

CITY OF EDGEWOOD  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 4, 2005  
6:30 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Link called the meeting of the Edgewood City Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in council chambers of the Edgewood City Building. The following council members were present: Bill Grady, Dale Henson, Nancy Atkinson, Mark Steffen, Scott Guenther, Jeff Schreiber and Ray Spears. Also in attendance were City Administrator Roger Rolfes, City Attorney Frank Wichmann and City Clerk Jeanette Kemper.

**INVOCATION**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Mr. Grady added item #20 unsightly property and Mayor Link moved item #13 ALS discussion and item #33 Municipal Order to sign ALS contract to item #2 after approval of the minutes, Roy Holten, Golden Age Social Club, added Derby Party to announcements item #45.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Mr. Henson made a **motion** to adopt the March 21, 2005 as written; seconded by Mr. Spears. Mr. Guenther, Mr. Schreiber and Mr. Steffen abstained. **Motion passed: 4 ayes – 3 abstentions.**

**Advanced Life Support (ALS) discussion** – the City of Erlanger and a group of seven cities, which includes Ft. Wright, Ft. Mitchell, Crestview Hills, Lakeside Park, Bromley, Ludlow and Park Hills, have offered to provide ALS services to the city. Transcare would provide the service for the group of seven cities. Mr. Steffen asked how many vehicles would be available from both groups. Mr. Rolfes stated that Erlanger would provide one car 24/7 and a second car during peak hours and a supervisor as a backup. Erlanger Fire Chief Tim Koenig stated that was what was stated in the contract but that has since changed. Two vehicles will now be available 24/7 along with the supervisor vehicle. Mr. Rolfes stated that the group of seven cities would have one car 24/7 with a supervisor has a backup and transport units as backup units to that. Mr. Spears asked Erlanger what would future costs be now that two cars are available. Chief Koenig stated that they are currently able to provide this; it was complicated when they started out, but they have worked it out. They've always tried to staff an extra paramedic on duty in case someone called in sick, etc. so they'll always be covered. Mr. Spears asked how dispatching would function. Chief Koenig stated that dispatching for communities outside of Erlanger would be no different than it is currently. Mr. Grady stated to Erlanger that as he understands it they have a pool of paramedics. Chief Koenig stated yes they have 15 paramedics with that number increasing. Mr. Henson asked Chief Messmer what his thoughts were on the two services. Chief Messmer stated that he is of the opinion as well as the life squad that the city would be better served by someone who has less geographic territory to protect and more units on the road and that would be Erlanger. Mr. Grady said one thing that bothers him is the ethical consideration that the city originally gave Erlanger a verbal agreement and now the group has approached the city and he doesn't think that the group would be harmed if Edgewood didn't go with them. He feels that the city has to do what's best for the people. Mr. Spears, Mr. Henson agreed. Mrs. Atkinson stated that both contracts were the same but now Erlanger offers another vehicle and feels that is a benefit along with Erlanger not having as much as a geographical area to cover. Larry Kline, Ft. Wright City Administrator, felt the geographical area for both are comparable. Erlanger will extend from Route 8 in Villa Hills down by the river to the edge of Edgewood as will the group of seven who will cover from Bromley along the river to Edgewood. He further stated that if Edgewood does join the group it would lessen the burden on the other cities in the group. Mr. Kline stated that TransCare would provide high quality service at a reasonable cost; it is a proven system that has been in business for over 10 years. Mr. Schreiber asked how long would Edgewood be guaranteed a reduced rate cheaper than what other cities are paying before residents of other cities ask why Edgewood residents get a break and they don't. Mr. Kline responded saying that because of Edgewood's population, the other cities' cost in the group would be less with Edgewood in it than without Edgewood not being in it. Mr. Kline said with Edgewood's participation the residents of the other cities would pay \$5.84 per person and without Edgewood it would be \$7.30 per person. Mr. Schreiber then asked Mr. Kline if they did the same thing with Fort Mitchell, for example, without them it would cost everyone more with Edgewood even being in there. Mr. Kline stated that they did not because they were looking for a solution for all of them. He stated that if they dropped some cities with older populations and less insured, that would lower their costs but he doesn't think that would be the right thing to do. They have been trying to find a solution for everyone and not leave the cities with less insured or smaller populations out to fend for themselves. Chief Koenig stated that Erlanger offered this service to everyone countywide.

Mr. Kline stated that they offered for everyone but one city did not have the money in their budget at that time to pay for it, but because it didn't work for the whole group they didn't pursue that option very aggressively with Erlanger. He further stated they instead try to pursue it with a special property tax rate to fund the service, unbeknownst to them, that one city that didn't have the money found the money to pay Erlanger, then the group went back to Erlanger and asked for a price for the rest of the group and they were declined by Erlanger. Mr. Guenther stated as much as he would like to help the group and he commended Mr. Kline and the others in the group for trying to find a system that works best for everyone in the county, he feels the best service for the citizens of Edgewood would come from Erlanger.

**Municipal Order 2005-03 request to sign the ALS agreement** - Mr. Steffen made a motion to **adopt municipal order 2005-03** signing a contract with Erlanger to provide ALS service and he further stated he agreed with Mr. Grady's and Mr. Guenther's statements and feels the Erlanger plan is better for the city; seconded by Mr. Henson. Mr. Grady stated that he thinks this is the best solution for Edgewood and regrets not going with the group and commended all of them for their efforts. **Motion passed: 7 ayes – 0 nays.** Crestview Hills Mayor Paul Meier asked who would be covering the area of Crestview Hills that Edgewood provides EMS service for now. Mr. Rolfes stated that Erlanger would provide it.

### **REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS**

**Mayor's Report** - Mayor Link was invited and attended the redeployment ceremony of the city's adopted troop in Ft. Polk, LA on March 24, 2005. A few members of the troop will be visiting Edgewood for its Memorial Day ceremony and they will also visit our local schools.

**Administrator's Report** – Mr. Rolfes had nothing to report.

**Staff Reports** – Council reviewed reports from the following staff members: City Administrator, City Clerk, EMS/Fire, General Services, Police, Properties, and Recreation.

### **CITIZENS DESIRING RECOGNITION ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Facilities Update** – Mr. Rolfes stated that the second floor was poured today; building should be under roof by the end of the month.

**Second hand smoke research** – Upon request by Mr. Grady at the last meeting Mr. Rolfes obtained a copy of Lexington's smoking ban ordinance and was asked to obtain any local information. He made contact with the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation who had data on their website and that data was distributed to council in their packets. Lexington hasn't done an assessment yet on the impact it has had on their businesses losing any revenue but they're starting this month and will send us the results when they have them. Mr. Grady said his concern was not to stop people from smoking but for people who have to work in a smoke environment, it's not fair to them. Mr. Henson asked if Mr. Grady wanted this in all work places and not just restaurants. Mr. Grady said yes in all workplaces. Mr. Rolfes stated that the city has six restaurants and two of them allow smoking. Mr. Grady said he wanted to give Campbell County a leg up, they want to start this, and he would like to see it regional. He further stated that customers have choices of whether or not to visit these places but workers do not. Mr. Henson stated he was not in favor of the city prohibiting business from operating their business the way they so choose he thinks the free market has obviously dictated in the city's six restaurants that four of them deem that is in their best interest from a business standpoint to prohibit smoking and he would be inclined to let the free enterprise system to work at its best. He further stated that if someone doesn't like smoking then they shouldn't visit those businesses. Mr. Grady said that the employees don't have a choice.

Mr. Schreiver stated that in his restaurant 98% of the employees smoke, they don't allow smoking in the restaurant so the employees go outside and smoke. He also stated that employees could work in the non-smoking areas and believes the city is over stepping its bounds. He further stated that most other work places operate the same way; they make everyone go outside, the self-policing has really cut down on it except for restaurants and bars. Mr. Steffen agreed with Mr. Schreiver and said let the people make their own choices. He thinks it is infringing on the rights of a business to make this decision for them. Mr. Grady said this would support businesses that would like to do it and employees who would like the same environment but they can't just change jobs. Mr. Henson said the turnover rate in restaurants, hotels, and hospitality industries, as a whole is relatively high. Mrs. Atkinson said that the majority of businesses in Edgewood are medical facilities, which do not allow smoking. Mr. Grady agreed but sees it happening and said that Campbell County has started supporting the issue and he would like to see the city do the same. Mr. Schreiver said enforceability would be an issue. A restaurant in Lexington, which doesn't allow smoking, was cited because a patron smoked. The customer doesn't get cited the restaurant does even though the restaurant had no smoking signs posted. Mr. Guenther agreed with Mr. Henson, Mr. Schreiver, and Mr. Steffen saying that he's not convinced the city has a problem. Mayor Link stated that the city does have signs at the entrances to the city stating, "smoke free community" and the city passed a resolution supporting the issue.

Lou Noll, former employee and former resident of Edgewood, supported Mr. Grady's efforts stating that second hand smoke is a recognizable problem and does create a lot of additional cancer situations. He thinks the city has an obligation to protect not only its residents but also the people who work in the city. He believes that employees don't have the opportunity to change jobs as some may think they wouldn't be able to get the same pay. Last year, Ireland prohibited smoking throughout the whole country and it hasn't affected them at all. He thinks it's a good idea and Edgewood would be a premier city in this regard.

Mr. Henson said he would be willing to support some type of resolution to request the fiscal court or legislators in Frankfort to consider it for the county or state but he doesn't think the city should, it may hurt some of the businesses. Mr. Spears also thinks that would be the right approach, if it's not made a countywide or statewide issue you do damage certain businesses and he would support a resolution to the county. Mr. Grady would like to see a resolution drafted and sent to Campbell County that commends them for starting such an effort and we see the wisdom of their actions. After further discussion, it was agreed that Mayor Link would send a letter to Campbell County commending their efforts as a smoke free community and send a copy to Kenton County.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Unightly property** – Mr. Grady has received complaints about the lot owned by Edgewood Electric on Dudley hill. It is a gravel lot in which trucks are parked there. There are also two huge culvert pipes on the lot as well. He believes the lot should be fenced in, paved and the grass/brush should be cut around the entrance. Mr. Guenther has also received complaints about the property. Mr. Rolfes said it was looked at last year and he will get in touch with NKAPC.

### **ORDINANCES, MUNICIPAL ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS**

**Ordinance 2005-02-02 Fire Hydrant Obstruction – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading** – Mr. Wichmann read the ordinance: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EDGEWOOD, IN KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, IN REGARD TO FIRE HYDRANT OBSTRUCTION. Mr. Henson made a **motion** to adopt ordinance 2005-02-02; seconded by Mrs. Atkinson. **Motion passed: 7 ayes – 0 nays.**

**Emergency Ordinance 2005-03-03 approve new position of General Services Specialist/Foreman – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading** - Mr. Wichmann read the ordinance: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EDGEWOOD, IN KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, AMENDING THE EMPLOYMENT POSITION CLASSIFICATION PLAN THEREOF. Mr. Spears made a **motion** to adopt ordinance 2005-03-03; seconded by Mr. Schreiber. **Motion passed: 7 ayes – 0 nays.**

**Ordinance 2005-04-04 amending ordinance 1992-18 allowing malt beverage sales to begin at 11 a.m. on Sunday's – 1<sup>st</sup> reading.** Mr. Wichmann read the ordinance: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EDGEWOOD, IN KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, IN REGARD TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Executive Order 2005-03 appointing Alexander Kenwright as General Services Specialist/Foreman.
- Fitness classes are being held through the end of April on Monday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and through the middle of April on Tuesday and Thursday mornings 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the Senior Center, cost is \$1 per class.
- Play cards with the seniors at the Edgewood Senior Center every Tuesday at noon.
- Register for the “Amazing Race” scavenger hunt/road rally by April 8<sup>th</sup>. Event will be April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. cost is \$10 per group, must have a digital or Polaroid camera to take pictures of items to be collected; refreshments available and prizes will be awarded.
- Municipal Government League dinner meeting April 21 – 6 p.m. at the Coconut Grove. Speaker will be Representative Jon David Reinhardt. Please RSVP to Jeanette by April 13.
- Derby Party – the city is planning a derby party and wishes to use money or play money and Mr. Wichmann inquired with the state to see if it is allowed; to date he has not received a response.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Guenther made a **motion** to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Henson. **Motion passed: 7 ayes – 0 nays.**

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Mayor John D. Link

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeanette Kemper, City Clerk

Date passed: \_\_\_\_\_