



WINCHESTER CITY COMMISSION WRAP-UP

Information from the Tuesday, Feb. 18, 6 p.m. special meeting

Ordinance would increase fines for parking violations

A proposed ordinance would increase fines for parking violations in the City of Winchester.

The ordinance, which received a first reading at the Feb. 18 meeting of the Winchester Board of Commissioners, would amend Ordinance No. 23-89 Section 10-101 and specifically address penalties.

The following penalties are proposed:

- Over two hours: \$20
- Double parked: \$20

- Blocked driveway: \$20
- Blocked sidewalk: \$20
- Street sweeping: \$20
- Yellow line: \$20
- Loading zone: \$20
- Fire hydrant: \$75
- Fire lane: \$75
- Handicapped: \$200
- Other: \$20

Previously, the fines for all violations were \$5, except for a \$15 fine that was imposed for parking near fire hydrants or in fire lanes.

Additionally, the ordinance would raise fines

for non-payment within seven days to \$25 to \$100 for most violations and \$50 to \$150 for parking near a fire hydrant or in a fire lane. Previously, the non-payment fine was \$10 to \$100 for most violations and \$25 to \$150 for fire lane/hydrant violations.

For the ordinance to pass, it must receive a second reading by the Winchester Board of Commissioners.

DON'T MISS THE NEXT MEETING!

The next meeting of the Winchester Board of Commissioners will be Tuesday, March 4. There will be a 4:30 p.m. special meeting and a 5:30 p.m. regular meeting.

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Conlee promoted to police captain



Zack Conlee, formerly a sergeant with the Winchester Police Department, was promoted to captain of the training division of the department at the Tuesday, Feb. 18, meeting of the Winchester Board of Commissioners. Conlee, a 20-year veteran of the Winchester Police Department, was pinned by his wife, Barbara, during the ceremony.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

In other business, the commission:

— approved a resolution allowing Mayor JoEllen Reed to make an application for Law Enforcement Protection (Duty Weapons and Ammunition) funds for a project to be administered by the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security.

— approved the first reading of an ordinance amending the noise and noise abatement ordinance to include engine brakes commonly referred to as “Jake Brakes,” which when used, create a loud rumbling noise. If it receives a second

reading, the amendment would make it illegal to use these types of brakes in residential areas in the city limits between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m.

— deferred discussion of an amendment to the zoning ordinance related to signage and language for cultivating, processing and producing medical cannabis in the city limits. The Board of Commissioners chose to defer the conversation until more information was available from the Clark County Fiscal Court about the proposed amendment.

— appointed Jansen Thomas as interim police sergeant.

— heard a presentation from Tom Sparks, of Summers, McCrary and Sparks PLLC regarding the 2024 audit. Sparks told the commission the audit provided a “clean report,” and there was no evidence of fraud or misappropriation. Additionally, Sparks warned the commission the 2025 budget is “tight,” and advised monitoring spending to make sure the city remains on track.