

# CITY COUNCIL

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 21, 2025

**Attending In-Person:** Mayor Doug Farnsley; Council Members John Clark, John Evans, Christian Furman, Don Gibson, David Holmes, and Sandra Leonard; Police Chief Tony Denham , C.A.O. and City Clerk John S. Carter

**Participating Remotely:** Director of Public Works Ron Cundiff

### **Call to Order**

Mayor Farnsley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Council Member Clark moved to approve the minutes from March 17, 2025, regular council meeting, seconded by Council Member Evans, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Citizen Comments**

- Oldham County residents Weasie Gaines and Nick Russ voiced their concern over plans to develop a large data center on 267 acres of agricultural-zoned property in Oldham County. Ms. Gaines and Mr. Russ believe the size of the proposed industrial development will be detrimental to Oldham County and surrounding areas such as Prospect, due to the light, noise and water pollution it will create, and put a strain on the existing power grid. They urged the mayor, council and Prospect residents to oppose this proposed development.

### **Mayor's Report**

- The mayor advised the council that the May 19<sup>th</sup> regular council meeting will be canceled due to scheduling conflicts, and that a special council meeting will be held on Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm.
- On April 12<sup>th</sup> nine city volunteers picked up trash along U.S. Hwy 42. The mayor thanked the volunteers, the city's police officers and public works director for their work.
- Several adults and children participated in the wildflower walk sponsored by the Parks Committee, held on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> led by Carolyn Embry and Jacqueline McGrail.
- There are several upcoming city events scheduled, including Kentucky Shakespeare's production of MacBeth on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, the Spring Library Book sale on May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kids Fest on June 14<sup>th</sup> in Little Hunting Creek Park.

- On June 5<sup>th</sup> the mayor, city council members and the architectural review committee members will visit Carmel, Indiana to learn more about highway roundabouts and land development.
- The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet recently held a stakeholders meeting at Prospect City Hall to discuss the proposed improvements to U.S. Hwy 42 that will establish several roundabouts through Prospect's business corridor. The city plans to implement many of the other public safety projects for U.S. 42 recommended in the July 2022 Transportation Planning Study.

### **Financial Reports**

The City Administrator presented a synopsis of the city's finances for March 2025.

- Cash on hand totaled approximately \$3.7 million, of which approximately \$2.4 million is unrestricted funds.
- The city has earned approximately 89% of its annual revenue.
- The capital project fund balance is approximately \$98K.
- The restricted Road Aid Fund balance is approximately \$185K.

### **Commission and Board Reports**

On behalf of the Forestation Board, Chairperson Linda Knox presented an oral report:

- The Spring Canopy Tree program has proved to be successful with 11 new trees being provided to residents.
- The committee will be reviewing reports of the dangerous trees to determine if there is any need for remediation.
- The 2025-2026 City Tree Plan is currently being prepared and is expected to be submitted to the council at its next meeting.

On behalf of the Investment Committee, Council Member Clark, presented an oral and written report:

- The committee has reviewed the city's investment policy and found the city in compliance with the policy and state law, and recommended no change to the current investment policy.
- The city's total investments at the end of March, 2025 totaled \$3.66 million divided into three investments managed by PNC, a Money Market Fund, Enhanced Income Fund and S&P 500 Index Fund.
- The committee recommends that all allocations remain the same, including investing \$5K per month in the S&P 500 Index Fund.

### **Other Reports**

Council Member Leonard reported that the Jefferson County League of Cities [JCLC] recently held its annual meeting. The guest speakers were Kentucky League of Cities C.E.O., J.D. Chaney and

Director of Government Affairs, Gracie Kelly. Mr. Chaney and Ms. Kelly provided an update of state legislative activity during the past general session.

On behalf of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, Member Tina Beavin presented an oral and written report.

- In the past month the committee has sponsored three events, the U.S. Hwy 42 cleanup held on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, a Hike and Listen Lecture through Putney Pond Park on Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> and a Spring Wildflower Hike through Hunting Creek Park on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>.
- The city's invasive plant removal contractor, ICF, is to begin invasive plant removal in the city's parks this month.
- An examination of park trails shows they are currently in good condition despite recent spring storms.
- The committee is sponsoring Kentucky Shakespeare's production of MacBeth at the John Evans Pavilion this coming Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. There are several other events and concerts scheduled throughout the summer.

#### **Police Report:**

Police Chief Denham reported:

- The details of the written report on arrests and call responses were presented.
- There have been some complaints about door-to-door sales. Only licensed solicitors are allowed to operate in the city.
- The chief urged residents to always lock their cars and secure garages to avoid crimes of opportunity.
- The department continues to get reports of financial scams perpetrated on elderly residents. The chief urged all residents to contact the police whenever they have questions about scams or are concerned about being scammed.

#### **Old Business**

- Council Member Gibson moved for the second reading and passage of **Ordinance 648, Series 2025, AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT AND MODIFICATION OF CHAPTER 150: BUILDING REGULATIONS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PROSPECT**, seconded by Council Member Clark.
  - Council Member Holmes moved to amend **Ordinance 648, Series 2025, §150.02 (L)** by deleting "three-quarter (3/4) acre" and inserting "one-half (1/2) acre", seconded by Council Member Gibson. A roll call vote was held: Yea: Clark, Evans, Furman, Gibson and Holmes Nay: Leonard. The motion passed 5–1.

A roll call vote was held on **Ordinance 648, Series 2025**, as amended: Yea: Clark, Evans, Furman, Gibson, Holmes and Leonard. Nay: None. The motion passed 6–0.

*This ordinance amends building regulations to allow for the construction of pool houses on certain residential lots.*

- Council Member Leonard moved for the second reading and passage of **Ordinance 649, Series 2025**, AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT AND MODIFICATION OF CHAPTER 154: SWIMMING POOLS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PROSPECT, seconded by Council Member Gibson.

- Council Member Clark moved to amend **Ordinance 649, Series 2025**, §154.06 by deleting “a green barrier” and inserting “materials of similar design, character, and construction of the residential dwelling”, seconded by Council Member Leonard. A roll call vote was held: Yea: Clark, Evans, Furman, Gibson, Holmes and Leonard. Nay: None. The motion passed 6–0.

A roll call vote was held on **Ordinance 649, Series 2025**, as amended: Yea: Clark, Evans, Furman, Gibson, Holmes and Leonard. Nay: None. The motion passed 6–0.

*This ordinance amends swimming pool regulations to require the screening of pool equipment from the view of adjacent properties.*

- Council Member Holmes moved for the second reading and passage of **Ordinance 650, Series 2025**, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE MUNICIPAL ROAD AID FUND OF THE CITY OF PROSPECT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, seconded by Council Member Furman. A roll call vote was held: Yea: Clark, Evans, Furman, Gibson, Holmes and Leonard. Nay: None. The motion passed 6–0.

*This ordinance amends the Municipal Road Aid budget for the current fiscal year.*

- Council Member Holmes second reading and passage of **Ordinance 651, Series 2025**, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL FUND OF THE CITY OF PROSPECT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, seconded by Council Member Furman. A roll call vote was held: Yea: Clark, Evans, Furman, Gibson, Holmes and Leonard. Nay: None. The motion passed 6–0.

*This ordinance amends the budget for the general funds for the current fiscal year.*

### **New Business**

- Council Member Furman moved to approve an application of Building Plans to construct a Commercial Tenant Building at 8907H U.S. Hwy 42, seconded by Council Member Holmes. A roll call vote was held: Yea: Clark, Evans, Furman, Gibson, Holmes and Leonard. Nay: None. The motion passed 6–0.

- Council Member Leonard moved for the first reading of **Ordinance 652, Series 2025**, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A UNIFORM FRANCHISE AGREEMENT, seconded by Council Member Clark. A roll call vote was held: Yea: Clark, Evans, Furman, Gibson, Holmes and Leonard. Nay: None. The motion passed 6–0.

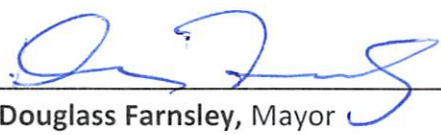
*This ordinance authorizes the mayor to enter a franchise agreement with Lumos Fiber of Kentucky, LLC.*

**Adjournment:** Council Member Clark moved to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Leonard, and the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Farnsley declared the meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Prepared by:

  
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John S. Carter, City Clerk

Approved:

  
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Douglass Farnsley, Mayor

*This meeting was live-streamed on YouTube.*