

**CITY OF FERGUSON , MISSOURI
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 13, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Ferguson City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on October 13, 2009 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
Dwayne James
Peggy Faul
Fran Grecco

Ms. Matthies declared a quorum was present.

Also present were City Manager, John Shaw, City Attorney, Stephanie Karr and City Clerk, Deborah Matthies.

Mayor Fletcher welcomed all present and explained the Council meeting would have a Public 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

There being no public comments, Mayor closed the Public Comments portion at 7:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Grecco, seconded by Council Member Faul to amend the Agenda to amend Bill No. 6900. Motion carried unanimously.

**BUSINESS PORTION
MINUTES**

Council Meeting Minutes – September 22, 2009. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to approve and receive, the Council Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2009 and file as appropriate. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS

Council appointed Kenneth Hogshead to the Building Board of Appeals.

REQUESTS

Motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member James to approve a *New Liquor License* for A-1 Food & Package Liquor located at 10625 New Halls Ferry Road. Applicant/Owner Vadilal Bhagat. Motion carried unanimously.

PROCLAMATIONS

Red Ribbon Week – October 23-31, 2009 was read by Mayor Fletcher.
Community Planning Month – October 2009 was read by Mayor Fletcher.

BILLS REQUIRING SECOND READINGS

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Crecelius to amend Bill No. 6900 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was then made by Council Member James, seconded by Council Member Grecco to amend Bill No. 6900 by deleting "and hair" under Section 4. Sec. 37-5 Composting (b) Ingredients (3). Motion carried unanimously.

BILL NO. 6900 (AMENDED) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON DEFINING AND ESTABLISHING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR COMMUNITY GARDENS; AND ENACTING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO COMPOSTING, was introduced by Council Member Dwayne T. James and read the first time.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member James and carried to read Bill No. 6900 (AMENDED) as amended a second time and place it upon its passage. Motion carried unanimously.

On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

AYES: 7 – Crecelius, Salant, Knowles, James, Mayor Fletcher, Faul, Grecco
NOES: 0

Bill No. 6900 (AMENDED) as amended was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 6900 (AMENDED) thus became Ordinance No. 2009-3413 and is permanently recorded in Book 31 page 27.

OLD BUSINESS

City Manager, John Shaw updated Council on several projects.

Dade Park: The Dade Park Project has been progressing well until the end of the week brought rain. To date, the preliminary excavation of the Graff walking entrance, the Harvey parking lot and entrance, and the walking path have been completed. Weather permitting; this should be completed by the end of next week. Once the asphalt work is completed the landscaping will begin and staff will install benches, picnic tables, and signage. The entire project should be completed in three weeks.

Neighborhood Banners: Staff is currently awaiting approval from Ameren UE, who said it could take a couple of more weeks based upon the workload of their engineers. Once approval is received, Public Works estimates it will take another two weeks to install all 75 banners, weather permitting.

Ferguson Roofing: Ferguson Roofing approached the Council in March and asked to endorse their plan to give a percentage off for Ferguson residents and to donate a certain amount to Ferguson in some form. After speaking to their marketing team it was not conducive and they are thinking of a new program that gives a homeowner a discount off of their job if they refer other customers. With this new program there will be no involvement from the City and no donation made from the company. Information will be provided to the City.

Stimulus-Funded Commuter Lot: St. Louis County is handling this from the Federal Government and has stated that it is still moving along. The funding has been approved; there are just some federal requirements specific to stimulus funds. In this case, because the project is in a 100-year floodplain, there is a public notice process that they are engaged in currently. They do not anticipate any problems but cannot give us a timeframe at this time.

Mayor Fletcher questioned the status of the FEMA buyout and the response of approximately 24 homes on the south side of Suburban.

Mr. Shaw stated there are 24 homes. Great Rivers Greenway (GRG) would like a monetary commitment from the City if they are to consider splitting the overall matching funds; the City's portion being approximately \$235,000, based upon the 24 homes. GRG needs this commitment, as soon as possible, to bring before their Board to decide if they are willing to match the funds.

Council discussed the funding options as well as restrictions on the use of the properties. This is a unique opportunity for the homes along the track.

Mr. Shaw commented that because FEMA is involved the City cannot build on this. There can also be constraints on what materials are used and construction limitations.

City Attorney, Ms. Karr commented that regular parking lots, asphalt trails, regular hiking trails or typical parking lots may be constructed.

Consent of a majority of the Council (DJ-No) is to move forward with an oral commitment to GRG for the City's portion of approximately \$235,000 so GRG can then base their decision upon the City's. Council is confident that other resources could be used.

Mr. Shaw added these are homeowners who have come forward on their own behalf; they are not being forced into selling their homes.

Council Member Knowles commented that during the Missouri Municipal League (MML) Conference he attended a seminar on surveillance and technology and automated policing. Mr. Knowles would like Council to revisit surveillance and technology products related to policing. The cost of hiring more Police Officers is expensive and Mr. Knowles feels Council should consider Capital Improvement money in revisiting some options and look at ways to expand the footprint that the officers cover on the street by putting equipment into place to help make the Police Officers more effective.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Grecco sent out a plea for anyone interested in Boards & Commissions to contact the City. Sunday, October 18, 2009 is the last Sundays Parkway event.

Ms. Faul thanked Council Member James for the Community Gardens Ordinance. Thank you to Dade Park and the Public Works Department for the Home Improvement Workshops.

In regards to the Community Planning Month Proclamation Ms Faul would like to thank the City. Ms. Faul commented that a lot has happened in the last five years out of the Planning Department and feels there is a good working condition between the Planning Department, Public Works, Police and Parks all working together on City projects. Sunday, October 18, 2009 is the last Sundays Parkway event.

Mr. James commented that Saturday, October 24, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. TrailNet and Live well are hosting a Bike ride from St. Vincent to Farmers' Market and back to St. Vincent. The Dog Task Force is hosting a Bark-B-Q on Sunday, October 25, 2009 from 2-5 p.m. for registered users but can register before the event. There are now 82 registered dogs. Sunday Parkways October 18, 2009.

Mr. Crecelius everyone please be safe during the holiday time.

Mr. Shaw announced that Greg Stump from EFI will present the Actuarial Report for the Ferguson Pension at the next Council Meeting.

Fall Tree Dedication Saturday, October 24, 2009 at 9 a.m. January Wabash Park Bandshell.

Mr. Shaw commented that hand-sanitizers have been placed in City facilities to help battle the flu season; in particular the H1N1 virus.

Reminded everyone that the Ferguson Rotary Wine Tasting will be held on October 24, 2009, see Mr. Shaw for tickets.

Mayor Fletcher thanked the Streetfest committee for doing an excellent job. FSBD made a profit for sufficient funds for next year's Streetfest. Thanked the citizens for the opportunity for several Council Members attending the Missouri Municipal League (MML) Conference, Mayor found it very productive. Mayor was in a code enforcement class with City Attorney, Stephanie Karr who did an excellent job. Also attended a session dealing with economic development in a depressed economy and a class where the three cities of Rolla, Crestwood and Graineville talked about their budgets in a stressful declining economy and happy to say Ferguson is doing well. Thanked the staff for keeping Council on course and getting through difficult times while still making progress.

Mayor thanked the Community Gardens for an excellent fundraiser at CORK; felt it was a wonderful event with a crowd of 60 people. Thanked Mike Lonero for hosting the event. Mayor has nothing but great praise for the event and for CORK which is now officially open.

Mayor commented that there is a class offered through the University of Missouri St. Louis, to Planning & Zoning members as well as Councils and Mayors. Mayor will distribute literature for any Council Member interested in attending the class.

Mayor Fletcher announced a closed session.

At 7:36 p.m. a motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member James and carried to enter into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 Section(s) (1) litigation, legal actions, and communication from City Attorney (2) real estate matters (3) employee matters and (12) negotiations of a contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Having concluded the closed session at 8:35 p.m., a motion was made by Council Member Salant, seconded by Council Member James and carried to convene to open session. On roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to consider, Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member James, moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

ATTEST:

Deborah Matthies – City Clerk
City of Ferguson, Missouri
Approved: 10/27/09

Brian P. Fletcher – Mayor
City of Ferguson, Missouri