseeing program, as well as follow-up inspections, and what the costs will be for PDS to administer. If City pays and resident reimburses, anything over \$250 could allow homeowner to amortize the amount over 2-3 tax periods. Mr. Thompson will gather additional information and return to the Public Works Committee, which will have a Special Meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00, then he will report back to Council at the Special Council Meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Public Works Director**

- Mr. Yelton reported that his crews were working on equipment maintenance, renovations to Police Department, and winterized parks and restrooms.
- Mr. Yelton inquired on who would be removing and storing AED's from the fields. Mr. Ringo will contact Chief Wendt to remove and store them for the winter.
- Mr. Yelton advised that generators are on order for the Administration building and the Public Works garage. These will be paid for with ARPA funds. The generators are currently scheduled to be installed on December 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Mr. Yelton thanked Garden Club and Wayne Slusher for the work they have done this year.

### **Events & Beautification:**

- Ms. Wadsworth reported that the committee had reviewed the success of the Villa-Ween event and that they are planning to add more carnival games, adjust the hours, and eliminate the movie.
- Ms. Wadsworth advised that Villa Hills is planning Christmas in the Park jointly with Crescent Springs and will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 5:30 – 8:30 at Lou Hartfiel Park. If there are any high school students looking for service hours, they are asked to contact Ms. Wadsworth.
  - There will be a petting zoo, train rides, fire pits, s'mores, kids' crafts, cookies, hot chocolate, eggnog, visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus and a tree lighting.
- Ms. Wadsworth informed Council that the committee was looking into having a joint ice skating night with Crescent Springs, and are also discussing a joint Easter Egg Hunt.
- The next meeting will be in January.

### **Finance:**

- Mr. Cahill gave the Finance report.
- Mr. Cahill informed Council that they may notice that the payments for Rumpke are higher than budgeted, and will be over budget for the year. This is due to the City taking the one-year extension on the contract and the renegotiated rate being \$3 higher per residence per month.
  - Mr. Cahill told Council that the current contract with Rumpke expires in June and the City need to start the bid process early, to get more bids.
- Mr. Cahill reported that the committee had discussed ARPA funds. The City has earmarked funds to the River Road sewer project. Mr. Bohman will be reporting back with additional projects to look at spending the money on.
- Mr. Cahill advised that the committee had reviewed the October financials and recommends Council approve the financials.
  - Mr. Cahill made a motion to approve October Financials, and to post the financials to the website, seconded by Mr. Ringo. All voted in favor, Motion passed.
- Mr. Cahill advised Mr. Thompson shared information on the SNK grant for sidewalks.
- Next meeting will be in January, due to the change of Council meeting night.

**Administration:**

- Ms. Stover advised that her committee had not met.
- Ms. Stover had City staff send out an email blast asking for resident input on solar panels. Out of 117 responses, only 17 were not in favor of solar panels on front facing homes. The other 100 were ok with them on the front of the house, if there is no other option for the homeowner. Some input received was to allow front facing, with restrictions.
  - Ms. Stover made a Motion to table Municipal Order 2022-J, until at least January, after she is able to meet with her committee again. Seconded by Ms. Wadsworth, All were in favor, Motion passed.

**Recreation:**

- Mr. Ringo advised that the fields were officially closed and that there should not be any sports occurring on the fields until spring. He also spoke with Wayne, and that he would like to return to caring for the fields again next year. The City looks forward to working with Wayne again next year.
  - Ms. Stover inquired about what appeared to be an adult group playing soccer on Tom Braun fields. Mr. Ringo advised that the fields were closed to those as well, and asked residents to call dispatch to report the activity, so police can respond and advise that participants that they must leave the fields.

**Fire Authority:**

- Mr. Ringo reported that the Fire Authority has not met for November yet.
- Mr. Ringo advised that there has been a lot of construction, and that with good weather, the walls of the firehouse should start going up soon. The contractor is reporting that they are currently about 1 month behind schedule, but believe they will be able to complete on time still.

**City Attorney:**

- Mr. Hill had no report.

**City Clerk:**

- Ms. Lipson advised that approximately 78% of payments have been received, and reminded residents that taxes are due on November 30<sup>th</sup>. On December 1<sup>st</sup> penalty and interest are added to the bills.

**Mayor's Report:**

- Mayor Jansen thanked Madonna Manor for inviting her to be guest speaker for their Veteran's Day ceremony. She reported that the fire department did a mini parade in the area after the ceremony for residents.
- Mayor Jansen advised that she was planning to call a Special Meeting early in December and cancel both the normal Caucus and Council meetings.

**Legislation:**

Mr. Hill advised that due to the revisions to Ordinance 2022-K, that a new first reading will need to be done and the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading will occur at the December meeting.

- **1<sup>st</sup> Reading and Discussion of draft Ordinance 2022-K**

An Ordinance of the City of Villa Hills, in Kenton County, Kentucky, amending Chapter 74 of the Villa Hills Code of Ordinances.

The amendments include the original proposed amendment regarding golf carts, and adds verbiage regarding parking on streets with no turn-around or cul-de-sac.

There was discussion by Council, inquiring if there are any other streets in the City that would be included in this change. The only other street that is a dead end is Old Collins, but the only stop sign is at the end of the street. It was also noted that once Old Collins is reconfigured, it will have a cul-de-sac.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

NONE

**General Comments**

Mr. Thompson announced that Public Works Committee will meet on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM.

Ms. Wadsworth noted that with the time frame, her committee will not meet in December.

Shop with a Cop and Firefighter will take place on December 14<sup>th</sup>. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with wrapping gifts, the volunteers will meet at the firehouse at 5:00 pm.

Ms. Wadsworth asked that anyone wishing to volunteer for Christmas in the Park, to please contact her.

Mayor Jansen announced that she is calling for a Special Council Meeting on December 7, 2022 at 6:30 pm.

At 7:58 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Baehner, seconded by Ms. Stover to go into Executive Session pursuant to KRS 61.810(f) discussions that may lead to the appointment, dismissal, or discipline of an individual employee without restricting the employee's right to a public hearing if requested. A voice vote was taken, all in favor. Motion passed.

At 8:16 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Stover, seconded by Ms. Wadsworth to adjourn from Executive Session. A voice vote was taken, all in favor. Motion passed.

At 8:17 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Baehner, seconded by Ms. Stover to adjourn. A voice vote was taken, all in favor. Motion passed.

Time of adjournment was 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jennifer Lipson, City Clerk

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Heather H. Jansen, Mayor

**CITY OF VILLA HILLS  
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2022-4**

**AN EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF VILLA HILLS, IN KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY APPOINTING ROD BAEHNER, JIM CAHILL, PAUL MORGAN, AND SCOTT RINGO AS THE VILLA HILLS' REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CRESCENT-VILLA FIRE AUTHORITY FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECMEBER 31, 2022.**

**SECTION I**

Effective January 1, 2023, it is hereby ordered by the Mayor of the City of Villa Hills that Councilmember Jim Cahill, Councilmember Scott Ringo, Rod Baehner, and Paul Morgan are hereby appointed as the City of Villa Hills' representatives to the Crescent-Villa Fire Authority Board.

**SECTION II**

That the appointments are for a one-year term, pursuant to the interlocal cooperation agreement, commencing January 1, 2023 and expiring December 31, 2023.

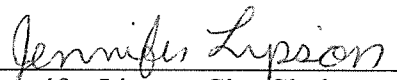
Executed by the Mayor this 6th day of December, 2022

CITY OF VILLA HILLS, KENTUCKY  
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE HOME RULE CLASS

BY: 

Heather H. Jansen, Mayor

Attest:

  
Jennifer Lipson, City Clerk