## City of Meadow Vale

## **APRIL 2024**



#### **Meadow Vale Officials**

Mayor Matt Hammond 502-438-0278 meadowvalemayor@gmail.com

<u>Utilities Commissioner</u> Tom Lucas 606-571-1081 <u>meadowvaletomlucas@gmail.com</u>

Public Safety Commissioner Jim Wallover 502-762-4045 jwallover1950@gmail.com

Public Service Commissioner
Brad Williams
502-767-7948
mvcomissionerwilliams
@gmail.com

Community Service
Commissioner
Julie Michels
812-760-5526
mvcommissionerjulie
@gmail.com

#### **Meadow Vale Staff**

Treasurer Chris Lusher

<u>City Clerk</u> Barbie Bryant 502-507-1863

Administrative Assistant Pat Teeter 502-412-5500

<u>Meadow Vale Police</u> Police Chief James Wilder Officer Phil Peters Officer on Duty 548-2599 Non-emergency 574-5471 Dear Residents,

Thank you to those of you who attended last month's city meeting. Your input is greatly valued.

Please take a moment to review the meeting minutes on the next page of the newsletter. Highlights include:

- A resident researched and shared that, if residents had to individually secure their own waste removal services, the cost would be \$660-\$770 per household annually. This is several times the amount of current total Meadow Vale taxes.
- We did a study of 15 surrounding cities. Meadow Vale had the lowest ad valorem tax rate—even though we have both waste removal and a police department.

We also know that:

- Residents appreciate our well-maintained city streets (including salting, plowing and signage), berm upkeep, waste removal and a police department. If we had to wait for the state or Louisville Metro to provide services, we would not enjoy regular recycling pickup, berm grass cutting or snow removal.
- Our police department offers many services. One that is underutilized is the house watch program. Fill out a form at city hall, and officers will watch your home while you're out of town.
- Residents love the community events that help us get to know our neighbors, like the Fall party, Spring Fling and July 4th parade.

We continue to look for additional revenue streams and budget balancing tactics. The Commission remains committed to making sure Meadow Vale remains a wonderful place to live.

--Matt Hammond, Mayor

P.S. Thank you to Commissioner Julie Michels and the GREAT turnout for our first annual Spring Fling event! Commissioner Michels filled 1,000 eggs and arranged bouncy houses and snacks. Thank you—and we hope it was a great time to get to know your wonderful neighbors.



#### Meadow Vale and Rolling Hills Community Yard Sale! Saturday, May18th, 8:00am-2:00pm

Get ready to uncover treasures galore at the Community Yard Sale Extravaganza! Join us on Saturday, May 18th, from 8am to 2pm, and explore an array of fantastic finds right in your own backyard. If it rains, we will move to Sunday, May 19th. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to snag incredible deals and connect with your community!

#### CITY OF MEADOW VALE, KENTUCKY REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES 03-18-2024 7:00PM - 7:55PM

The Commission met in regular session at City Hall with Mayor Matthew Hammond and the following Commissioners:

Commissioner Tom Lucas
Commissioner Julie Michels
Commissioner James Wallover – arrived at 7:08pm
Commissioner Brad Williams

Others present: City Treasurer Scott Pitts, City Attorney Kerry Butler, Police Chief Jim Wilder, Office Assistant Pat Teeter and City Clerk Barbie Bryant. Guests included Joe and Mary Hornek, Larry and Amy Lasley, Bill Pearce and Rolling Hills Mayor Judy Crowe. Mayor Hammond called the meeting to order at 7:00pm followed by the pledge of allegiance.

#### **CITIZENS / GUESTS - REMARKS**

Bill Pearce presented an invoice in the amount of \$81.92 for the purchase of several plants that will be used around the Meadow Vale City Sign. Amy Lasley commented on how much she receives from the city for the low property tax she pays, and that she is in favor of raising the rate to continue to receive those services. She highlighted the cost for garbage services if she individually had to pay for them; stating the yearly sum to be between \$660 - \$770.

#### **MINUTES**

The minutes from the 02-19-2024 regular meeting were presented. UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS, DULY SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LUCAS, THE MINUTES FOR THE 02-19-2024 REGULAR MEETING WERE APPROVED AND CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 4-0.

Commissioner Wallover arrived at the meeting at 7:08pm.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Pitts presented the Income Statements and the Balance Sheets for February 2024. UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MICHELS, DULY SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS, THE INCOME STATEMENT AND BALANCE SHEETS FOR FEBRUARY 2024 WERE APPROVED AND CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

The minutes will reflect that all bank statements were available for review.

Commissioner Williams shared the same sentiment as presented by Amy Lasley, that having to individually pay for garbage service would be 3 times more than the average property tax bill. Mayor Hammond produced information (attachment A) on the property tax rates used by surrounding cities (some that included a police department) with the range between \$0.103 per \$100 to \$0.329 per \$100. If the city were to drop its police force and have to contract out services through the Lyndon Police Department, the hourly cost would be \$65.00. Commissioner Williams is looking at other areas to reduce expenditures and would propose raising the tax rate only by the amount necessary to prevent a deficit.

Mayor Hammond also produced a rate sheet (attachment B) showing the amount of revenue produced with rates from a 4% increase to a 75% increase. The services provided through the property tax include – garbage pickup, police, maintenance of the berm, snow removal and street lighting.

#### TREASURER APPOINTMENT

Mayor Hammond recommended the appointment of Chris Lusher as Treasurer. Today was Scott Pitts last day. UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS, DULY SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WALLOVER, THE

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## RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT CHRIS LUSHER AS TREASURER WAS APPROVED AND CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

#### POLICE REPORT / CODE ENFORCEMENT

Police Chief Wilder reported on the following:

- Patrols for all cities remain active and uninterrupted.
- Received quite a few complaints about parking and addressed the issues.
- Warnings were issued for speeding and failures to stop at stop signs.
- Fingerprints and polygraph will be the last steps before the new hire begins patrolling.

Commissioner Williams inquired about the project to use official police volunteers. Mayor Hammond would like Chief Wilder to speak to the Mayors of Rolling Hills and Brownsboro Farms, as well as the HOA for Indian Springs about the project before going forward.

Commissioner Lucas asked if the city is actively looking to fill the fourth vacant position on the police force. Chief Wilder will re-evaluate once Officer Bacon gets hired.

Mayor Hammond encouraged the Commissioners to relay code violations to the Code Enforcement Officer, George Stewart.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Hammond informed the Commission that the Rumpke contract for garbage services will expire on July 1, 2024. In the years 2020 and 2022, the cost of services went from \$16.01 to \$20.50 per month per household. The city can expect a major increase for 2024 if the two-year contract is awarded to Rumpke for 2024. Commissioner Williams will begin the bidding possess next month.

#### HOUNZ LANE AT TIVERTON - REQUEST TO CLOSE

Mayor Hammond has received a request to investigate closing Hounz Lane at Tiverton to reduce the need to cut through. After some discussion, the request will not be considered.

#### RENTAL LICENSE – INCREASE ANNUAL FEE

The Commission would like to increase the annual rental license fee to \$400.00. Louisville Metro will require rental property to register, and this may provide an opportunity to see if there are additional properties within the City of Meadow Vale that may have slipped through the cracks. The fees are collected on a calendar year schedule. City Clerk Bryant will present an amendment to the ordinance for the increase in the fee for the April meeting.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Commissioner Wallover (Public Safety) - no additional information to report.

#### **Commissioner Michels (Community Services)**

- The Spring Fling and Egg Hunt will be on Sunday, March 24, 2024. Signs will be displayed this week throughout the city.
- A Yard Sale will be planned for the 18<sup>th</sup> of May, rain date on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Times will be 8:00am until 2:00pm. It was suggested that surrounding cities be asked to join for a larger draw.

#### **Commissioner Williams (Public Services)**

- With the Spring Forward time change, light inspection was delayed and a new schedule will be considered.
- The replacement pole needed for the damaged one will be addressed personally by Commissioner Williams.
- Cracks in the city pavement will be researched further.

#### **Commissioner Lucas (Utilities)**

- Accepted the invoice from Bill Pearce for new shrubs around the city sign.
- Two bids were presented to mow the berm.

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER LUCAS, DULY SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WALLOVER, THE RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM KENT MORRIS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00 PER MOWING SESSION, WAS APPROVED AND CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

#### **JOINT BOARD OF ETHICS**

City Clerk Bryant announced that the Joint Board of Ethics will convene for their annual meeting next Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 1:30pm at Meadow Vale's city hall.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

UPON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MICHELS, DULY SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LUCAS, THE RECOMMENDATION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:55PM WAS APPROVED AND CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

City	Ad Volerum Tax Rate Per 100
MEADOW VALE *	0.103 per 100
City of Westwood	0.110 per 100
Lyndon *	0.120 per 100
Middletown *	0.134 per 100
Douglas Hills	0.134 per 100
Norwood	0.141 per 100
Rolling Hills	0.1567 per 100
Graymoor-Devondale *	0.200 per 100
St.Matthews *	0.200 per 100
Brownsboro Farm	0.218 per 100
Creekside	0.22 per 100
Plantation	0.260 per 100
Langdon Place	0.280 per 100
Briarwood	0.290 per 100
Anchorage *	0.329 per 100
	* Denotes City having a Police Department

Attachment A

#### **Property Tax Analysis for Budget**

#### Attachment B

			Property Tax Increase						
Current Rate		4.0%	8.0%	10.0%	15.0%	15.5%	20.0%	25.0%	
\$65,213,910	0.00106	\$69,127	\$71,891.81	\$74,656.88	\$76,039.42	\$79,495.76	\$79,841.39	\$82,952.09	\$86,408.43
\$38,179,480	0.00106	\$40,470	\$42,089.06	\$43,707.87	\$44,517.27	\$46,540.79	\$46,743.14	\$48,564.30	\$50,587.81
\$103,393,390		\$109,597	\$113,980.87	\$118,364.75	\$120,556.69	\$126,036.54	\$126,584.53	\$131,516.39	\$136,996.24
		\$ Change Compared to Current Tax	\$4,383.88	\$8,767.76	\$10,959.70	\$16,439.55	\$16,987.53	\$21,919.40	\$27,399.25
		New Rate	0.0011024	0.0011448	0.001166	0.001219	0.0012243	0.001272	0.00132

30.0%	35.0%	40.0%	45.0%	50.0%	55.0%	60.0%	65.0%	70.0%	75.0%
\$89,864.77	\$93,321.11	\$96,777.44	\$100,233.78	\$103,690.12	\$107,146.45	\$110,602.79	\$114,059.13	\$117,515.47	\$120,971.80
\$52,611.32	\$54,634.84	\$56,658.35	\$58,681.86	\$60,705.37	\$62,728.89	\$64,752.40	\$66,775.91	\$68,799.42	\$70,822.94
\$142,476.09	\$147,955.94	\$153,435.79	\$158,915.64	\$164,395.49	\$169,875.34	\$175,355.19	\$180,835.04	\$186,314.89	\$191,794.74
\$32,879.10	\$38,358.95	\$43,838.80	\$49,318.65	\$54,798.50	\$60,278.35	\$65,758.20	\$71,238.05	\$76,717.90	\$82,197.75
0.001378	0.001431	0.001484	0.001537	0.00159	0.001643	0.001696	0.001749	0.001802	0.001855

\*\*These are unofficial meeting minutes pending Commission approval\*\*





City Clerk Barbie Bryant attended a Jefferson County League of Cities Training Session on March 23, 2024. It was held at the City of Lyndon City Hall and several topics were addressed between 9:00am until 11:30 pm. Topics included were:

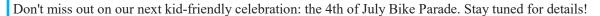
Municipal Road Aid Occupational Tax Property Tax and Compensating Rate City Revenue Sources

#### Egg Hunt Recap:

On Sunday, March 24th, the City of Meadow Vale hosted its First Annual Spring Fling and Egg Hunt at the beautiful Hounz Lane Park. With over 100 guests in attendance, it was a vibrant celebration of the season and community.

Highlights of the event included:

- Over 1000 eggs scattered for the hunt, providing excitement for children and parents alike.
- Inflatables offered endless entertainment for the little ones.
- Snacks and treats that kept people coming back for more.
- A friendly atmosphere encouraged mingling and community bonding.













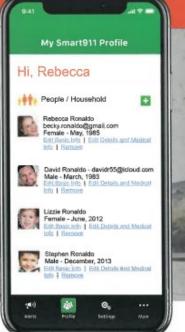




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## KEEP YOUR LOVED ONES SAFE WITH THE SMART911° APP

Smart911 is a free service that allows you to share valuable information with 9-1-1 during an emergency. You can also receive important alerts from your community so you can prepare for any situation. Your profile can include:

















#### **MEADOW VALE POLICE**

#### Reminder to Lock Vehicles! Tips from the Meadow Vale Police Department

- 1. Never leave anything of value in your vehicle; this includes laptops, purses, GPS devices and even loose change.
- 2. Do not leave your vehicle running unattended.
- 3. Always lock your vehicle doors.
- 4. Remove garage door openers from vehicles when parking outside.
- 5. Do not leave your keys in your vehicle, including key fobs and store them well away from vehicle inside your residence. The signal can be captured and duplicated if proximity of fob is nearby.
- 6. Do not leave your windows open or partially open.
- 7. Try to park in well-lit area.
- 8. NEVER leave firearms unprotected in a vehicle, this is the main target for thieves.
- 9. Remember to keep your garage doors closed.

Almost every "unauthorized entry" to vehicles has been the result of these steps not being followed. Unfortunately, there are people who are targeting our community and surrounding areas and these reminders can go a long way to make sure you are not a victim of theft from vehicles. Keep your eyes open and contact us if you see anything suspicious.







The Second Saturday Berm Cleanup will continue this month.\*

When: April 13th at 9:00 AM

Where: Meet at the city sign (Hounz Lane and Meadow Vale Drive)

Parking: Gravel off the road side on Hounz Lane near the city sign.

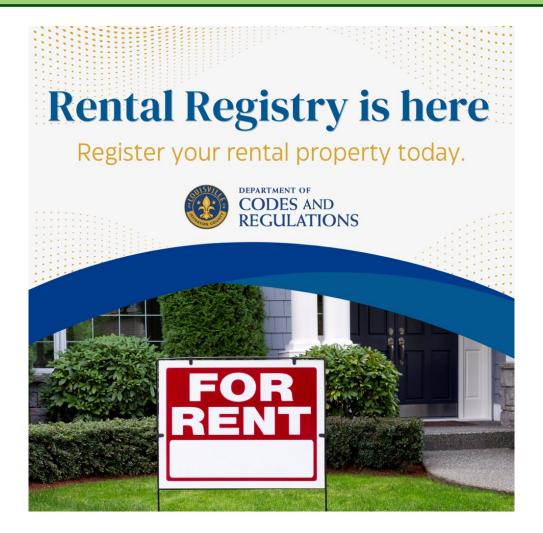


We hope to see you for any month you are able to join us. See you soon!

**And Thank You!** 

\*Work Gloves and Trash Bags will be provided.

### **DISTRICT 17 NEWS**





The Metro Department of Codes and Regulations has initiated its new Rental Registry program. **Property owners must register all rental units** with the city and are subject to a fine of up to \$100/day per housing unit for not doing so. The registry will provide accurate and up-to-date contact information for property owners and management companies helping metro government better respond should a violation occur at a rental property. Louisville Metro will randomly select properties each year to undergo inspections to ensure units are in compliance.

The registration link and some frequently asked questions can be found <u>here</u>. Property owners and managers also have the option of applying in person at 444 South Fifth Street, Suite 200.

#### **DISTRICT 17 NEWS**

## Jefferson County PVA Homestead & Disability Exemption

Did you know you can save hundreds off your property taxes each year with the Homestead & Disability Exemption? Residents 65 and older or those who are declared totally disabled and own and occupy their residence can apply. This year's exemption consists of \$46,350 off your home's taxable value.

Click here to apply/learn more or call 502-574-6380 to request a paper application.



#### THE DATE HAS BEEN SET!

**JOIN IN SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH** 

#### FOR THE BRIGHTSIDE & WM COMMUNITY-WIDE CLEANUP!

The office of District 17 Councilman Markus Winkler will be participating and will focus on one of the main corridors in this district. If you would rather clean up an area closer to where you live, that's great, too! Either way, he hopes you will participate as it is a great way to give back and meet some of your neighbors. Click <a href="here">here</a> to register a team for your neighborhood. Remember, Brightside provides trash bags, gloves, shirts, and makes sure whatever is collected is removed. We're happy to help as well (maybe you need to borrow some grabbers?), so just let us know how we can assist.

# Kip Eatherly Legislative Aide to M. Winkler 502.574.3462 Contact Kip

#### **Other Numbers**

Jefferson County Emergency

St Matthews Fire Department 502-893-7825

Rumpke Sanitation 502-568-3800

Louisville Gas & Electric 502-589-3500

#### **MONTHLY MEETING**

The City Commission of Meadow Vale meets the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at City Hall (9408 Blossom Ln, Suite A). The meeting is open to the public. Residents are encouraged to attend.

Find Us On The Web www.cityofmeadowvale.org