

GC Fiscal Court moves toward end of fiscal year

BY DEBORAH LUCAS ANGEL
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

All members of the Grant County Fiscal Court were present, including Roger Humphrey attending via Zoom, as Judge/Executive Chuck Dills called the meeting to order May 20.

FISCAL MATTERS

Court approved Monnie Leap, an independent third party reviewer, to prepare the 2026 tax settlement. Leap has reviewed the settlement documents for the last several years.

Grant County Local Board of Health property and vehicle tax rate for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 will remain the

same as the current rate, 2.60%.

The Grant County Conservation District plan of action and budget for FY 2026-2027 was reviewed.

ORDINANCES

Court unanimously approved the following second readings:

Ordinance #007-2026-0299 "Anthony Ashcraft Zone Change" rezoning Agriculture One (A1) Zone to Residential 1-A to allow transfer of 2.7 acres of his property on Warsaw Road to an already existing 2.9 acres belonging to his daughter. This will bring the property to the minimum five acres for

separation from a larger area as required by current R-1 (residential one) zoning.

Ordinance #0008-2026-0300 "Jamie Brantley Zone Change" which allows the subdivision of "one acre and house" from existing farmland on Sherman Mt. Zion Road.

First Reading conducted (no court action is required on first readings):

Ordinance #009-2026-301 "Administrative Code Amendment." According to Dills, the actions are "cleanup" on verbiage and to make the administrative code match the personnel policies and "meet the needs" of the county. Following are the "five (5) sections that must

be amended and revised to meet the current business practices."

Section 5.9 "Classifications of Employees" details "Full-Time Employee," to be "30+ hours" "Part-Time Employee" to "work less than 1200 hours" annually, "Seasonal Employee" to "coincide in duration with a particular season or seasons" and can "recur regularly year to year" but "not to exceed nine months in any event" and "Temporary Employee" to be for a "period of time not to exceed twelve (12) months" and are "not renewable" and can be full or parttime.

Section 5.25 "Holidays" details paid holiday time off

to be for "regular full-time employees" and based on "straight-time pay rate." While the definition remains the same, the action corrects the cite to "Section 5.54"

Section 5.26 "Vacation" details scale of vacation days per employee based on years service.

Section 5.29 details and expands the definition of "immediate family" for "bereavement leave" to be in line with current definitions and includes spousal families.

Section 5.35 "Overtime/Compensation Time" defines the "work week" to be from Sunday through Saturday instead of the current verbiage of Saturday through Friday. Dills

said this will also help some of the salaried personnel that have job responsibilities that can have them working well beyond their regular hours to be approved for limited overtime compensation.

REPORTS

Judge/Executive Dills thanked and all the poll workers, the road department, county clerk's office and sheriff's department personnel who made the election on May 19 a success.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, at 6 p.m. at the courthouse, 101 North Main Street Williamstown. For more information on the meeting, call (859) 823-7561.

Dry Ridge looking at personnel changes

BY DEBORAH LUCAS ANGEL
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

On May 18, Dry Ridge Mayor Greg Brockman called the city council meeting to order with Eric Brockman the only member absent.

PERSONNEL

Brockman read the official resignation letter from Councilmember Eric Brockman. His resignation is effective immediately. In the letter, he said the reason for his resignation was due to his having moved outside the city limits, rendering him ineligible to serve on the Council. The city will be moving to fill his vacant seat.

Officer Matt Hicks will be resigning from the Dry Ridge Police Department effective July 1, 2026.

BIDS REQUESTS DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE BIDS

Solenoid vault valves for water system: City Administrator Ken Little reported the city has applied for a "Clean Water Program" grant from Kentucky Infrastructure Authority (KIA). Solenoids are electrically controlled valves regulating water flow and can regulate the amount of water the city uses, potentially saving money.

Little said the solenoids for Dry Ridge's system would cost \$253,850; the grant would be for \$378,759. He said any monies beyond the cost of the solenoids would be used to replace water meters around the city.

The city has been replacing four or so meters per month.

Possible fire engine replacement: Dry Ridge Fire Chief Allen Cammack had asked at the April meeting if the council would rather he look at a used or new replacement vehicle, with a new replacement by fall for \$650,000.

Cammack reiterated the

need for another truck, relating the two older vehicles were having more and more issues needing repair. While Engine 31 is back, he said, "Engine 32 blew a valve out" and was repaired and received back on May 18.

He requested \$750,000 to be approved for him to send out for bids for a new truck.

In a discussion of whether to buy new or used, he said most of the time you "get what you pay for" and pointed out that with repairs a used vehicle could cost more in the long run than a new one.

After more discussion, Cammack told the council "I need a truck" and asked them to "tell me how to go about that" and he would follow their directives.

Little responded to a question from Councilmember Bill Webb as to whether the city has money for the unit, saying they have "around 480,000" which would cover two thirds of the cost of the higher end truck, and there are "funding options" for the remaining cost.

Ultimately, council unanimously approved to put out bids for a new fire truck, but that this would only be to "see what is out there."

ORDINANCE

The first reading of Ordinance Number "919-2026 annual budget and pay scale for FY26-27" was conducted.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Fire/EMS: Reporting his numbers, Cammack, said the Dry Ridge Fire Department responded to 47 runs, 22 within the city limits and 25 outside.

Emergency Management Services (EMS) made 208 runs making 1,140 year-to-date (YTD). Their fleet maintenance report shows about 6,300 miles in April for EMS and 778 miles for the fire department. EMS had their

state inspection and passed. Cammack said a fire truck with a steering gear issue was repaired.

Maintenance Department: Little said cold patching has been finished. He noted the Grant County Detention Center personnel had helped with sweeping and cleaning the city streets.

Planning and Zoning: There will be a City Board of Adjustments meeting on June 18 at 6 p.m. to hear a proposal for a development "behind Tiger Fuel" for a truck wash.

As well, there will be a proposal from "Lollipop Development" for lot variances for Heartland Estates on Warsaw Road.

Parks Department: Brockman reported the city had received two light poles from Grant County Schools. These will be used to install lighting at Piddle Park at a significant savings for the city.

There will be a "Chalk the Park" event June 13 from noon to 3 p.m. where kids can draw on the concrete around the park and learn about the EMS and fire departments.

Party in the Park will be Sept. 5.

A local elementary school is providing flowers, pots and decorations in the city.

MISCELLANEOUS

A Hoxworth Blood Drive will be held at Grant County Park in Crittenden on Aug. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by the fire and EMS community, including Air Evac, the event will spotlight the emergency personnel and their work while building up the reserves of blood for the area.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 15, at 6 p.m. at the Dry Ridge City Building, 31 Broadway. For questions or more information, contact the city at (859) 824-3335.

Williamstown moves toward summer

BY DEBORAH LUCAS ANGEL
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Calling the May 19 meeting of the Williamstown City Council order, Mayor Dave Henson presided over a quorum with members April Fabela and Ronnie Maines absent. City Attorney Luke Morgan of McBrayer Law Firm of Lexington was also present. Agenda items included a municipal order and an executive session.

Council unanimously approved Municipal Order 2026-09, "Police Surplus Property" which will "most probably" be done in conjunction with the county surplus sales. Items included: Fusion lightbar, Whalen rear light bar, Whalen siren box, two Stalker patrol antennas, Setina rifle/shotgun lock system and two rocker panel light bars.

Superintendent reports were included in packets for the members. Henson noted mayor's assistant Brandy Hall had prepared those reports; members complimented the quality of the reports.

Included in the report were "procurement and bidding activities" for:

Williamstown Cemetery trimming services

Wastewater Plant asphalt resurfacing

Water Treatment Plant lagoon clean-out

Water Plant operator position

After approving minutes from the previous meetings, it was noted Tim Beach, water department superintendent, had reached out for estimates for the "lagoon cleanout."

Council moved into Executive Session citing "KRS 61.810(1)(g) discussions regarding a business entity concerning a specific proposal as open discussions would jeopardize the sitting, retention, expansion or upgrading of the business." Henson related upon returning to regular session that "no votes were made, no decisions were made..." Council adjourned immediately after returning to session.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

The new welcome center is continuing along, the floor should be ready and painting to be done "this week." He said most work, other than HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) had been accomplished by city employees, saving money for the city.

Draft of the annual audit,

prepared by Paul Maddox, Maddox and Associates CPAs, Inc., was distributed to council. Henson said Maddox will be at the next meeting to "go over" 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year that ended Jun 30, 2025.

MISCELLANEOUS

Minutes of the Marigold/Founders Day committee meeting of May 12 were included with the regular minutes of the city council. The event will be held on June 13. The next meeting of the committee will be held on June 1 at 10 a.m.

Updating the Council, Henson shared:

The "My Williamstown" event will be held Saturday May 30, from 3 - 6 p.m.

The Marigold/Founders Day Pageant will be held at the Grant County Fairgrounds on Baton Rouge Road on Saturday, May 30, 11 a.m.

The Marigold/Founders Day Festival will be June 13, from 3 - 10 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the council will be held on Monday, June 8, at 6 p.m. at the Council Chambers, 400 North Main Street. For more information, call (859) 824-3633.

ELECTION

FROM PAGE A1

Grant County Magistrate District 1 - Republican

Jacqalynn M. Ammer RILEY 763 - 65% of reported votes
Jerrie M. "Shella" MARTIN 407 - 35% of reported votes

Grant County Magistrate District 2 - Republican

Jeremy LILLY 792 - 71% of reported votes
Michael D. WEBSTER 327 - 29% of reported votes


Grant County Magistrate District 3 - Republican

Leo Lewis SAYLOR 548 - 55% of reported votes
Craig PENNINGTON 440 - 45% of reported votes

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MAY ATHLETES of the Month

GRANT




Elee Lane and Hiett White
Grant County High School
Unified Shot Put

WILLIAMSTOWN



Addison Workman
Williamstown High School, junior
Lady Demon Softball

Athlete of the Month is sponsored by



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MAY STUDENTS of the Month

GRANT



Madison Utter
Senior, Grant County High School

WILLIAMSTOWN



Lettie King
Senior, Williamstown High School

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