

**CITY OF EDGEWOOD  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
February 6, 2023  
6:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Link called the meeting of the Edgewood City Council to order at 6:30pm. The following council members were present: Ben Barlage, Darla Kettenacker, Joe Messmer, Jeff Schreiber, Scott Spille, Rob Thelen and Kim Wolking. Also, in attendance were City Administrator Brian Dehner, City Clerk Belinda Nitschke and City Attorney Frank Wichmann.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CITIZENS DESIRING RECOGNITION ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA** – None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Mr. Dehner added item #10 under Unfinished Business – Charter Oak. Mayor Link added Proclamation 2023-01 – Roger Rolfes Day under Report/Presentations.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – January 23, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes – Mrs. Wolking made a motion to adopt the January 23, 2023 minutes as written; second by Mr. Thelen. **Motion passed: 7 ayes – 0 nays.**

**REPORT/PRESENTATIONS** – **Proclamation 2023-01 – Roger Rolfes Day** – Mayor Link presented the proclamation to council and will present it to his family at his visitation on February 7, 2023. Mr. Rolfes served the city for twelve years as the city administrator and the city appreciates his service.

Mayors Report – The Mayor’s group met on January 21<sup>st</sup> and discussed the following: Kenton County Payroll tax increase from .709 to .909 and raised their maximum as well. Judge Knochelman attended the meeting and stated that they needed the revenue to help with their financial situation. The county is looking to lower their property tax and increase the payroll tax. Council discussed the calculation of these rates by the county. The Mayor’s group discussed Senate Bill 50 and House Bill 50 and they are against the partisan aspect in local elections. Also, discussed was House Bill 1 the reduction of the income tax from 4.5% to 4% by January 2024. Mayor Link stated that the city will not be having the appreciation dinner this year and wanted to thank the following employees for their years of service: Tom Dickman 20 years, Belinda Nitschke 10 years, Chris Snyder 10 years, Chris Whittenberger 5 years, Sandy Cleveland 5 years and Ron Everman 5 years. Mayor Link went over the legislative schedule dates. The Chamber of Commerce will be having a night out on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Also, KLC will have a night out on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mayor Link spoke with Gabrielle Summe and she stated she has an outside group working to find more and better locations for the elections and that she is willing to come to the cities and present the study and solutions to meet the Department of Justice and ADA requirements.

Resolution 2023-01 – **A Resolution Opposing the Passage of Senate Bill 50 and House Bill 50 Relating to Partisan Local Elections.** Mrs. Kettenacker made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-01; second by Mr. Spille. **Motion passed: 7 ayes – 0 nays.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – Mr. Dehner – updated council on Charter Oak planning process. Mr. Dehner stated that the city needs to start discussions with an engineer due to staffing issues with engineering firms. Mr. Dehner proposed to hold a larger meeting at the senior center to discuss the proposed improvements and plans with the public. Mr. Dehner asked council if they would like to proceed. Council agreed to go forward with a study for Charter Oak improvements. Mr. Dehner will reach out to CT Consultants. Mrs. Kettenacker asked Mr. Dehner for the number of houses that were expected to be built at the back of Charter Oak. Mr. Dehner stated that approval of a preliminary plat has been granted and once they get approval of a final plat, they can begin construction. Mr. Dehner stated that there is nothing council can do to stop this development from going forward. Mrs. Kettenacker stated that 22 houses in Edgewood and 39 houses in Erlanger are currently planned. Mr. Dehner stated that the zoning was not changed and should be the same as Grand Garden. Mr. Schreiber stated that this is a preliminary plat and could change and is the first phase of the project.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Mrs. Kettenacker made a motion to cancel the February 20, 2023 council meeting; second by Mr. Messmer. **Motion passed: 7 ayes – 0 nays.**

**Regional Ethics Authority Discussion** – The NKADD has a joint regional ethics authority. Mr. Dehner stated there are approximately 10 – 15 cities that participate. Mr. Dehner stated our committee has not met in many years and recommended that the city join the joint authority. Mrs. Kettenacker wanted more information on the NKADD and the regional ethics authority. Mrs. Kettenacker recommended that the city become a certified city of ethics through KLC. Mr. Dehner will look into what is needed for the training.

**Kenton County Joint Board of Adjustments Discussion** – Mr. Dehner stated that we have had some resignations from the Board of Adjustments and it is very difficult to find members to serve on the board. Mr. Dehner would like council to consider joining the Kenton County Board of Adjustments. Mr. Dehner stated there are very specific procedures and legalities that you have to follow for the hearings. Mr. Schreiber was concerned about taking the decision out of the hands of our residents who have a vested interest in our community. Mr. Barlage gave an example of an issue Brookwood had that was resolved in house and it was a positive outcome. Mrs. Kettenacker agreed that keeping the Board of Adjustments with Edgewood residents. Mr. Dehner stressed that it has been difficult to get the current members in compliance with their training. Council would like more information on the matter before making a decision. Mrs. Nitschke concurred that getting a quorum for the meetings has been difficult. Mr. Spille stated that there is interest to learn more and discussing the issue further.

**Mayors’ Monarch Pledge** – Mr. Dehner stated that there is a commitment involved for the Mayor to do the pledge and wanted council’s agreement to go forward with the pledge. Council agreed to move forward.

**ORDINANCES, MUNICIPAL ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS** – Municipal Order 2023-01 – **Approval of Board Members.** Mr. Spille made a **motion** to adopt Municipal Order 2023-01; second by Mrs. Wolking. **Motion passed: 7 ayes – 0 nays.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- “Halloween Town Murder” Mystery Dinner – March 4<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center. \$25 per person, sign up at the city building.
- March 6<sup>th</sup> Meditation Class from 11-Noon at the Senior Center, musty pre-register
- Chair Yoga from 11-Noon at the Senior Center March 9, 16 & 23, must pre-register
- Free Ice Skating at the NKY Ice Center – March 12<sup>th</sup> 5:15-7:15 – first 150 residents.

Mr. Dehner is meeting with Kroger about zoning issues this Friday and will hopefully get a timetable for the project. Mrs. Kettenacker asked what is happening at the Pizza Hut site. Mr. Dehner stated that gas pumps were in the original design.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Spille made a **motion** to adjourn at 7:54 p.m.; second by Mrs. Kettenacker. **Motion passed: 7 ayes – 0 nays.**

Attest: Belinda Nitschke  
Belinda Nitschke, City Clerk

John D. Link  
Mayor John D. Link

Date passed: 3/6/23