

**CITY OF LEXINGTON
WORKSHOP MINUTES
Thursday, May 21, 2020
Immediately following Council meeting
City Hall**

- 1. Call to Order:** Mayor Murphy
- 2. Roll Call:** DeVries – Harris – Hughes – Winge

Mayor Murphy called to order the workshop for May 21, 2020 at 8:46 p.m. Councilmember's present: Devries, Harris, Hughes, and Winge. Also Present: Bill Petracek, City Administrator; Kurt Glaser, City Attorney; Chris Galiov, Finance Director.

3. Discussion Items:

*Discuss adopting Business Friendly Resolution – Councilmember Harris / Mayor Murphy
Mayor Murphy stated that Councilmember Harris and he wanted to have the Council adopt a “business friendly” Resolution regarding the Governor’s Covid-19 Executive Orders and opening up our State again. Discussion ensued.*

Councilmember Harris expressed concerns about businesses opening against the Governor’s orders and potentially being fined and losing business and liquor licenses at the State level. Discussion ensued. Harris added that she does want to let the local businesses know about a Resolution that gives them options.

Attorney Glaser discussed a memo from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the level of enforcement of the Governor’s orders and crafting a Resolution that doesn’t place the police department in a tough predicament about enforcing the executive rules. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Hughes stated he wasn’t in favor of some of the language in the Resolution. Discussion ensued.

The Council discussed the content of the Resolution and the Governor’s Executive Orders.

Petracek stated that Attorney Glaser would draft the Resolution and he would ensure that it is on the June 4th Council agenda for a vote.

A. Discuss

- continuing virtual meetings or not
- Resuming Planning & Zoning and Park Board meetings
- COVID 19 Staff Policy

Petracek explained that he was reluctant to support live Council meetings at this time due to allowing people back into city hall – Park Board, Planning Commission, and City Council. He added that the city hall staff is very careful to keep social distancing during work hours, sanitizing city hall, and ensuring that there is less potential for Covid-19 virus in city hall. He continued by saying if we reopen meetings in city hall, it could create an unsafe environment for city staff. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Harris questioned not having meetings in city hall. She asked when it will end; when will we feel safe to return to live City Council meetings if there is no vaccine. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Devries suggested continuing virtual meetings for the June meetings and then having another discussion at the June workshop about going back to live meetings in city hall. Discussion ensued.

The consensus of the Council was to continue with virtual meetings and not having Park Board and Planning Commission meeting in June, and having another discussion at the June workshop.

The Council discussed the Covid-19 staff policy and the usage of masks in the liquor store.

B. Discuss vacating DuWayne Avenue for the purpose of Ephesians Phase 2

Petracek explained that the discussion to vacate DuWayne Ave. started when we met with DinkyTown Rentals to discuss phase 2 of Ephesians. He felt that by vacating DuWayne Ave. and turning the property over to DinkyTown Rentals to include in their plans to redevelop the apartments east of DuWayne Ave. would provide them opportunities to make a “campus feel” to their development, which has been their intention. They would be able to incorporate decorative landscaping and lighting on a private driveway.

Attorney Glaser stated that ACAAP buildings on the west side of DuWayne Ave. have agreed to accept permanent easements on the vacated streets so that their residents will always have use of the driveway. Dinkytown rentals would maintain the road in perpetuity that also includes the utilities underneath. Discussion ensued.

Attorney Glaser stated that the Council doesn’t need to approve the vacation, but Dinkytown Rentals wanted to get a feel from each Councilmember and their thoughts about this concept. The consensus of the City Council was to support vacating DuWayne Ave. for Phase 2 of Ephesians development.

4. Staff Input

No staff input

5. Council Input

Councilmember Hughes asked about Conrad Koppler and his house. Discussion ensued.

6. Adjourn

Councilmember Harris made motion to adjourn the workshop at 9:59 p.m. Councilmember Hughes seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Devries – Yes; Harris- Yes; Hughes – Yes; Winge – Yes; Mayor Murphy – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.