

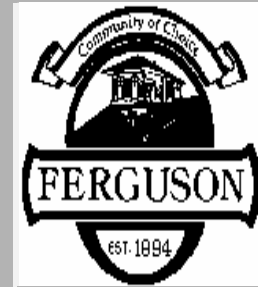
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FERGUSON CITY COUNCIL

**Council Meeting Minutes
June 12, 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 June 12, 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
Kynan S. Crecelius
Michael Salant
James W. Knowles III
James Hines
Peggy Faul
Fran Grecco

Also present were City Manager John Shaw, City Attorney Stephanie Karr, and City Clerk Debbie Matthies. Mrs. Matthies declared a quorum was present.

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

A Motion was made by Council Member Faul, seconded by Council Member Grecco to amend the June 12, 2007 Agenda to add Resolution No. 2007-18, table Bill No. 6795 and include additional liquor license renewals. Motion carried unanimously.

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PUBLIC HEARING - Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 8:05 p.m.

❖ Proposed Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 and Capital Improvement Program

City Manager, John Shaw explained that Council has been presented with the Proposed Budget for FY 2007-2008, and the Capital Improvement Program for 2008-2012. Changes have been made per the decisions made during the two council Budget Work Sessions.

Mr. Shaw further explained the concepts worked through in the Budget Message. Mr. Shaw commented that many of the basic tenants and ideals from the '06-'07 Budget are carried over and consistent with that of the 2007-2008 Budget and the philosophy remains the same, as with any municipal budget, in that it takes a look at the City's current financial position, and how the projected revenues and expenditures will affect the City's financial position over the next twelve months.

Mr. Shaw commented it is important to remember that the budget is a "tool" for the City to use in establishing goals and limitations to help carry out the various City-provided services and Council initiatives and is also useful in presenting areas of concern for continued evaluation and providing a basis for the monitoring and control of spending.

It is important to note that the budget does reflect the City Administration's extremely conservative approach to projecting revenues and establishing expenditures. Mr. Shaw further stated that it is equally important to remember that although the budget does reflect that the operating expenditures of the City are properly funded, it should also be known that the Administration will be vigilant during the course of the year to monitor all revenues and expenditures to avoid deficit spending and to maximize money allocated for projects, personnel, and equipment.

Along with the new Finance Director, Mr. Shaw will also be conducting an efficiency review of the City's various programs and resources through the course of the Fiscal Year to closely examine opportunities to provide increasingly better services to our residents through the most efficient means possible, and explore additional streams of revenue available to the City through economic development and cooperation with other organizations and institutions.

Mr. Shaw feels that Ferguson faces similar challenges to all municipalities in the area and nationwide due to rising energy costs that have a cyclical affect on consumer behavior and spending patterns, and in turn municipal

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revenues achieved through sales tax. This is why local government, in particular, needs to be diligent in exploring new ways to reduce costs to effectively provide our residents with the services that they have been accustomed to and to ensure the quality of life aspects that make Ferguson one of the most attractive places to live or operate a business in North St. Louis County.

Mr. Shaw explained that Council will notice that on the Totals column on the Budget Summary page there is a dip into the fund balance of approximately \$2 million. From a \$14,036.078 Reserve Balance as of June 2007 to a projected balance of \$12,013,502 for June 2008. This is primarily due to a number of Capital Improvement projects that have been allocated for in previous year's CIPs, which take a considerable amount of time in planning (such as the Florissant Road project). Mr. Shaw further explained that Council will see a direct correlation between this column and the Line of Credit Fund, which had monies set aside for projects which will begin during the coming Fiscal Year, which include street projects such as Florissant Road, Suburban Avenue and Brotherton Lane.

Interim Finance Director, Ronna Alaniz explained the different funds' budgets and some of the changes from the current year.

There being no public comment at this time, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 8:15 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joe Lonero – 901 Hudson - had concerns and comments with the Special Use Permit at 600 S. Florissant Road.

John Knowles – 716 N. Elizabeth Ave. - thanked everyone who participated in the National Association of Letter Carriers Annual Food Drive. The food collected was a little over 4000 pounds of food and will benefit food banks in the Ferguson area. Mr. Knowles thanked the citizens of Ferguson.

There being no additional public comments, Mayor closed the Public Comments portion at 8:20 p.m.

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BUSINESS PORTION
MINUTES

Council Meeting Minutes – May 22, 2007. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Hines and carried to approve and receive as presented the Council Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2007 and file as appropriate.

Council Special Meeting Minutes – May 30, 2007. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Hines and carried to approve and receive as presented the Special Council Meeting Minutes of May 30, 2007 and file as appropriate.

Council Budget Meeting Minutes – May 31, 2007. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Hines and carried to approve and receive as presented the Council Budget Meeting Minutes of May 31, 2007.

RESOLUTIONS

#2007-16 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR FACILITATION SERVICES WITH BG CLARK (PROS CONSULTING), 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 – Crecelius, Salant, Knowles, Hines, Fletcher, Faul, Grecco
NOES: 0

Resolution passes (7-0)

#2007-17 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OFFICIALS TO SIGN ON UNITED MISSOURI BANK OF ST. LOUIS ACCOUNTS, was introduced by Council as a whole.

City Attorney, Ms. Karr asked for a motion to table Resolution #2007-17. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco to table Resolution #2007-17.

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#2007-18 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, PERSONNEL MANUAL, AND TO INSTITUTE SCHEDULING AND PAY RATE CHANGES FOR PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES SO AS TO AVOID INCURRING EXPENSES WHICH WOULD EXCEED THE APPROVED CITY BUDGET, 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 – Salant, Knowles, Hines, Fletcher, Faul, Grecco, Crecelius

NOES: 0

Resolution passes (7-0)

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor announced that the FSBD Nomination to the FSBD Board of Directors was Joe Lonero. Council unanimously appointed Joe Lonero to the FSBD Board of Directors.

Council unanimously appointed Council Member Fran Grecco as the Council Representative for the FNIP board.

Mayor announced that for the Charter Review Committee Ms. Grecco nominated John Knowles – Ward 1, Mr. Salant nominated John Corson – Ward 3, Mayor Fletcher nominated Chuck James – Ward 2 who will also chair the committee, Mr. Hines nominated Mr. Larson – Ward 1, and Mr. Crecelius nominated Cathy Dahmer – Ward 3. Mr. Knowles and Ms. Faul will inform Mayor of their nominations.

Mayor would like to start the Commission by the end of June and feels there is a good cross representation with the nominees.

Mayor announced the following Board & Commission re-appointments:

FNIP	Joan Cleveland
FSBD	Chuck Henson
FSBD	Robyn Lawrence
Library Board	Don Young
Park Board	Dorothy Seiter
Pension Board	Tom Wolf
Housing Board of Appeals	Lewis Keathley
Plan Commission	Larry Morie
Traffic Commission	Craig Groh
Senior Citizen Commission	James Hines

Council unanimously approved the above re-appointments.

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REQUESTS

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Crecelius that pursuant to Sec. 2-26 of the Ferguson Code, during the months of July and August, regular Council Meetings shall be held only on the fourth Tuesday of each month, July 24, 2007 and August 28, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Hines to approve the following businesses that have applied for Liquor License Renewals for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Motion carried unanimously.

Malone's Grill & Pub, Emerson Electric AA Bldg., Rinderer's Drug Store, Convenient Food Mart #61-1108 S. Florissant, Shop 'n Save –49 N. Florissant Road, Shop 'n Save – 10805 Old Halls Ferry Road, QuickTrip – 9420 W. Florissant, Merello Convenience, Inc., Sam's Club, Vincenzo's, K-Lo's Lounge, R&R Mini-Mart, Ferguson Supermarket & More, Inc.

Agenda amended to add: Savoy Banquet Center, Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, Paul's Market, O.T. Hodge Chili Parlor, Smoke Stop and a temporary Liquor License for Blessed Teresa of Calcutta for the 4th of July Festivities.

BILLS REQUIRING FIRST READING

BILL NO. 6796 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2006-3271, AND ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES AND OTHER COMPENSATION OF ALL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 2-47. COMPENSATION, OF CHAPTER 2. ADMINISTRATION, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008, was introduced by Council as a whole and read the first time.

Mr. Shaw explained that this Ordinance is passed every year adopting the salary schedules, designations and ranges for all employees except for the part-time seasonal employees in Parks and Recreation. The 2% increase to minimum, midpoint and maximum salary amounts is applied, as the Council had discussed during the Budget Workshops. Mr. Shaw further commented as it was agreed upon, to take out all references to the specific amounts attributed to the hourly rates for employees. Mr. Shaw feels this makes this document much simpler and easier to follow than before, and certainly does not change the spirit of the document. It is more in line with the majority of other municipalities in the greater metropolitan area.

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During the June 8, 2007 Personnel Board meeting there was a unanimous decision to recommend the passage of this Ordinance to the City Council.

BILL NO. 6797 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2006-3272, AND ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON; FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008, was introduced by Council as a whole and read the first time.

Mr. Shaw explained that these rates are consistent with the budgeted rates of pay within the Park Fund and the increases made to the rates are adjustments stemming from the increase to minimum wage passed through Proposition B, and now places the City into compliance with the Law.

During the June 8, 2007 Personnel Board meeting there was a unanimous decision to recommend the passage of this Ordinance to the City Council.

BILLS REQUIRING SECOND READINGS

BILL NO. 6795 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 600 S. FLORISSANT AVENUE SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH HEREIN, was tabled.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Faul – The Ferguson House Tour was on Sunday and the homes were really different and unique. The City needs citizens on the Boards & Commissions. Ms. Faul, as well as the Council, appreciates and respects all of the work the citizens do when giving their time to the City just as she hopes that they respect the time and work that the Council does for the City. Ms. Faul feels everyone is working for the City and feels Council should be respectful to the commission, even if they don't agree with them and as they do not agree with Council at times, everyone has to take into consideration the Commissions hard work and time spent. Ms. Faul commented that the Historical Society is looking to do some kind of *Famous People from Ferguson* project and are requesting Council's support and guidance with how much their scale will be.

Mr. Hines – Mr. Hines stated due to health issues he is going to have to resign from the Council as of this evening. Mr. Hines is grateful for his time in Ferguson and working with Ferguson and hopes he has done a satisfactory job on the Council, he enjoys what he did and was sincere about what he did.

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Mr. Hines commented that in order for this City to be successful it needs every individual to participate in the City by voting or by joining on a Board and Commission. Mr. Hines thanked Council and has enjoyed working with them. Mr. Hines requested that if Council will allow he would still like to be on the Senior Citizen Commission as a member.

Council unanimously appointed Mr. Hines to the Senior Citizen Commission.

Mr. Knowles – commented that it has been a pleasure working with Mr. Hines on the Council and their time spent together and wished Mr. Hines the best of luck.

Mr. Salant – Thanked Mr. Hines for serving on Council and has been a pleasure working with him. Reminded everyone of the Backstoppers “Fifties” Dance.

Mr. Crecelius – commented that it is the time of year when weather will be playing an impact on everyone and would like to re-iterate to the citizens to do some contingency planning to make sure your family will not be severely impacted by severe weather by knowing cooling station locations, important telephone numbers and by contacting the United Way and the American Red Cross for additional information.

Mr. Crecelius – thanked Mr. Hines for his time spent on Council and regrets he will not be able to work with him in the future.

Ms. Karr – has really enjoyed working with Mr. Hines.

Ms. Matthies – has really enjoyed working with Mr. Hines.

Mr. Shaw – appreciates Mr. Hines contributions over the years and is glad to see Mr. Hines continue his role by staying involved with the Senior Citizens Commission. Mr. Shaw feels Mr. Hines has a lot to offer the City of Ferguson.

Mr. Shaw formally introduced and welcomed Ferguson’s new Finance Director, Brian Coyman. Council welcomed Brian to the City.

Mr. Shaw commented that he was contacted this afternoon by Tony Lamantia from Allied Waste informing that the work crews will begin delivery of the recycle containers to Ferguson households beginning tomorrow, and expect to conclude by Friday. This is ahead of schedule and Allied thanks the residents and the Council for their patience with the delay at the district level.

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Mayor requested the information be placed on the Cable channel and possible Press Release.

Mr. Shaw commented that L. Krupp and Weis Design Group held their meeting with business owners along Florissant Road to review the reconstruction project and to answer any questions or address any concerns there may be. General questions were answered on the project, as well as a number of specific questions regarding items that affected people's individual businesses. Mr. Shaw felt that the general sentiment received from attendees was that the presentation was very informative and well-received by the business owners and those in attendance were happy and excited that the project was underway.

Mr. Shaw ended by informing Council that he attended the rededication ceremony for the Emerson YMCA in Ferguson. The event was well done, and along with the celebration of the YMCA's 60th Birthday, Emerson Electric presented the facility with a \$1 million donation. Presentations were made by a number of YMCA representatives, Emerson Electric, and County Executive Charlie Dooley.

Mayor Fletcher – commented that he attended the Ferguson House Tour which included some unique homes and encouraged residents to attend future house tours.

Mayor Fletcher thanked Council Member Hines for his service on the Council and echoed the sentiments that it truly is a public service to help your community and feels Mr. Hines has echoed that throughout his years on the Council plus his continued desire to serve on the Senior Citizen Commission. Mayor wished Mr. Hines the best and thanked him for his service on behalf of the citizens and City Council.

Mayor Fletcher commented that the remaining Council has a responsibility within thirty days to select a Ward 2 replacement. If Council cannot come to an agreement, under the Charter, Mayor Fletcher would appoint the Ward 2 replacement. Mayor is confident that the Council has the ability to select a replacement, which may require a special meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to consider, Council Member Grecco moved to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Faul. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Deborah L. Matthies, City Clerk