

## **CITY OF CROSSGATE MEETING**

### **THOMAS JEFFERSON UNITARIAN CHURCH ANNEX**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2011**

The meeting came to order at 7:00 p.m. Present at the meeting were Mayor Dan Grimm, Commissioners Bobby Hazen, Anne Stanley Hoffman, Larry Kirschenbaum and John Lepping. The city clerk Susan Dotson was present. Also present were twenty-one residents and two special guests, State Representative Dr. Bob DeWeese and seventh district Metro Louisville Councilman Kenneth Fleming.

Representative DeWeese updated everyone on the proposed Veteran's Affairs (VA) medical center, which recently announced it has selected the Midland's property, owned by Jonathan Blue, as their preferred site selection. Councilman Fleming informed everyone that he just found out about the VA's decision, and had spoken to Mr. Blue informally about the project. Neither Dr. DeWeese nor Mr. Fleming had much information about the project since the decision by the VA had just been made only a few days prior to the meeting. However, the commission and residents were informed by Dr. DeWeese that the proposed slip ramp from the Watterson Expressway had been approved by the State.

A discussion among the residents and Commission then followed. Mayor Grimm stated that he had spoken with VA representatives in Washington, DC, who indicated that the VA's next step would be to conduct an environmental assessment of the property to determine its appropriateness for use. This would involve studying issues such as traffic, air quality, cultural resources, etc. and would also include public input through public meetings. The timeline for these meetings is unknown at the present time.

It was clear that the Crossgate residents who attended the meeting were unanimously against the Veterans Medical Center being built on the Midlands property. The main issue was traffic, while other concerns were noise and lighting pollution, possible property value devaluation, inappropriate use of land with a hospital being proposed next to a residential area, and screening and buffering of the hospital.

It was explained that the VA's decision was made at the federal level and not state or local. It was decided that the City would explore all options available, including interviewing potential attorneys. In addition Mayor Grimm stated he would contact other adjacent city mayors to gauge their reaction and level of interest in possible cooperative efforts.

Representative DeWeese, then informed everyone that there will be a meeting concerning the Kentucky Department of Transportation proposed changes to the roadways in and around the Brownsboro Rd/ US 42 intersection, some time in the middle of December at Ballard High School. He did not have the exact time or date but suggest everyone attend so they may be heard.

The Commission then had a continuation of the regular meeting.

The October minutes were approved as written, first by Commissioner Hoffman and second by Commissioner Lepping.

Approval of the Treasurer's report was postponed until the December meeting.

Commissioner Kirschenbaum informed the Commission that he should have information on snow removal contract for the December meeting.

Commissioner Lepping stated the Christmas Decoration at the front entrances would be up by next week.

Adjourned at 8:45 p.m. First by Commissioner Lepping and second by Commissioner Hazen.

Susan Dotson

City Clerk