

**Caucus Meeting
March 13, 2024**

Mayor Heather Jansen called the March 13, 2024 City of Villa Hills Caucus meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. at the Dennis M. Stein Municipal Building, 719 Rogers Road, Villa Hills, Kentucky. Ms. Lipson called the roll. Those in attendance were:

**Mayor Jansen
J. Cahill
S. Ringo
C. Stover
S. Thompson
S. Wadsworth
K. Walsh**

**Aaren Meehan, City Attorney
Craig T. Bohman, City Administrator
Jennifer Lipson, City Clerk
Matt Hall, Police Chief
Tyler Brockman, Sergeant**

A quorum was present.

- The first item on the agenda was the draft budget summary and discussion. Mayor Jansen and Mr. Bohman informed Council that the proposal includes no increase in property tax, meaning Council could take compensating rate, unless there are changes. They held discussion regarding the increase in revenue from insurance premium tax and payroll tax, as well as the decrease in revenue from franchise fees.

The updated proposal includes salary adjustments for Police and Administrative staff and a 3% salary increase for all employees. The police department was made aware that one retire/rehire will be leaving at the end of his contract and the potential replacement will require an increase to the budget, as the retiree pool is going dry. The replacement will increase due to adding medical insurance and CERS for the officer. Mayor Jansen advised that a letter was sent to Crescent Springs with preliminary numbers for the budget, so they can plan appropriately too.

There was concern that the City will need to look at increasing revenue to help with costs for both Fire Department personnel and the road replacement program in future years.

There was discussion regarding the salary survey and where Villa Hills fell with keeping all employees in the desired ranges for their positions.

Several wish list items were reviewed: New tasers for police officers are being proposed as a group contract with body camera package, video storage, and support from AXON. Police are also requesting a new cruiser for the K-9 unit, as the existing

unit is 6 years old with almost 102,000 miles. Chief Hall also advised that they would likely be looking to purchase a new dog for the next K-9 unit, but he needs to ensure he has the personnel to continue the program.

Public Works requested a new tractor, as the current one is getting costly on repairs, and also a split seeder for use at the parks, and for all green space maintained by the city. Mr. Ringo requested to add to the wish lists \$25,000 to replace 50-year old fencing at Franzen field. Wayne has returned for another season of helping with the field maintenance at both Franzen and Tom Braun Fields.

- The next item on the agenda was general discussion.

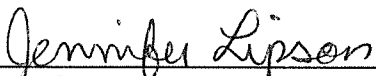
Mr. Ringo announced that we had many positive comments regarding the Shadow Night meeting and thanked everyone for their participation. He then informed Council that Ms. Stover has agreed to take over being in charge of Shadow Night in the future.

Mr. Cahill inquired if there were thoughts on a shredding day. Mayor Jansen advised that she had just received information about doing a joint shred event with Crescent Springs. They are looking for a company and will let us know cost. Crescent Springs would also like to have 2 dumpsters on site for trash drop off – both would be limited to the day of the event from 8 am – 2 pm, with plans to check id's to ensure those attending are residents of Crescent Springs or Villa Hills. These details are still being worked out.


With there being no further discussion or comments, a motion was made by Ms. Stover, seconded by Mr. Ringo to adjourn. Motion carried voice vote all in favor.

Time of adjournment was 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Lipson, City Clerk



Heather H. Jansen, Mayor