

CITY OF EDGEWOOD
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2025
6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Link called the meeting of the Edgewood City Council to order at 6:30 pm. The following council members were present: Ben Barlage, Joe Messmer, W. Jamie Ruehl, Jeff Schreiber, and Bridget Grady Spears. Also, in attendance were City Administrator Brian Dehner, City Clerk Belinda Nitschke, and City Attorney Frank Wichmann. Other staff members present: Fire Chief, Tom Dickman, Police Chief, James “Jimmy” Kreinest, and General Services Director, Rick Lunnemann. Council members Scott Spille and Rob Thelen were absent.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS DESIRING RECOGNITION ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA – Bridget Barone, 452 Larkspur Court – Ms. Barone stated that the intersection at Larkspur Court and White Oak Drive is a two-way stop and has been a dangerous safety issue for years. Ms. Barone stated that with traffic parked on the right side of the street, traffic is moved in the path of oncoming traffic, and that cars turning right may not even look right before turning into the oncoming traffic. Ms. Barone asked council to act on this issue. Mr. Dehner stated that he spoke with Chief Kreinest about the issue and that the city can post signs to keep cars from parking too close to the intersection. Chief Kreinest agreed that signs regarding parking at the intersection would be helpful, and the police department will step up patrols of that intersection. Mr. Dehner stated that the city could post on the stop signs that oncoming traffic does not stop.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Approved

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 18, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes – Mr. Schreiber made a **motion** to approve the August 18, 2025, minutes as written; second by Mr. Messmer. **Motion passed: 5 ayes – 0 nays.**

REPORT/PRESENTATIONS – Chief Kreinest informed council that there are new faces in the police department as well as promotions. Chief Kreinest recognized Sergeant Buchanan for his efforts in hiring the best candidates for the department. Chief Kreinest stated that he has worked very hard to ensure that the new members of the team are welcomed into the department. Chief Kreinest introduced the new officers: Officer SirDarius Barnes, who has 5 years of experience as an officer and previous SWAT experience. Chief Kreinest introduced the department's newest recruit, Officer Austin Ford is a Northern Kentucky native and will attend the police academy in December. Chief Kreinest introduced the new Turkeyfoot SRO, Sam Goodman, who retired from the Lakeside Park Crestview Hills Police Department with 23 years in law enforcement. Chief Kreinest congratulated Officer Brian Machal, who was recently promoted to Sergeant with the department and has over 20 years of police experience. Mayor Link swore in new officer Austin Ford.

PDS – Megan Bessey – Final Z21 Presentation – Ms. Bessey presented to council the requested changes to the Z21 plan. Ms. Bessey went over the changes requested and noted any slide with a blue star included something new added to the plan, and any changes required by KRS. The plan reduces 18 zones to 12 zones. Council decided to change the mixed-use designation on Horsebranch back to residential. Ms. Bessey stated that a resolution or municipal order is needed for the changes to move forward. Mr. Dehner stated that it would be introduced at the October meeting.

Mayor Link announced that the ribbon-cutting for the new Kroger will be this Friday, September 19th at 7:30 am. Mayor Link stated everyone was invited and the doors will open at 8:00 am. Mayor Link presented the new Autumn banners that will be displayed throughout the city.

Staff Reports – CAO, City Clerk, Fire, General Services, Police & Recreation – Mr. Ruehl asked Mr. Dehner who Palmer is in regards to Dudley Road Phase III & IV project. Mr. Dehner stated that Palmer was hired by KYTC to perform a historic and environmental review as is required by the grant. Mayor Link stated that the new playground at the back of Presidents Park has been installed, but we are waiting on the rubber surface before it can open. Mr.

Ruehl wanted to make note that the city has lost another Sergeant to another city working as a patrol officer, making \$10,000 more, and losing talent due to salary disparity for our Sergeants and Patrol Officers is an on-going issue.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

ORDINANCES, MUNICIPAL ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS – Ordinance 2025-09-06 – Fiscal Year 25/26

Property Tax Rate – 1st reading. Mr. Wichmann read the following: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EDGEWOOD, IN KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, PROVIDING FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF ALL REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF EDGEWOOD, WHICH IS SUBJECT TO TAXATION THEREBY, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025 AND ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2026, AND PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT AND COLLECTION OF SUCH TAXES, AND PENALTIES AND INTEREST THEREON; AND DESCRIBING THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH SUCH TAXES SO COLLECTED SHALL BE APPROPRIATED AND USED.** Summary – An ad valorem tax on real property at the rate of \$0.185 Dollars for each One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars of the value and an ad valorem tax on personal property at the rate of \$0.173 Dollars for each One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars of the value.

Ordinance 2025-09-07 – Amendment to Alcohol Beverage Sales – 1st reading. Mr. Wichmann read the following: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EDGEWOOD, IN KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE 1992-18 OF THE CITY, AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME AND NOW CODIFIED AS SECTION 112.10 OF THE EDGEWOOD CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REVISE THE HOURS WHEN THE RETAIL SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE PROHIBITED IN THE CITY.** Summary – Changing the Sunday sales start time from 11:am to 8:am.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Touch a Truck is October 4th from Noon – 2:pm in Freedom Park
- Spooky Sunday is October 19th at 4:pm in Presidents Park, join us at St. Pius at 3:45 for the costume parade.
- Fall Chair Yoga starts October 22nd at 11:am at Liberty Hall. This event is free, please pre-register.

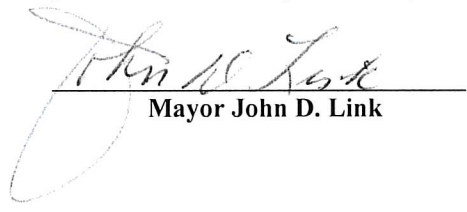
ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Messmer made a **motion** to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.; second by Mr. Ruehl. **Motion passed: 5 ayes – 0 nays.**

Attest: _____


Belinda Nitschke, City Clerk

Date passed: _____


10/6/25

Mayor John D. Link