

**KENOSHA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY BOARD CHAMBERS COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
November 5, 2019**

The **County Board Public Hearing** was called to order by Chairman Esposito at 7:00 p.m., in the County Board Chambers located in the Administration Building.

Roll Call was taken.

Present: Supervisors Belsky, Berg, Celebre, Decker, Elverman, Esposito, Franco, Boyd Frederick, Ron Frederick, Gaschke, Gentz, Grady, Kubicki, Maurer, Nordigian, Nudo, O'Day, Poole, Rodriguez, Rose, Skalitzky, Wamboldt and Yugas

Present: 23      Excused: 0

**Citizen Comments**

Kevin Mathewson, 3121 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Somers. He spoke regarding a member of the board who was arrested. He stated this individual will receive due process and it's only fair that we reserve judgment until after that process is completed. Kenosha County's treatment of anyone differently than the next person based on that person's position in the community is an injustice. The Sheriff should have followed the law, precedent and policy of the Sheriff's Department. That the Sheriff and Bill Beth should be accountable to the board and taxpayers. Everyone needs to be treated the same no matter who they are or what they look like.

Lynda Pfeiffer, 1345 97<sup>th</sup> Ave, Kenosha. She was representing Kenosha County employees and members of Local 990. The employees have only received a 25-cent increase since their contract ended in 2012. Over the last 7 years inflation has increased 11.66%. She urged the board to stop balancing the budget on the backs of the dedicated Kenosha County employees. She urged the board to not support the change to the employee health insurance. She contacted Humana requesting information on the new plan. She was told the information is no longer available on their website or to their representatives. She reached out to HR last week requesting direction on obtaining the information and as of today HR has not responded. Kenosha County employees cannot afford to endure additional costs and deserve a pay increase on day 1 of 2020.

Jim Schmidt, 5830 380<sup>th</sup> Ave, Wheatland. He is a Vietnam Era veteran of the US Navy '64-'68. He moved to the Twin Lakes area and joined the American Legion Post 544. He spoke of many of the different memorials throughout the county and that recognition was lacking in the county parks. He could not think of a better place for citizens of Kenosha County to recognize our veterans and sacrifices made by them and their families.

Phil Allen, 9021 262<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Salem. He is the VFW Dept. of WI State Chaplain and Hospital Director. He also served as Chief of Staff for VFW Dist. 1. He is a member of VFW Post 73, American Legion Post 21. He served in the US Navy in Vietnam '67-'68 where he earned his right to become a veteran of foreign wars. He stated when they came back from Vietnam they were spit upon, swore at and neglected. Veteran's Memorial Park will honor all of our veterans in the community and it's very important that they are shown that we care about them. He asked the board to support the naming of the Veteran's Memorial Park.

Derrell Greene, 6730 111<sup>th</sup> Ave, Kenosha. He served as Kenosha County Veteran Service Officer for many years prior to Ali Nelson. He thanked the board and the County Executive for their constant support of Kenosha County's Veteran's Office. He applauded the County Executive on being a leader that had the foresight to see that it was important to protect our veterans and support them as much as we could. The veterans do a lot of work here in this county and they don't come to the county requesting anything. The park would be great opportunity to show support and reverence to our veterans. A place to take your family and talk about the freedoms we have in this country due to our veterans putting their lives on the line to make this country a wonderful place. He asked the board to show support to the veterans in Kenosha County.

Joe Clark, 4862 105<sup>th</sup> Pl., Pleasant Prairie. He thanked the County Board for following the levy cap process and working together. Relative to the bonding, capital projects are being pushed off. It is inevitable and things will need to be done. When that happens, the costs are only going to go up. As they tout the impact on this year's budget it's going to be very minimal because the bonding for the first year is not going to have the impact. He encouraged the members, while in their committees to look at the roads. When the levy cap was implemented, they wanted to make sure that the county maintained the infrastructure. Relative to the Veteran's Memorial Park he believes it is appropriate and we can't thank our veterans enough.

Dr. Rory Burns, 10304 63<sup>rd</sup> St, Kenosha. He has lived in the City of Kenosha since 2001. He served in the Army '81-'06. Many veterans go on to live lives out of the spotlight never seeking self-importance. Veterans are simply good citizens that felt the need to help protect our country. We have soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, coast guardsmen that depart this life every day. Our country offers a medal as payment for their service and some receive a pension. There are families of veterans that all they have are medals and letters of recognition. Some of our servicemen and women die young given some of the things that they're exposed to as well as some of them never fully recover. Within their ranks suicide is at all-time high. There are several memorials around the City that honor veterans. The Veteran's Memorial Park would serve as a monument for those who have contributed greatly to the welfare of our nation during both involuntary and voluntary times. A place where the community can be educated about what military service has meant for our freedom. He asked for support of the Kenosha County Veteran's Memorial Park. Support for our veterans is not a partisan way it is the American Way.

Dick Stader, 1511 84<sup>th</sup> St., Kenosha. He has lived in Kenosha County for 50 years. He is retired from the United States Navy, where he served from '53-'73. He urged the board to vote yes regarding the Kenosha County Veteran's Memorial Park. This beautiful park will be a great place for veterans and their families who need an opportunity to experience a quiet and serene environment. He thanked the board for their support.

Rob Roberts, 1505 84<sup>th</sup> St, Kenosha. He spoke in favor of the Veteran's Memorial Park. He said there is a forgotten war. He is a Desert Storm Veteran, he is not a Gulf War veteran. He is not a post 9-11 veteran. In the county there is no Desert Storm Memorial. There's a lot of memorials out there that do not recognize Desert Shield or Desert Storm. Each war is its own war. They are not the same thing and this needs to be recognized. This park is an opportunity to this correct this issue. To have the service of his brothers and sisters recognized in this community.

Bill Erickson, 420 57<sup>th</sup> St #311, Kenosha. He spoke on behalf of naming the Kenosha County Veteran's Memorial Park. There is strong support from veterans and friends of veterans, and he asked if there is any opposition what is the reason for the opposition? If there is opposition there should be a reason for it, if not it could be just being contrary. The support is overwhelming for the naming of this park. He requested that the County Board approve the naming of the Kenosha County Veteran's Memorial Park.

At this time Supervisor Rose presented the Kenosha County 2020 Budget.

It was moved by Supervisor Nudo to adjourn. Seconded by Supervisor Rodriguez.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Prepared by: Regi Bachochin, Chief Deputy Clerk

Submitted by: Mary T. Kubicki, County Clerk