

*Approved 8/28/07*

**FERGUSON CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
Tuesday July 31, 2007  
5:30 P.M.  
CITY HALL  
110 Church Street**



A special meeting of the Ferguson City Council was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 31, 2007 by Mayor Brian P. Fletcher, in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 110 Church Street, Ferguson, Missouri. On roll call the following Council members were present:

Mayor Brian P. Fletcher  
Kynan Crecelius  
Michael Salant  
James W. Knowles III  
James Hines  
Peggy Faul  
Fran Grecco

Mrs. Matthies declared a quorum was present.

The following Staff members were present:  
City Manager – John Shaw  
Drew Awsumb – Assistant to the City Manager  
City Clerk – Debbie Matthies  
Brian Coyman - Finance Director  
Terry O'Neil – Public Works Director  
Thomas Moonier – Public Safety Director  
Steve Rosenthal – Assistant Fire Chief  
David Smith – Recreation Director  
Rosalind Williams – Planning Director

The following Park Board Members were present:  
Annette Jenkins  
Kathy Shafstall  
Mike Crawford  
Jason Thompson  
Dorothy Seiter  
Roberta Holst  
Patty Knowles  
Atefa Young  
Roger Herin, Jr.

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**BILLS REQUIRING FIRST READING**

BILL NO. 6804 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2007-3316 PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL JUNE 26, 2007, RELATING TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION AND 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.

City Manager, John Shaw explained this Ordinance will amend the annual Ordinance passed to establish the rates of pay for the part-time seasonal employees of the Parks and Recreation Department. Increases were made to the rates in accordance to the adjusted minimum wage passed through Proposition B, which placed the City into compliance with that law. However, further clarification was needed to specify that the additional overall increases for the various part-time seasonal positions was intended to go into affect for the next recreational season. This Ordinance simply further clarifies that language in accordance with the intent of the original Ordinance.

BILL NO. 6805 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-381 OF ARTICLE V OF TITLE II OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO TERMS OF MEMBERS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OF THE CITY, was introduced by Council as a whole and read the first time.

City Manager, John Shaw explained this Ordinance was created to address the concerns of the Mayor and City Council for the appointment of representatives to the various City Boards and Commissions. Additional input was given on this Ordinance, and changes will be made according to the collective concerns of the City Council for the Second Reading to take place during the August 28, Council Meeting.

Council consensus was to change the language to include:

*No member shall serve for more than two (2) successive full terms and shall not be eligible for further appointment to the same board or commission until one (1) year after the expiration of the second full term unless, after a six month vacancy, a successor cannot be found in which case the member would be eligible for consideration for "reseating" irrespective of the one year rule.*

City Manager will forward the amended language to the City Attorney for review and Ordinance change.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

*Park Master Plan and Preliminary Park Fund Analysis*

City Manager, John Shaw explained that the Park Master Plan study performed in 2006 will be presented, as well as an analysis of the financial position of the Park Fund, and a look at the potential impact of the construction of a new City Community Building.

Mr. Shaw then introduced B.G. Clark, Managing Partner from Pros Consulting, who actually conducted the Park Master Plan study and will give the final summary report of the Master Plan and Carl Ramey, First Vice President of Public Finance for Stifel Nicolaus, who will present findings through a financial analysis of the City's Park Fund.

Mr. Shaw further explained that the purpose for the meeting is primarily to inform both the Park Board and City Council of the findings of both contracted consultants, and then for the City Council to determine how best to use this information in getting to that "next step" in prioritizing selected projects for City Parks in the future.

B.G. Clark, Managing Partner of PROS Consulting, Inc. presented the Park Master Plan which included the discussion of the Plan purpose, summary of observations, key issues, summary of survey findings, facility analysis, community values, financial viability, strategic direction, big moves overview, Indoor Community Recreation Concept Program, feasibility assessment, ultimate vision and scaled down vision and the Plan implementation.

Some concluding thoughts were - the City needs to decide on what the City wants for its future - level of services; amenities to attract and retain residents, demonstration of the level of development quality desired, investment in parks and recreation can provide real economic values and substantially increase the quality of life for the City, implementation is dependent on financial capacity with investment plan alternatives.

Recommendation would be to assemble a six person Implementation Action Team from members of the City Council, City Staff and Park Advisory Board members – to work collectively to advance the implementation of key decision points, and to adopt the proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan Adoption Statement as discussed and presented.

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Carl E. Ramey, First Vice President-Public Finance of Stifel Nicolaus presented the Preliminary Funding Analysis and Financial Impact of a new community building on the Park Fund. Mr. Ramey explained that the Park Fund is in good shape, but it may not offer a lot of opportunity to do the major recommendations, one of which was the replacement of the January Wabash Community building.

The analysis includes consideration not only of the costs associated with the operation and maintenance of such a facility, and the additional cost of servicing any debt issued to build the facility, but how those costs affect the current financial condition of the Park Fund.

Both consultants informed the Council that the City needs to be proactive in making some type of community center a reality. B.G. Clark explained to Council that to attract more people to Ferguson it must decide what level of service it can retain and provide.

Council discussed the operating cost estimates presented, other forms of funding, i.e. grants, possible donations as well as possibly reprioritizing capital improvement projects and current budget.

Council consensus is to have City Manager, John Shaw form a task force of six members including two City Staff, two City Council and two Park Board members to study the plans as well as alternative ways to proceed. Mr. Shaw will then prioritize and establish a deadline of recommendations to present to Council at a future work session.

Council consensus is to adopt the proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan Adoption Statement as discussed and presented.

There being no further business to consider, Council Member Knowles moved to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Grecco. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Deborah L. Matthies, City Clerk