

# CITY OF HENDERSON – RECORD BOOK

Record of Minutes of     A Regular     Meeting on     January 24, 2023    

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Henderson, Kentucky, was held on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at 3:00 p.m., prevailing time, in the third floor Assembly Room of the Municipal Center, 222 First Street, Henderson, Kentucky, designated as the primary location for this video teleconference meeting allowed under KRS 61.826.

MAYOR STATON led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to our American Flag.

There were present Mayor Brad Staton presiding:

PRESENT:

Commissioner Austin P. Vowels  
 Commissioner Rodney Thomas  
 Commissioner Robert N. Pruitt, Sr.  
 Commissioner Nicholas E. Whitt

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. William L. “Buzzy” Newman, Jr., City Manager  
 Mrs. Dawn Kelsey, City Attorney  
 Ms. Maree Collins, City Clerk  
 Mr. Heath Cox, Assistant City Manager  
 Mrs. Holli Blanford, Public Information Officer  
 Mr. Robert Gunter, Finance Director  
 Mr. Sean McKinney, Police Chief  
 Mr. Brian Williams, Public Works Director  
 Mr. David Steele, Sanitation Superintendent  
 Mrs. Donna Madden, Administrative Secretary  
 Mr. Travis Owens, Assistant IT Director  
 Senator Robby Mills, Nu-Works  
 Ms. Tammy Sutton, Audubon Kids Zone Executive Director  
 Ms. Nivea Carter, Nu-Works Neighborhood Coordinator  
 Ms. Missy Vanderpool, Henderson Economic Development Executive Director  
 Mr. Dwight Williams  
 Mr. Brady Williams, News 14 Reporter  
 Mr. Marty Wilson, Police Officer

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PRESENTATION: “Nu-Works Neighborhood Champion Program Update”

SENATOR ROBBY MILLS, Nu-Works Neighborhood Champion Program, introduced NIVEA CARTER, Neighborhood Coordinator, and presented information relating to the finished work plan based upon resident input for the resident-led initiative for positive and sustainable change. The Plan includes three main areas of concern: Livability to enhance the wholistic health and wellbeing of neighborhood residents; Youth & Lifelong Learning to provide access to a rich array of lifelong learning opportunities for all ages; and Neighboring & Community to build a connected community where every person can thrive in dignity. This strategic action is designed to amplify neighborhood strengths, align neighbor’s desires, build positive momentum towards action, and guide revitalization efforts for the next several years.

TAMMY SUTTON, Audubon Kids Zone Executive Director, reported that Ms. Carter will be working under AKZ and will begin meeting with residents on a regular basis to continue accessing the needs of residents.

MAYOR STATON welcomed the group back for this update indicating that this groundwork is a great start. He then reported that many of the concerns listed such as increased safety, blight and housing, attracting businesses and business opportunities, increasing digital access, and promoting neighborhood beautification, as well as others, are also concerns of this Board and line up with the five areas of concern and committees in the Inner City Improvement Plan that will be introduced later on this agenda.

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APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

MAYOR STATON asked the City Clerk to read the Consent Agenda. (Minutes of the January 10, 2023, regular meeting were pulled at the request of the newly seated Commissioner prior to the consent agenda being read.)

Minutes: January 17, 2023, Called Work Session/Strategic Goal Planning

Resolutions: Res. 07-23: Resolution Appointing Commissioner Robert Pruitt and Commissioner Nick Whitt to the Audit Committee for the City of Henderson

Res. 08-23: Resolution Appointing Mayor Bradley S. Staton to Henderson-Henderson County Flood Mitigation Board

Res. 09-23: Resolution Appointing Commissioner Nick Whitt to Serve on Agency Funding Ad Hoc Committee

Res. 10-23: Resolution Appointing Steve Austin and Tim Clayton as Directors on the Board of Public Energy Authority of Kentucky (PEAK)

Res. 11-23: Resolution Approving and Adopting the Policy Regarding the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Title VI Program for Henderson Area Rapid Transit (HART)

MOTION by Commissioner Vowels, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented.

The vote was called. On roll call, the vote stood:

Commissioner Vowels --- Aye:           Commissioner Pruitt - Aye:  
Commissioner Thomas --- Aye:       Commissioner Whitt - Aye:  
Mayor Staton ----- Aye:

WHEREUPON, Mayor Staton declared the consent agenda items approved.

    /s/ Bradley S. Staton      
Bradley S. Staton, Mayor  
January 24, 2023

ATTEST:  
Maree Collins, CKMC, City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 10, 2023, Regular Meeting

MOTION by Commissioner Vowels, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2023, regular Board of Commissioners meeting.

The vote was called. On roll call, the vote stood:

Commissioner Vowels --- Aye:           Commissioner Pruitt - Aye:  
Commissioner Thomas --- Aye:       Commissioner Whitt - Aye:  
Mayor Staton ----- Aye:

WHEREUPON, Mayor Staton declared the consent agenda items approved.

    /s/ Bradley S. Staton      
Bradley S. Staton, Mayor  
January 24, 2023

ATTEST:  
Maree Collins, CKMC, City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

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ORDINANCE NO. 01-23: SECOND READ

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 23, UTILITIES

ORDINANCE AMENDING SEC. 23-43, *EMPLOYMENT OF GENERAL MANAGER AND MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES*, OF CHAPTER 23, *UTILITIES*, ARTICLE II, *WATER AND SEWER SERVICE*, DIVISION 3, *WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION*, TO REMOVE AN ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER POSITION AND TO ADD A CHIEF ENGINEER POSITION AND SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER POSITION FOR HENDERSON WATER UTILITY

MOTION by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Vowels, that the ordinance be adopted.

The vote was called. On roll call, the vote stood:

Commissioner Vowels --- Aye:           Commissioner Pruitt - Aye:  
Commissioner Thomas --- Aye:       Commissioner Whitt - Aye:  
Mayor Staton ----- Aye:

WHEREUPON, Mayor Staton declared the ordinance adopted, affixed his signature and the date thereto and ordered that the same be recorded.

    /s/ Bradley S. Staton      
Bradley S. Staton, Mayor  
January 24, 2023

ATTEST:

Maree Collins, CKMC, City Clerk\_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR STATON indicated that the next item on the agenda, Inner City Improvement Plan, has been in the works since August of last year when the Board took action to set aside \$300,000.00 per fiscal year for a total of \$1.2 million for the purpose of establishing a strategic plan for improving the Inner-City area which in turn improves all of Henderson. The Plan includes five working Committees consisting of residents, organizations serving the community, property owners, current and former business owners, City staff members, as well as one Board of Commissioner member per Committee. The initial area includes: Green Street to Atkinson Street and Washington Street to Sand Lane.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-23:

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING INNER CITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND COMMITTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR ADDRESSING SPECIFIC IMPACT AREAS

MOTION by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Pruitt, to approve establishing an Inner City Improvement Plan and appointing members of the five Committees as detailed on the Exhibit.

The vote was called. On roll call, the vote stood:

Commissioner Vowels --- Aye:           Commissioner Pruitt - Aye:  
Commissioner Thomas --- Aye:       Commissioner Whitt - Aye:  
Mayor Staton ----- Aye:

WHEREUPON, Mayor Staton declared the resolution adopted, affixed his signature and the date thereto, and ordered that the same be recorded.

    /s/ Bradley S. Staton      
Bradley S. Staton, Mayor  
January 24, 2023

ATTEST:

Maree Collins, CKMC, City Clerk\_\_\_\_\_

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## CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

WILLIAM L. “BUZZY” NEWMAN, JR., City Manager, reported an update from Henderson Water Utility relating to the Countryview Subdivision Project. He indicated that the next phase of the Project for the FY 2024 will go to bid in March/April and that another project discussed was the water line extension for the Barrett Boulevard roadway extension which should be ready to go to bid within the next two to three weeks.

MAYOR STATON reported that several residents of Brenda Drive have been concerned regarding the service cuts and condition of the roadway. The contractor has been contacted to repair the roadway and then this street will be repaved during either the Spring or Fall paving contract.

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## COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER VOWELS welcomed Commissioner Whitt to his first regular meeting and congratulated Mayor Staton on a successful Strategic Goal Planning Work Session.

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COMMISSIONER THOMAS agreed that the work session was great and welcomed Commissioner Whitt. He also thanked Reverend Charles Johnson, Henderson-Henderson County Human Rights Commission Executive Director and all that assisted with the Dr. Martin Luther King Day of Celebration – Our Youth of Today & Leaders of Tomorrow event at the First United Methodist Church. He indicated that it was a packed crowd and a really moving program.

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COMMISSIONER PRUITT welcomed Commissioner Whitt indicating that he looked forward to having a great working relationship. Commissioner Pruitt reported that there is an increase in dogs running loose and wanted to know if we needed to change our ordinance or if Animal Control could be asked to tighten up enforcement.

MAYOR STATON asked Commissioner Pruitt to contact him later with details.

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COMMISSIONER WHITT indicated that he was honored to serve and looks forward to his time on the Board.

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MAYOR STATON indicated that it was not often that at the end of a five-hour meeting, you hear people indicate that we should do this more often. He reported that this will be an annual work session instead of the planned two-year cycle.

Mayor Staton reported that Commissioner Whitt will be attending the Kentucky League of Cities ‘boot camp’ (City Officials Academy) for newly elected officials in Bowling Green the remainder of this week.

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## BOARD/COMMISSION APPOINTMENT: “Municipal Housing Commission”

Vacancy (Amy Taylor Resigned 12/31/2022) – Unexpired Term to Expire September 30, 2024

MOTION by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Vowels, upon recommendation of Mayor Brad Staton, to appoint, Dwight Williams to the unexpired term of Amy Taylor (Republican) on the Municipal Housing Commission. Said term to expire September 30, 2024.

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The vote was called. On roll call, the vote stood:

Commissioner Vowels --- Aye:           Commissioner Pruitt - Aye:  
Commissioner Thomas --- Aye:       Commissioner Whitt - Aye:  
Mayor Staton ----- Aye:

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EXECUTIVE SESSION: “Real Property and Business Siting”

MOTION by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Pruitt, that the Board of Commissioners go into Executive Session pursuant to the provisions of KRS 61.810(1)(b) for the purpose of discussions relating to the purchase of real property located in the vicinity of North Water Street, Fifth Street, and Elm Street, and pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(g) for the purpose of discussion of economic development in the siting of a new business entity/project.

The vote was called. On roll call, the vote stood.

Commissioner Vowels --- Aye:           Commissioner Pruitt - Aye:  
Commissioner Thomas --- Aye:       Commissioner Whitt - Aye:  
Mayor Staton ----- Aye:

WHEREUPON, Mayor Staton declared the Board adjourned into Executive Session.

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MEETING RECONVENED:

MOTION by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Pruitt, that the Board of Commissioners reconvene into regular session.

The vote was called. On roll call, the vote stood:

Commissioner Vowels --- Aye:           Commissioner Pruitt - Aye:  
Commissioner Thomas --- Aye:       Commissioner Whitt - Aye:  
Mayor Staton ----- Aye:

WHEREUPON, Mayor Staton reconvened the Board into regular session.

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MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 03-23:

MUNICIPAL ORDER APPROVING SALES AND PURCHASE CONTRACT BETWEEN CITY OF HENDERSON, KENTUCKY, UTILITY COMMISSION D/B/A HENDERSON MUNICIPAL POWER & LIGHT, AND THE CITY OF HENDERSON FOR THE PURCHASE OF APPROXIMATELY 3.4248 ACRES OF REAL ESTATE, MORE OR LESS, FOR THE SUM OF \$1,625,000.00 IN CASH; TO BE USED FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITE; AND AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

MOTION by Commissioner Vowels, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to approve the Sales and Purchase Contract with the Henderson Utility Commission in the amount of \$1,625,000.00 for the purchase of real estate on Water Street for the purpose of future economic development site.

The vote was called. On roll call, the vote stood:

Commissioner Vowels --- Aye:           Commissioner Pruitt - Aye:  
Commissioner Thomas --- Aye:       Commissioner Whitt - Aye:  
Mayor Staton ----- Aye:

