

Georgetown City Council Meeting  
January 10, 2011  
6:00 p.m.

The Georgetown City Council Meeting convened with Mayor Everette Varney presiding, members present, Lusby, McEuen, Penn, Prather, Singer, Skinner, Tackett, and Thompson. Council Lusby led the pledge of allegiance after a moment of silence.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion by Lusby, second by McEuen to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2010 Special Council Meeting and the December 13, 2010 Council Meeting. Motion unanimously approved.**

**2. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF BILLS:**

Mayor Varney requested council to acknowledge receipt of bills. **Council acknowledged receipt of all bills.**

**3. PUBLIC CONCERNS:**

Nancy Giles voiced her concern about snow in commercial parking lots being piled in handicap parking spaces making it difficult for those who need to use those parking spaces. The Mayor agreed with Giles but explained that those businesses were private entities and that the city had no jurisdiction in this matter. **Thompson** said that he would speak to management at Wal Mart where he is employed.

**4. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

The Mayor welcomed the old and new council members and thanked them for stepping forward to serve the City of Georgetown.

The mayor thanked Doug McSwain for serving the City of Georgetown as city Attorney and had discussed with McSwain his desire to have a city attorney that could work within city hall. McSwain was not able to commit any additional hours and has turned in his resignation. The mayor said we would be calling McSwain when we needed additional help

The Mayor introduced Frank Edelen Jr. as the new city attorney. The mayor feels the city is extremely fortunate to have Edelen with his many years of experience municipal law. The mayor asked for the council's approval. **Motion by Penn second by Singer to approve Frank Edelen as city attorney. Motion unanimously approved.**

Mayor Varney introduced Betty Pendergrass as the new city finance director. She is extremely qualified and has taken on an important job for the city and we will be very dependant on her.

Mayor Varney introduced Ginny Kladis his administrative assistant stating it is her job to be the friendliest most helpful person in City Hall. Her main duty will be to make sure the Mayor is taken care of.

Mayor Varney thanked Tackett for forwarding information on the City Officials Academy to be held January 26-28 at the Marriot in Lexington. The mayor invited the council to attend and said it was a very informative seminar about city government. Those interested should call Ginny and she will handle the reservations and the city will pay for the class.

Mayor Varney announced a retreat for the council and directors to be held at the Thomas and King Leadership Center January 29, 2011 from 9:00 to 4:00. He hopes everyone will attend to make plans for the next two years. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Mayor Varney addressed articles in the newspaper about the council being divided. He believes that the council is very important and that they are the driving force for what he will be able to accomplish. Time will tell if we are a divided council but as of now we are united.

Mayor Varney voiced his concern about the Just Cause Act saying it is not needed. If we are going to dismiss an employee there will be a reason. He would like to put this in the handbook and make it a policy. He stressed the importance of documentation so there would be no confusion if an employee was dismissed.

Singer referred to the Just Cause Ordinance and stated the expiration date was not until July 1, 2011. The mayor would like to amend the ordinance as soon as possible to let city employees know that this is a just cause administration. McSwain said that the changes would have to be made by ordinance and Penn volunteered to sponsor this ordinance.

Mayor Varney received a letter from the Scott County Chapter of the NAACP requesting approval for the annual Martin Luther King march beginning at 4:00 pm on College Street in front of the student center. **Motion for approval by Thompson, second by Penn to approve street closing for Martin Luther King March. Motion unanimously approved.**

Mayor Varney invited everyone to attend and march with him to honor a great American. John Douglas also invited everyone to a program at John L Hill Chapel beginning at 5:00pm.

**5. FINANCE UPDATE:**

Betty Pendergrass stated that balancing numbers is her favorite thing to do. She feels the services and programs delivered by local government are important to quality of life in small communities. Pendergrass says her objective for the analysis will give the policy makers in this community will have all the information to make decisions and how those decisions impact the finances. Monthly financial reports will be received showing budget to actual with information about cash and investment balances and interest rates. She is here to make sure you have the information you need. A brief overview was given about the report which contains multi year analysis and trends. The numbers are not final as we have not received our auditor's adjustments for 2010. Pendergrass spoke about the changes over the years in licenses, fees, and permits. She also focused on net change in fund balance. This will be the format that will be seen in the future. Net change in fund balance needs to be a positive number. Pendergrass will be studying economic trends in Georgetown before a budget is presented. Pendergrass feels positive about the percentage of collections to date as compared with previous years. Singer asked Pendergrass if she knew from year to year what the net profits receipts are as part of the licenses and fees and permits lies. Pendergrass said that net profit component was not the significant component. She said that in most local governments that revenue is generally paid by the payroll tax withholding. It is normally a ninety/ten split. Expenditures were also analyzed and Pendergrass feels comfortable with the numbers at this time. The city is running a deficit at this time but Pendergrass feels that this is due to the collections during the last 6 months of the year. She expects that this will turn around in the second 6 months of the year when you receive more revenue than you expend. This number will be watched closely. Penn asked about the 2010 deficit and Pendergrass explained that the same pattern was there then. Pendergrass ended with items that would cause concern in the 2011 budget and future budget. She promised to bring a balanced budget in 2012 but said that it would be difficult with the big ticket items we need to address. Pendergrass said that until we have consistent job growth we will struggle with revenues for local government.

**6. GEORGETOWN / SCOTT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
SEEKING 2 CITY COUNCIL VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE ON  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE:**

Earl Smith addressed the council concerning the comprehensive plan for the city. Every 5 years the community is required to reevaluate the comprehensive plan and Smith has put together a committee of 24 people to represent the community. He is now looking for 2 volunteers from the city council to serve on this committee. Prather and Tackett will serve on the steering committee.

7. **BOARD APPOINTMENT FOR GEORGETOWN/ SCOTT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Mayor Varney presented Georgetown/Scott County Planning Commission appointment, Greg Hampton (his second 4 year term). **Motion by Prather, second by Tackett to approve the Georgetown/Scott County Planning Commission appointment. Motion unanimously approved.**

8. **BOARD APPOINTMENT FOR GEORGETOWN/SCOTT COUNTY AIRPORT BOARD:**

Mayor Varney presented Georgetown/Scott County Airport Board appointment, Bill Taylor (his first term). **Motion by Singer, second by Thompson to approve the Georgetown/Scott County Airport board appointment. Motion unanimously approved.**

9. **BOARD APPOINTMENT FOR GEORGETOWN/SCOTT COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD:**

Mayor Varney presented Georgetown/Scott County Parks and Recreation Board city appointment, Mary Robey Singer (replacing Melody Palmer) and joint appointment Dr. Chad Wallace (replacing Bill Hamilton). **Motion by Thompson, second by McEuen to approve the Georgetown/Scott County Board appointments. Motion approved with Lusby, McEuen, Penn, Prather, Skinner, Tackett, and Thompson voting; yes, Singer recused**

10. **BLUEGRASS AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:**

Mayor Varney presented Bluegrass Area Development District Board appointments Jack Conner Development Advisory Committee, Linda Wise Human Services Advisory Committee, Eric Larson and Billy Jenkins Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Advisory Committee, D.T. Wells (replacing Jane Bryant whose term expired) Tourism, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Advisory **Motion by Thompson, second by Singer to approve the Bluegrass Area Development District appointments. Motion unanimously approved.**

11. **GEORGETOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD:**

Mayor Varney presented Housing Authority Board appointment Tim Foley. **Motion by Tackett, second by Penn to approve the Georgetown Housing Authority Board appointment. Motion unanimously approved.**

**12. COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Council Thompson was approached about an insurance issue by a city employee. The issue concerned ambulance service. Mayor Varney said he would have H.R. check into this.

Council Lusby thanked Doug McSwain for doing an outstanding job for the city. Lusby also expressed concern about board appointments. When they begin and end. Mayor Varney said that all board appointments had been updated and he would send out the current list. Penn clarified that he thought Lusby was talking about expiration dates and said perhaps they could have the expiration dates expire at the end of a term or at the end of the fiscal year.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion by Tackett, second by Singer to enter executive session. Pursuant to KRS 61.878 (1) ( c ) and ( g ) for the purpose of discussions concerning Madison County Fiscal Court, et al. v. Kentucky Labor Cabinet et al. discussions with a representative of a business entity and/or discussions concerning a specific proposal for which open discussion would jeopardize the siting, retention, expansion or upgrading of the business. Discussions of potential litigation for which disclosure of details might compromise litigation posture.**

**Motion by Prather, second by Skinner to re-enter regular session of the council meeting. No action taken. Motion unanimously approved.**

**Motion by Thompson, second by Skinner to adjourn the council meeting. Motion unanimously approved.**

APPROVED BY:

  
Everett Varney, Mayor

ATTESTED BY:

  
Tracie Hoffman, City Clerk/Treasurer