

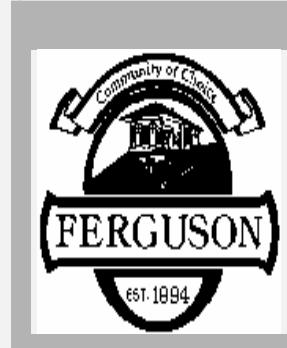
Approved 3/27/07

FERGUSON CITY COUNCIL

Council Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2007

COUNCIL MEETING, 8:00 P.M.

CITY HALL
110 Church Street



The regular meeting of the Ferguson City Council was called to order at 8:00 p.m. on March 13, 2007 by Mayor Brian P. Fletcher, in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 110 Church Street, Ferguson, Missouri. Mayor Fletcher requested that everyone stand for a moment of silent prayer, after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. On roll call, the following Council members were present:

Mayor Brian P. Fletcher
John Corson
Michael Salant
James W. Knowles III
James Hines
Peggy Faul
Tim Larson

Also present were City Manager John Shaw, City Attorney Stephanie Karr, and Deputy City Clerk Sonya Brooks. Ms. Brooks declared a quorum was present.

Mayor Fletcher welcomed all present and explained the Council meeting would have the Public Comment Portion at which time you are invited to speak on matters of general concern; and the Business Portion in which you are welcome to listen but not participate.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Theresa Carper, 401 Wesley – first wanted to mention that viewers at home were having trouble hearing the meeting. Ms. Carper further voiced concerns over the eligibility of a candidate running in Ward 2 for the upcoming election due to the certification process and payment of taxes. Can residents still cast their vote for the candidate and will it count?

City Attorney, Stephanie Karr responded that candidates are certified by the Board of Election Commissioners. As for the tax issue, there is a State statute that requires all candidates to pay all taxes that they may owe to the municipality. If any taxes are in question, the opposing candidate must raise the issue. For the candidate in question, a judge will have to determine his eligibility once something is filed by the opposing candidate.

In addition, City Clerks are advised not to verify any candidate taxes, and are asked to provide candidates with an affidavit in which the candidate signs and testifies under oath that they have paid all of their taxes and have met all of the qualifications required for the office.

Farzad Faramarzi, 819 Moundale – wanted to suggest to the City Council the need for more minority input on Boards and Commissions and in our Business District. We need to discover the talents others have to offer and the potential it would bring to our community.

Terri House – Manager, Ferguson License Office, 728 S. Florissant Rd. – stated she has kept her promises to the Council since she first took over the License Office. Ms. House further shared how she has built many relationships in Ferguson as a resident and business owner and has worked hard for the community. However, would have liked to have seen the same support from the Council and feels she was discredited when she asked for help.

Ed Krueger, 425 Darst – shared concerns over the hiring of a consultant for the Finance department over the new software project. Would like to see the City utilize in-house personnel to make the conversion.

Harry Henderson, 811 Elliott – expressed the great job Terri House has done with the License Office and how it has supported the Ferguson Lions Club. The Ferguson Lions Club has been able to give four scholarships per year. And he stated Ms. House is an asset to the City of Ferguson.

Approved 3/27/07

Mary Roth, #8 Buckeye – voiced concerns over trash and trash cans in the community. Would not like to see good buyers turn away due to the trash cans and the poor image it projects. Suggested the City Council utilize the "Ferguson Times" to make residents aware of the problem.

John Knowles, 716 N. Elizabeth – welcomed new City Manager, John Shaw. Mr. Knowles commented to contact him if the School Board or the Library Board can be of assistance.

The Mayor also officially welcomed the new City Manager, John Shaw.

Mr. Shaw thanked the Council and shared some of his activities his first days on the job. Encouraged any Council Member who has not had a chance to meet with him one-on-one to please do so.

Mr. Knowles thanked Mr. De'Carlon Seewood for his job as Interim City Manager.

The Public Comments portion closed at 8:31 p.m.

BUSINESS PORTION
MINUTES

Council Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2007. A motion was made by Council Member Larson, seconded by Council Member Faul and carried to approve and receive as presented the Council Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2007 and file as appropriate.

REQUEST

Ferguson Charter - *Section 3.11.1 Meetings* –
April Council Meetings will be held April 17 and April 24, 2007

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Salant to schedule the April Council Meetings for April 17 and April 24, 2007, in accordance with the Ferguson City Charter, Section 3.11.1. Motion approved unanimously, 7-0.

PROCLAMATIONS

Kiwanis Day of Prayer - A Proclamation Proclaiming April 4, 2007 as Ferguson Day of Prayer in the City of Ferguson, Missouri was read by Mayor Fletcher.

Approved 3/27/07

RESOLUTIONS

(#2007-07 was postponed from 2/27/07 meeting)

#2007-07 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR CONSULTING SERVICES WITH RONNA ALANIZ D/B/A MUNI FINANCIAL was introduced by Council as a whole, and read by City Attorney, Stephanie Karr.

On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

AYES: 7 – Corson, Salant, Knowles, Hines, Fletcher, Faul, Larson
NOES: 0

Resolution passes

#2007-09 A RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH THE CITY'S DESIRE AND INTENT TO ACCEPT A PARCEL OF PROPERTY FROM ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI FOR USE AS A PUBLIC PARK, GREEN SPACE OR RECREATIONAL AREA was introduced by Council as a whole, and read by City Attorney, Stephanie Karr.

Mr. Shaw gave a brief overview of the Resolution and discussed the map provided to each Council member prior to the meeting. Mr. Shaw explained that the City of Ferguson has an interest to acquire land (Lot B) from St. Louis County for future green space. Lot A is being sold to NorthPark for the NorthPark development.

On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

AYES: 7 – Salant, Knowles, Hines, Fletcher, Faul, Larson, Corson
NOES: 0

Resolution passes

3E. BILLS REQUIRING FIRST READING

BILL NO. 6785 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 30 - PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE IV - USE REGULATIONS, SECTION 30.66 - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, BY REPEALING SECTION 30.66 (a) (4) CONCERNING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN FORESTWOOD PARK AND CONTAINING A SUNSET CLAUSE FOR SAID ORDINANCE AND ENACTING A NEW SECTION 30.66(a) (4), was introduced by Council Member Faul, and read the first time.

Approved 3/27/07

Council Member Knowles questioned the permit process for alcoholic beverages in City parks. Is the permit only available at Forestwood, January Wabash Park and maybe Hudson? Can it expand to other parks for special events? Mr. Knowles asked if the City Attorney could look into that item.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Salant – welcomed new City Manager, John Shaw.

Mr. Knowles – reminded everyone of the St. Patrick's Day Dance this weekend at the Savoy and that tickets are available.

Mr. Hines – inquired about the status of the January Wabash Building and if the Fire Department was using it for instructional purposes. Mr. Shaw responded that other procedures were being completed and demolition should begin next Monday. Mr. Shaw confirmed that the Fire Department was able to utilize the building for some training purposes.

Ms. Faul – shared the request for "No Parking" signs on Millman Dr. (behind Blessed Teresa) and will also send the request to the Traffic Commission. Ms. Faul agreed with Mary Roth for residents to start working on cleaning up their yards from the winter.

Ms. Faul – congratulated McCluer North High School on their boys' basketball State Championship. And wanted to reiterate the St. Patrick's Day Celebration at the Savoy.

Ms. Faul – spoke with the City Attorney about the Council looking at forming a written policy for the City Clerk to check "stated" entities when a candidate files for office.

Ms. Faul – looks forward to the new era with the new City Manager.

Mr. Larson – thanked De'Carlon Seewood for his work as Interim City Manager, and welcomed the new City Manager.

Mr. Shaw – stated he is currently beginning to review the submissions for the Budget and will be meeting with Department Heads next week. Along with Terry O'Neil, Public Works Director, he will be meeting with a representative from the Railroad next week to discuss some of the Council's concerns.

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Mayor Fletcher – passed on his concern to Mr. Shaw for the additional microphone work needed for the Council Chamber. Mayor Fletcher congratulated Mr. Shaw on being the new City Manager and thanked Mr. Seewood for his work during the interim.

Mayor Fletcher – re-iterated the concern for the amount of litter, leaves and limbs around the community and requested residents take the time to work on their yards and be good neighbors.

Mayor Fletcher – asked for prayers for his mother who is on life support and the difficult decision he may have to make in the next few days.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to consider, Council Member Larson, moved to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Knowles. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Sonya D. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk