

**CITY OF BLOOMFIELD**  
**August 13, 2012**  
**VOLUME IV**

Mayor Rhonda Hagan first led the *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag* before she called to order the regular monthly Bloomfield City Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Northeast Nelson Firehouse. Council members present were Ann Agee, Tracye Cheek, Denny Howard, Mark Mays, Walter Pozgay and Tammy Wimpsett. City Attorney Amanda Blincoe and Kentucky Standard Editor Kenny Fogle attended. Public Works Superintendent Craig Werner was absent.

**MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Council members were hand delivered a copy of July 9, 2012 regular meeting minutes whereby the reading was waived. Mays made a correction in reporting that “a home owner on McKay who wants permission to do away with concrete debris in the back of her lot that borders an alley that once belonged to the city” to “Jamie Edwards, a homeowner on McKay, requests the City staff to clean a storm drain and culvert at the back of her property”. Mays, including the correction, made motion to approve, duly seconded by Agee, to approve the minutes as written. ***Motion carried by unanimous decision.*** Next, Howard made a motion, duly seconded by Pozgay, to approve the financial reports as presented. ***Motion carried by unanimous decision.***

**CONCERNS OF THE PUBLIC:** Ken Disponett, owner of Shoprite Grocery Store, expressed his observation of the general feeling of an (economic) black cloud coming out of Washington these days which creates the fear of the unknown particularly with talk of lack of city funds to operate the city which is having a negative impact on Bloomfield businesses. He requested clarity in time lines and the process of setting tax rates. To create a positive image in regard to all of the City’s fiduciary responsibilities he urged the City Council to move in the direction of clear and positive action to alleviate the constant fear and trepidation. After much discussion by the Council the Mayor ascertained that she has resigned her full-time job as an office manager for an orthodontics practice to devote more of her energy and time to help channel the City in a more proactive direction in regard to the City and its enterprise fund, the Bloomfield Water and Sewer Company.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**STATE’S UTILITY RELOCATION PROJECT:** Howard relayed that AT&T is last on the downtown poles. He expects them to take down the poles once they remove the cable. He said that downtown lighting will be even better than before the project since the installation of a more efficient system.

**PROJECT REPORTS:** Mayor Hagan said the Arnold Lane Sidewalk (Safe Routes to School Project) is still preparing the bid phase. She announced she will be working with Fire Chief Ted Shields and the new Police Chief to review the City’s Emergency Preparedness Plan. Music in the Park held yesterday, had a good turnout. Hagan said the Bloomfield brochure, funded by the Bardstown/Nelson County \$1,000 Tourism Grant, is in the design phase.

**POLICE HIRING:** Mayor Hagan, after describing the lengthy officer investigation and hiring process, recommended applicant Sean Anderson to fill the vacant police position and name him Police Chief for the City of Bloomfield. Wimpsett made a motion to approve. Duly seconded by Cheek, ***motion carried by unanimous decision.***

**PAVING CITY STREETS:** Mayor Hagan, noting the \$32,000 fiscal year 2012-2013 street and road budget, recommended using Mago Construction Company who has the State Contract price for material. Upon review of costs she presented Mago's entire bid and recommended paving the following streets and prices for a total of \$31,263.91; Colonial Avenue - \$4,453.57, Eagle Hill - \$5,603.26, Decatur – 12,231.57, Riverside Drive – 6,765.06, and Conley \$2,210.45. Clerk Jury suggested the small hole at the Perry Street Bridge be repaired with the balance of the funds. Mays made a motion, duly seconded by Cheek, to approve the paving and repairs as presented. ***Motion carried by unanimous decision.***

**ORDINANCE 2012-84, ZONING REGULATION CHANGE:** City Attorney Amanda Blincoe read the first reading of the ordinance to adopt changes to Section 3.1 (Administrative Official), Section 8.4 (Conservation Subdivisions) and Section 14.4 (Remedies) to the Nelson County Zoning Regulations.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**SETTING THE 2012 TAX RATE:** Howard moved to set the 2012 real property tax rate at the maximum allowable “up to” 4% rate of 24.0 cents per \$100 value. Duly seconded by Agee, ***motion carried by unanimous decision.*** Hence Pozgay moved to set the 2012 personal property tax rate at 39.6 cents per \$100 value. Duly seconded by Wimpsett, ***motion carried by unanimous decision.*** Pozgay moved to continue accepting the 27.5 cent rate per \$100 value for the 2013 motor vehicle tax rate. Duly seconded by Wimpsett, ***motion carried by unanimous decision.***

#### CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL

***Agee*** suggested having a school contest to create a positive slogan for the City of Bloomfield and give an award for the classroom that wins.

***Cheek*** noted prior policeman needs to be removed from website. She volunteered, along with Wimpsett, to spray the grassy growth at the curb next to the blacktop on state highways in the City limits if the state was not planning to do this.

***Mays*** spoke of missing traffic, speed zone and street signs.

***Howard*** emphasized that the “Insurance Premium Tax” privilege would solve all the city’s shortfalls and that another City in the county is thriving because of adopting this tax several years ago. Considering that 2% would go to the state’s clearing house he suggested setting the rate low at first would be appropriate.

***Pozgay*** relayed his findings in studying the 2011 tax rolls; 50% of taxes are \$115 or less, 42% is \$100 or less, and 78% is \$200 or less. He suggested doubling the tax rate to alleviate the city’s budget shortfall. Howard found in the *City Officials Legal Handbook* that 75 cents per \$100 valuation is the maximum the city could charge the taxpayer. A referendum on the November ballot is required if the Council set rates that are above the 4% rate.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Howard made motion, duly seconded by Agee, to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. ***Motion carried by unanimous decision.***

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Rhonda K. Hagan, Mayor

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Jean M. Jury, City Clerk