

**WINCHESTER BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING HELD
APRIL 5, 2022 5:30 PM 355**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Commissioner Chenault

A moment of silence was held in memory of Todd Denham, Winchester/Clark County Industrial Development Authority Director

INVOCATION - Mayor Burtner

PRESIDING:

Mayor Edallen York Burtner

PRESENT:

Commissioner JoEllen Reed
Commissioner Joe Chenault
Commissioner Shannon Cox
Commissioner Kitty Strode

City Manager Mike Flynn, Finance Director Michelle Lucas, Deputy City Clerk Dianna Layne, Human Resources Director Tammy Shelton, and the City Clerk were present.

City Attorney William A. Dykeman was present via phone.

Upon determining that a quorum was present for the transaction of business, Mayor Burtner called the April 5, 2022 regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of City Hall.

PRESENTATION

Winchester Police Sgt. Travis Thompson spoke to the Commission on a recent incident involving his family:

“Mayor Burtner, City Commissioners, Mr. Flynn.....thank you for the opportunity to come before you this evening and recognize some very special individuals for their heroic efforts on March 6, 2022. I have prepared a speech in hopes that I can make it through it without my emotions getting the best of me. I make no promises but will do my very best. I am before you today not as a Sergeant with the Police Department, not as a County Magistrate but as a father and a citizen of this community that relies on its services just like many others. I think it is important for me to tell this story so that the City Commission and all members of this community can understand what kind of first responders are serving daily.

If I could ask the following individuals to join me before the Commission:
Communications Officer Kayla Layne
Battalion Chief Jason Keller

Battalion Chief Scotty Bell
Paramedic Courtney Harrison
Firefighter Tyler Tays, and
Firefighter Ethan Brogli
County Firefighter Kelly Smith

With me today I haveyou see Addison is family at both the Police and Fire Departments as she has grown up in them because of her parents being employed there.

On Sunday afternoon March 6th, my family and I had just returned from the Beef Expo in Louisville, where Addison had been showing cattle. It had been raining for the better part of 24 hours. Our cow herd at the farm was just hitting the peak of

our calving season and we had calves on the ground that needed to be tended to. I told Cenchrea that we might as well go out and get our work done since the rain

was showing no signs of letting up anytime soon. Cenchrea and I put on our rain gear and Addison asked what we were doing, promptly stating she would join us when I told her. I left my phone at home so that it wouldn't get wet, and we headed out on our side-x-side. My
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father-in-law, Kevin Wilson was following shortly behind us on the tractor with hay for the cattle.

The rain was relentless, coming down hard. The ground was saturated, and it was difficult to traverse. It had been thundering and lightning and we found the cattle down in what we refer to as the "church bottom" which is the lower end of our winter pasture alongside Four Mile Creek where a historical old church house is found tucked away. Four Mile Creek was rolling strong, and we had several tributaries that run through our pasture and into Four Mile Creek doing the same. The church bottom is at the furthest end of this pasture and nearly two miles from the entrance to our driveway at the road.

I had just caught and tagged one of our newborn calves, #8. As soon as I finished momma took her calf and headed away from us, straight towards one of the tributaries. We quickly realized what was about to happen, momma was going to cross it and we all knew there was no way the calf would be able to because of how swift the water was moving. It is unusual for a cow to take her calf anywhere near a stream like this, but it was happening, and I knew I needed to intervene. I quickly positioned myself downstream and as I did, momma crossed. The calf made one giant leap attempting to follow her and landed mid-stream. I jumped in about 30 yards or so downstream to catch the calf and after it landed, I looked up and saw Addison jump in front of me catching the calf. I went to help her and grabbed the calf, not realizing that something went wrong. I threw the calf up on the bank and it quickly recovered and headed off but as I did so, I hears Cenchrea scream for me and when I turned around, she was holding Addison all while hanging on to something fighting the flow of the water. I went to them and took Addison from

Cenchrea, she was lifeless and unresponsive. Cenchrea and I worked together to get Addison up on the creek bank. Addison was wearing a heavy Carhartt jacket, blue jeans, and muck boots, soaking wet and heavy! Once we got her up on the bank, Cenchrea and I quickly realized something was bad wrong as she was completely unresponsive and not breathing. I immediately started CPR while Cenchrea tried to pry her phone out of her pants pocket to call for help. Cenchrea's phone was wet, and she could not get it to call out at first. Cenchrea had to leave me there with Addison to go for help. Knowing that Kevin was coming behind us she headed that direction on our side-x-side telling me to keep doing CPR, hard and fast, don't you stop no matter what!

At some point after Cenchrea left, she got her phone to work and called 911. On the other end of that phone call was Winchester Police Communications Officer Kayla Layne. If you ask Cenchrea today, she was in a panic, her phone was wet and there was a lot of engine noise in the background making it extremely difficult for her to communicate with Kayla. Unable to get the address communicated, Cenchrea decided to tell her that it was Travis Thompson's house and that I was doing CPR on my daughter because she was unresponsive. It was at this point that Dispatcher Layne will tell you she realized she was dealing with one of our own and it started to hit home. Dispatcher Layne did exactly what she is trained to do, she kept it together and began to dispatch multiple agencies to this call. She remained calm in a situation that was anything but.

Cenchrea and Kevin returned to me with Kayla still on the phone. Cenchrea swapped out with me and took over CPR so that I could go meet the ambulance, there was no way for them to get anywhere close to us without our assistance. I took the phone and when I heard Kayla's voice, I knew that we were in good hands,

and it brought me some comfort. Kayla worked my shift both as a Patrolman and Sergeant after my promotion in 2021. Kayla knew exactly what to do as she kept me informed as to exactly what she had coming my way. Kayla could tell I was worried about how long it was going to take but kept me up to date as to their location following the GPS tracker on the Battalion Chief's truck. As I arrived at the top of our hill where our driveway makes its way to our houses Kayla told me that they were about to turn in the driveway and as they pulled up to me, we disconnected. Kayla will tell you that after hanging up she finally lost it, but she continued to work the room.

As I saw the City Battalion Chief's truck approach me the ambulance was right behind. Chief Keller jumped out of the truck and chief Bell out of the ambulance. I gave them some very specific instruction and they did exactly as I asked without hesitation or question. Paramedic

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Courtney Harrison and Firefighter Tyler Tays also came out of the ambulance. I had exactly what I needed, I had experience, I had a paramedic and I had muscle. We piled in my side x side, and we headed for Addison as fast as we could. When we arrived, Cenchrea and her dad were still

performing CPR. Chief Keller, Chief Bell, Courtney and Tyler immediately took over and relieved us, we were spent. After getting a monitor hooked up and assessing the situation, Addison had a heartbeat and we needed to get her to the ambulance. Chief Keller picked Addison up in his arms and sat down in the back of my side x side while the others piled on top of them to hold them in. We left Cenchrea there as there was no room for more and we had our work cut out for us as we had to climb straight up a hill to get out of the bottom. As loaded as we were, we made it about 90% of the way up before we spun out. Chief Bell and Firefighter Tays got behind and pushed us to the top before jumping right back in. As we made our way to the ambulance up through our pasture it was littered with emergency vehicles that had come to our aid. The Clark County Fire Department, Sheriff's Department and Winchester Police Department were giving their all to get to us. Some of them had parked their vehicles and were running to our aid trying to find us. I had no choice but to pass them by and get Addison to the ambulance. Once there, we quickly got Addison transferred into the ambulance and they went to work. Chief Keller drove and I jumped in the passenger seat. As we went over the hill towards the road, we were met by Chief Palmer who had also come to my aid. I yelled out the window and told him to find Cenchrea for me and he gave me a thumbs up.

The Sheriff's Deputies and PD officers went in front of us escorting us to Clark Regional, blocking off every intersection gaining precious time. As we came into the city limits, I heard Addison start to scream and it was at that point that I knew our prayers were being answered and we had a chance!

We arrived at Clark Regional where Addison started to receive treatment and it became apparent that she needed to be quickly transferred to UK. Our first responder family was lining the hallways at this point in support. Knowing that my boots were full of water, Firefighter Brogli took his off and wouldn't take no for an answer when he told me to take them with me so that I could be dry. With the help of the Winchester Police, Clark County Sheriff's Office, Kentucky State Police, Lexington Police and Fayette County Sheriff's Office we transferred to UK in the pouring rain with every single intersection blocked, once again gaining precious time. Once at UK, doctors did not sugarcoat the situation and made it clear that the next few hours would be critical. God continued to answer the many prayers that were going up for our little girl and she did nothing but improve, walking out of the hospital on Thursday and coming home.

I tell you this story and ask only two things of this Commission. First, with the help of Chief Palmer and Chief Whiteley, we have prepared certificates of commendation for the core group of first responders that came to our aid that day. Please place a copy of these certificates in each of these employee's files for their heroic efforts in saving the life of my daughter on March 6, 2022. Second, as you work your way through future decisions on this Commission, please remember that there will be

another 15-year-old girl that needs to be saved one day, just like Addison did. Keeping quality, experienced, highly trained first responders on staff should continue to be a priority for this community. I am forever in debt to these individuals. It is because of them that I was not planning a funeral and instead

Addison stands beside me here today. Let me be clear, these employees do this on a regular basis and fight like this on every call they are dispatched to. Knowing Addison, made this call even more difficult for all of them.

Addison's family is forever grateful for the hundreds, if not thousands, of folks that reached out and sent prayers our way during this event. Know that every single one made a difference. Thank you for your time."

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Main Street Conc erns

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Ms. Laura Freeman, Wildcat Willy’s and Laura’s Mercantile spoke regarding her concerns for the property on East Broadway that used to house Cartwright Signs. She stated with the cones and tape up around the area, it has made her business at Wildcat Willy’s decrease. She stated that when Town Branch flooded, it not only got into the Cartwright building, but also got in the basement of her store on Main Street where they had offices.

Ms. Freeman noted she was finally getting ready to open her Main Street store in the next few months and was concerned with the vandalism that had happened on Main Street. She stated there were 23 empty buildings and she hoped that something would get done so that these buildings could be sold and have a thriving downtown.

**CDBG Utilities Grant
Letter of Withdrawal**

Mr. Greyson Evans with the Bluegrass Area Development District spoke to the Commission regarding the recent CDBG Grant of \$200,000 that was received by the City for utility assistance - water and sewer. He stated that during the pandemic WMU had assisted citizens with payment plans and worked with their customers at the time, so by the time the CDBG funds were ready for distribution, there was no longer the need for the funds.

Mr. Evans stated since this was the case with the City, the Department for Local Government requested that the funds be returned to the State. He stated since the City was no longer in need of these funds, they could not be expended on any other projects.

On motion by Mayor Burtner, seconded by Commissioner Cox, and with unanimous vote, the Board agreed to send a letter of withdrawal to the Department for Local Government regarding the \$200,000 CDBG funds.

NEW BUSINESS

**Out-of-State Travel
Fire Department Instructor s Conference**

On motion by Commissioner Reed, seconded by Commissioner Chenault, and with unanimous vote, the Board approved out-of-state travel for Fire Chief Chris Whiteley to attend the Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana April 27-30, 2022.

**Out-of-State Travel
IIMC Annual Conference**

On motion by Commissioner Strode, seconded by Commissioner Reed, and with unanimous vote, the Board approved out-of-state travel for Deputy City Clerk Dianna Layne to attend the Annual IIMC Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas May 22-26, 2022.

**Correspondence Regarding
Department for Local Government
Extra ARPA Funds**

On motion by Commissioner Cox, seconded by Commissioner Chenault, and with unanimous vote, the Board approved the acceptance of the extra ARPA funds.

Finance Director Michelle Lucas reported the extra funds of \$7,166.86 were deposited in the ARPA bank account.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION SEEKING FUNDING FROM THE US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR A COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING TO DEVELOP A BIOTECH LAB AND ADVANCE THE ADN NURSING PROGRAM FOR THE CLARK COUNTY CAMPUS OF BCTC

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On motion by Commissioner Cox, seconded by Commissioner Chenault, and with unanimous vote, this resolution was adopted.

Commissioner Reed stated Congressman Barr’s office asked her to share with the College to possibly apply for a federal grant to bring nursing and biotech lab

funding for the college. She noted that several entities to submit funding requests to bring this funding to the community.

ORDERS

AN ORDER DECLARING CERTAIN CITY OF WINCHESTER PROPERTY TO BE OBSOLETE AND SURPLUS

On motion by Commissioner Cox with regret, seconded by Commissioner Chenault, and with unanimous vote this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-65.

AN ORDER APPOINTING ALYSHIA POWELL MARTIN TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF WINCHESTER FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM

On motion by Mayor Burtner, seconded by Commissioner Reed, and with unanimous vote, this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-66.

AN ORDER APPOINTING ADAM KIDD TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF CHAD WALKER ON THE MAIN STREET WINCHESTER BOARD (Industrial Development Slot)

On motion by Mayor Burtner, seconded by Commissioner Strode, and with unanimous vote, this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-67.

Commissioner Strode welcomed Mr. Kidd to the Main Street Winchester Board and commended him for his work in the downtown district.

PERSONNEL ORDERS (General)

AN ORDER GRANTING EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATION INCENTIVE SALARY INCREASES TO CERTAIN PERSONNEL (Communications)

On motion by Commissioner Cox, seconded by Commissioner Reed, and with unanimous vote, this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-68.

AN ORDER GRANTING AN EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVE INCREASE TO SARAH CAMPBELL

On motion by Commissioner Cox, seconded by Commissioner Chenault, and with unanimous vote, this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-69.

AN ORDER GRANTING AN EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVE INCREASE TO SHONDRA MOSHER

On motion by Commissioner Reed, seconded by Commissioner Cox, and with unanimous vote, this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-70.

AN ORDER RECLASSIFYING KENNEDY KELLY FROM COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER I TO COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER II (Communications)

On motion by Commissioner Chenault, seconded by Commissioner Reed, and with unanimous vote, this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-71.

AN ORDER RECLASSIFYING SARAH MILLER FROM COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER I TO COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER II (Communications)

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On motion by Commissioner Reed, seconded by Commissioner Strode, and with unanimous vote, this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-72.

AN ORDER EMPLOYING TIMOTHY KLIPPENSTEIN TO FILL THE POSITION OF SINGLE ROLE EMT

On motion by Commissioner Chenault, seconded by Commissioner Reed, and with unanimous vote, this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-73.

AN ORDER EMPLOYING DAVID MCCARTY TO FILL THE POSITION OF SINGLE ROLE PARAMEDIC

On motion by Commissioner Chenault, seconded by Commissioner Strode, and with unanimous vote, this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-74.

AN ORDER EMPLOYING JORDAN SPARKMAN TO FILL THE POSITION OF SINGLE ROLE PARAMEDIC

On motion by Commissioner Reed, seconded by Commissioner Chenault, and with unanimous vote, this order was adopted. Order No. 2022-75.

GENERAL COMMENTS FROM MAYOR, CITY COMMISSIONERS, CITY ATTORNEY, AND CITY MANAGER

Commissioner Strode:

- Thanked the work release personnel for their hard work planting pansies downtown which took about seven hours.
- Noted she understood Laura Freeman’s frustration with the slow progress of downtown but stated that Main Street was making great strides.

Commissioner Cox:

- Stated he would like to see banners switched out on Main Street of the basketball tournament winners going as far back as possible.
- Inquired when Cross Medical’s contract expired and requested to have bids on transfers as he’s sure other agencies would like to participate.

Mr. Flynn stated the request would have to be presented to the Joint City/County EMS Committee.

Chief Whiteley stated without Cross Medical or other agencies, Winchester would be struggling.

Commissioner Reed:

- Reported that Cross Medical had 80 runs in February and 106 runs in March.
- Stated Jimmy Conley with Cross Medical lost his wife on March 14th and to keep his family in prayer.
- Reminded the community the Joe F. Reed Walk was scheduled for Saturday, April 23rd with registration at 9:00 and the walk beginning at 9:30 at CRMC.

Mayor Burtner:

- Congratulated the Corinthian Baptist Church, 37 Fifth Street on their 100th anniversary and stated he had corresponded with the church. He stated he has set himself a goal of visiting all 74 churches in Clark County before leaving office which he stated he’s visited 46.
- Noted that the Veterans Council was in the process of reorganizing and local attorney David Ward had prepared the Articles of Incorporation. He stated the Council was looking at becoming a 501(c) entity to be able to take tax deductible donations.
- Stated on Memorial Day, May 30th, there will be a program in front of City Hall to honor those military personnel killed in combat. He stated the guest speaker would be Rob Larkin, a one-star General with the Army National Guard and also a Deputy Fire Chief with the Lexington Fire Department.

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- Mayor Burtner asked Commissioner Chenault to replace Ramsey Flynn on the Insurance Committee as they needed to set a date for an insurance meeting.

Commissioner Chenault accepted the vacant seat on the Insurance Committee.

ADJOURN

With no further business, on motion by Commissioner Chenault, seconded by Commissioner Reed, and with unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned.

Edallen York Burtner, Mayor

Joy L. Curtis, City Clerk