

**KENTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT**  
**Kenton County Government Center**  
**Second Floor Chambers**  
**1840 Simon Kenton Way**  
**Covington, KY 41011**

**Meeting Minutes**  
**August 29, 2023**  
**5:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann called to order the August 29, 2023, meeting of the Kenton County Fiscal Court. Commissioner Joe Nienaber led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann  
Commissioner Beth Sewell  
Commissioner Jon Draud, District 2  
Commissioner Joe Nienaber, District 3  
County Attorney, Stacy Tapke

Staff: Joe Shriver, County Administrator/Deputy Judge  
Scott Gunning, Assistant County Administrator  
Roy Cox, Treasurer

**Approval to appoint Joe Shriver as the Fiscal Court Clerk for the August 29, 2023, Fiscal Court Meeting.**

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

**Approval of Minutes**

**A. Approval of the Minutes from the meeting of August 15, 2023.**

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

**Citizens Address**

No citizens came before the Fiscal Court at this time.

**General Business**

**A. Approval of the Fee Proposal from Gresham Smith for the Parking Structure Design and Consulting Services, and to authorize Judge/Executive to execute the AIA contract contingent on County Attorney approval.**

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is for the parking structure at the back of the Administration Building.

County Administrator Joe Shriver stated that there is a design cost of 6%, and that is \$858,000 and then construction, engineering and inspection is about 4%, which is \$572,000.

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is for the entire project.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

### **B. Claims List - Dated August 25, 2023**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that he needs to make an addition to the Claims List. He wants to include \$275,000 (not to exceed this amount), for the closing on 510 W. Martin Luther King Dr. The closing is expected to be prior to the next Claims List.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

### **Resolutions**

#### **A. Resolution No. 23-01P**

##### **A Resolution for the Kenton County Fiscal Court concerning Fiscal Year Budget Adjustments.**

Treasurer Roy Cox stated that the budget adjustments are for the following: \$15,500 to cover the payout of unused sick pay for the former network administrator, \$243,000 for the implementation and subscription of the financial accounting software, \$27,000 to replace the cart paths on holes 10-18 at the Pioneer Golf Course and \$140,000 to upgrade the cameras (previously approved in Fiscal Year 23, but project budget was not rolled into Fiscal Year 24).

Judge Knochelmann stated that the cart paths were in the budget. He then thanked Roy Cox for the accounting software.

Mr. Cox stated that when he started there was an item in the budget for \$300,000 for new financial software. We went out to bid a couple of years later, and carried the money in the budget. The lowest bid came in at \$1.6 million, and they just worked with the software that they had. This year, it has to be upgraded again and have a server issue. This is the perfect time to look at it, and now the cost of implementing and the annual fee is \$243,000 for the first year. After this, it is only \$42,000 a year which is about the same as the software that they currently use. It updates the software to more modern times.

Commissioner Sewell thanked them for being so patient, and working with what they have for so long.

Commissioner Sewell made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

#### **B. Resolution No. 23-31**

##### **A Resolution of the Fiscal Court of Kenton County, Kentucky honoring the retirement of Jason Dudas.**

Judge Knochelmann read the Resolution honoring Jason Dudas' service to the community. He thanked him for his great service, and for always being there when needed.

Commissioner Sewell stated that Jason and she go back two decades. He has always been so helpful throughout the years, and she thanked him for all of his hard work. He has won many awards, and beyond his excellent work, his temperament and attitude has been excellent. She

congratulated Jason, and said he will be missed. Jason has been training his replacement, and we will be in good hands.

### Ordinances

**A. Ordinance 226.14 - Second Reading**

**An Ordinance of the Kenton County Fiscal Court relating to the levy and adoption of the 2023 tax rates of 13.3 cents per hundred dollars valuation on real property, 16.5 cents per hundred dollars valuation on personal property and 15.8 cents per hundred dollars valuation on motor vehicles to provide such revenue as has been budgeted and approved for expenditure in the current fiscal year.**

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is a 7.6% reduction in rate, which will take us to the lowest property tax rate since 2003.

Commissioner Draud commended John Stanton on the press release about this issue.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

**B. Ordinance 226.15 - Second Reading**

**An Ordinance of the Kenton County Fiscal Court relating to the levy and adoption of the 2023 annual improvement benefit assessment rate on the basis of the assessed values of benefitted properties within the former City of Latonia Lakes, Kentucky as specifically identified in Kenton County Ordinances 620.9 & 620.10.**

Judge Knochelmann stated that this is the Latonia Lakes property tax rate that will be invested in their roads.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

**C. Ordinance 320.15 - Second Reading**

**An Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the Fiscal Court of Kenton County, Commonwealth of Kentucky, establishing a service fee for enhanced 911 Emergency Dispatch Services to Owners of real property in Kenton County, Commonwealth of Kentucky.**

Judge Knochelmann stated that it will be mostly reductions, with some business owners paying slightly more.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Draud. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

### Consent Agenda

**A. Exhibit No. 23-155**

**Request approval of the proposed increase in Poll Worker compensation for the Kenton County Clerk 's Office.**

**B. Exhibit No. 23-156**

**Request approval to purchase one (1) 2024 Dodge Durango off of State Contract MA 758 2300000800 from Freedom Dodge to replace Unit 16-03 for the Kenton County Police Department.**

**C. Exhibit No. 23-157**

Request approval to purchase four (4) 2023 Dodge Chargers off of State Contract MA 758 2300000800 from Freedom Dodge for the Kenton County Detention Center.

- D. **Exhibit No. 23-158**  
Request approval to purchase three (3) 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD Crew Cab trucks to replace Solid Waste SW-5, Engineering Services ES-2 and Parks P304 off of State Contract MA 758 2300000802 from Bachman Auto Group Inc.
- E. **Exhibit No. 23-159**  
Request approval to ratify the certificate and assurances forms for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program for the Kenton County Police Department.
- F. **Exhibit No. 23-160**  
Request approval to accept the bid from Riegler Blacktop for Cart Path Paving at the Kenton County Golf Courses.
- G. **Exhibit No. 23-161**  
Request approval to surplus (8) Light Fleet Vehicles for the Kenton County Public Works Department.
- H. **Exhibit No. 23-162**  
Request approval of the purchase of a Max Slope Mower for the Kenton County Public Works Department.
- I. **Exhibit No. 23-163**  
Request approval of the Kenton County Fiscal Court to authorize the demolition of a structure located at 673 Maple Tree Lane in Unincorporated Kenton County due to unsafe conditions.
- J. **Exhibit No. 23-164**  
Request approval to accept the bid from Oracle America, Inc. for the Financial Accounting Software for the Kenton County Treasury Department.

Commissioner Draud stated that some of these items should be listed by themselves.

All items on the Consent Agenda were voted on together.

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Knochemann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

### **Executive Orders**

- A. **Executive Order 23-108**  
An Executive Order approving the appointment of Gary Holland to the Water District Board.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochemann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

- B. **Executive Order 23-109**

**An Executive Order approving the resignation of Chelsey Grubbs as the Volunteer Coordinator for the Kenton County Animal Services Department.**

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

**C. Executive Order 23-110  
An Executive Order approving the promotion of Dustin Brown from Network Administrator to Network Engineer for the Technology Services Department.**

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

**D. Executive Order 23-111  
An Executive Order approving the reorganization of the Administration Department.**

Commissioner Draud made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Nienaber. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

**E. Executive Order 23-112  
An Executive Order approving the reorganization of the Kenton County Animal Services Department.**

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochelmann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

**County Attorney's Report**

County Attorney Stacy Tapke had nothing to report.

**Commissioners' Reports**

**Commissioner Beth Sewell**

Commissioner Sewell had nothing to report.

**Commissioner Jon Draud**

Commissioner Draud stated that last time he asked for letter to be written to Bob Yeager. Has that been done?

Judge Knochelmann stated that it was sent yesterday.

Commissioner Draud stated that he is upset that Dixie Highway has such low priority.

**Commissioner Joe Nienaber**

Commissioner Nienaber had nothing to report.

**Judge/Executive Knochelmann**

Judge Knochelmann presented Resolution 23-32 to authorize the Treasurer to purchase the property at 6301 Clubhouse Dr. in Unincorporated Kenton County for no more than \$80,000

(appraised value). This is the property that we have been trying to get under control in Latonia Lakes, as there has been drug dealing and such around the property.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochemann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

Treasurer Roy Cox asked for a budget adjustment so that the property can be purchased.

Commissioner Nienaber made the motion for approval; seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochemann called for a voice vote, and the motion passed unanimously 4 -0.

### **Adjournment**

Having completed all business before the Court, Commissioner Draud offered a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Commissioner Sewell. Judge Knochemann requested a voice vote whereupon all members present voted in the affirmative with a 4-0 vote.

Text for all proposed and recently passed ordinances may be acquired by accessing the Fiscal Court web page at <http://www.kentoncounty.org> or by contacting the administrative offices at 859.392.1400.

### **CLERK CERTIFICATION**

I, Sue J. Kaiser, having been appointed to the office of Fiscal Court Clerk, do hereby certify that this is a true and accurate record of the actions taken by the Kenton County Fiscal Court at the meeting of August 29, 2023.



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Sue J. Kaiser  
Fiscal Court Clerk