

**CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 12, 2019**

Mayor James W. Knowles, III called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 110 Church Street, Ferguson, Missouri and immediately led a silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Councilman Byron Fry	Present	Mayor James W. Knowles III	Present
Councilman Keith Kallstrom	Present	Councilwoman Linda Lipka	Present
Councilwoman J. Toni Burrow	Present	Councilwoman Ella Jones	Present
Councilwoman Heather Robinett	Present		

A quorum was declared. Also present were Interim City Manager Jeffrey Blume, City Attorney Jaqueline Graves, and Deputy City Clerk JoAnna Spencer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(Citizens' comments and discussion will be heard at this time and shall be limited to a total of three (3) minutes per speaker, which may be increased at the discretion of the Mayor, or by a motion approved by a majority of the members of the Council present at the meeting.)

Julia Thorne – announced her participation with UMLA/St. Louis Zoo promoting research and educational programs @ Spanish Lake.

Lewis Harris – RAISE – announced interest in conducting a one day racial equity workshop to discuss what we can do as a community for racial equality. They asked the city to provide a location to conduct the workshop and supply food.

Ericka Brooks – spoke of the Metro Reimagined Plan noting the project will remove Suburban and Dade streets from the bus route. She requested the City Council to speak up regarding Metro changes to bus route in Ferguson area; the new route will cut residents off from Florissant. She stated she does not feel it's due to low ridership. She also expressed a concern of pit bulls in the area.

Connie Harge – stated she is secretary on board of education up for re-election of school board #2 on the ballot, Director on FYI, Treasurer of Ferguson Township, and a minister. She announced a class on March 13th at McClure South Berkeley regarding voting and directed individuals to the 3rd floor to learn about the district and candidates. The school board meeting is held tomorrow at 7pm on Dunn Rd.

Alan Mueller-PROUD-People Reaching out for Unity and Diversity. PROUD decided to sponsor the Workshop presented by RAISE. The reached out to other non-profits in the Ferguson area and received agreements to co-sponsor the event. They have talked with Ferguson/Florissant school district for them to provide extra credit to students in Government classes and would like to see the city take this as a project of its own and have PROUD support the city.

Cassandra Butler, discussed leadership changes in the last five years. She added that the current national Police Chief search is not needed. She noted that there was no mention of the Consent Decree in chief job posting and stated that City ignored appointing the current City manager after he was mentioned in the DOJ Report.

Michael Person, noted he is running for ward 1 in Ferguson. He stated the City needs more police officers, that he is against the appointment Jeff Blume as interim CM as he was mentioned in the Consent Decree saying negative things and the community didn't want him. He was also against appointing council members to the board that residents do not want there, adding be accountable to the community.

Fran Griffin, announced she is running for 3rd ward in the city of Ferguson. She talked with PROUD and Ferguson collaborative to work with the city; they recently worked together and submitted a letter to city council to hold a forum for police chief applicants to talk to the community before the council decides. She encouraged residents to contact their council member to support the forum to have their voices heard and to have residents involved in police chief selection. She asked for the timeline and process of the police chief hiring and asked for assistance with transportation for residents to attend the forums.

Blake Ashby, asked to see officers like Sean Gibbons to return. He stated he would like the City to move forward on the police union contract and stated Jeff Blume is experienced and the best person to do what is needed. He also asked the City to fix the police force.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Farmer's Market update- Towergrove Farmer's market entered in an agreement with the city. The manager will be Mary Hawks. Jeff Blume and Matt Unrein toured 501 with Towergrove to discuss their plans with Ferguson's Farmer's Market.

The Ferguson City Fire department contributed a truck to Godfrey fire department 7pm-7pm to support that department after losing Captain Jake Ringering in a fire accident.

Mayor asked to have staff follow up on Metro link stops. He provided an update on Police chief search to clear of misunderstanding as to where we are in the process noting the City did not have a national search firm, the position is open til the end of March. He also asked that staff reach out to PROUD to support the process.

It was noted that the Consent Decree coordinator position will post in the next seven days.

Councilman Fry stated would like staff (police) to have animal control look into Pitbull issue.

PRESENTATION

Community Policing Update – Interim Police Chief Frank McCall

Chief McCall provided an update on the Consent Decree- PD continues to move forward- accountability policies are on the website. He noted that Officer Erin O'Brien returned to employment with the city of Ferguson. He introduced new hires Mark McDaniel and Willie May. He announced the Policy creation moving forward- the consideration of adding drug testing to the policy when there is an accident.

Staffing Update- the department continues to hire (2) candidates in the final process of hiring.

Interviewing for dispatchers/getting applications daily. Cadet class starting in April would like to get two seats for candidates.

Crime update-(2) murders within last ten days, they were not random.

Mayor would like officers to make public aware of no speeding in area even if a ticket is not issued.

Revisit policy for police peruses and hold staff accountable for accidents.

Financial Update as of December 31, 2018 – Jeff Blume, Finance Director

***See presentation attachment**

Review of December 31, 2108- and 2017 last six months.

Jeff Blume discussed the following:

Revenues

- **Property Taxes**
- **Intergovernmental taxes**
- **Sales Taxes**
- **Fees and Service charges.**

Expenditures

- **Personnel**
- **Supplies & Services**

Confident The city will have a better year.

Mayor- Are there fees associated with the Boys and Girls Club project? No fees waived. License fees- there was an increase- find out what the city will receive.

PUBLIC HEARINGS Closed 9:02pm

A [Special Use Permit](#) To Erect A Communications Tower Located At 201 N. Florissant Road. The Parcel Is Currently Zoned DT-4, Downtown Commercial

Adrian Shropshire- issues with cell towers- would like the city to consider land behind Shop-n-Save.

***See handout**

Verizon has identified a need for a small cell in Ferguson, MO replacing an existing light pole in the parking lot US Bank. The existing pole is approximately 25' tall. The replacement will be 40' tall. A justification was requested for the increased height.

CONSENT AGENDA

None

MINUTES

**[Council Special Meeting Minutes February 26, 2019](#)
[Council Regular Meeting Minutes February 26, 2019](#)**

Motion was made by Burrows
and seconded by Bryon Fry

to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Unanimous vote in favor taken; **MOTION PASSED.**

APPOINTMENTS

North county Fest. Sq. Community district

Clark Amos

Jeff Blume –City Rep.

Motion to approve H. Robinett

2nd Burrow Motion Carries

Farmer’s Market- Tim Larson

Motion to move K. Kallstrom

2nd Burrows Motion Carries

Motion was made by H. Robinett

and seconded by Bryon Fry

to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Unanimous vote in favor taken; **MOTION PASSED.**

REQUEST

None

PROCLAMATIONS

National Athletic Training Month

WHEREAS, athletic trainers have a long history of providing quality health care for athletes and those engaged in physical activity based on specific tasks, knowledge and skills acquired through their nationally regulated educational processes; and

WHEREAS, athletic trainers provide prevention of injuries, recognition, evaluation and aggressive treatment, rehabilitation, health care administration, education and guidance, and compassionate care for all; and

WHEREAS, the National Athletic Trainers' Association represents and supports 44,000 members of the athletic training profession employed in many settings including: professional sports, colleges and universities, high schools, clinics and hospitals, corporate and industrial settings, performing arts, and military branches; and

WHEREAS, leading organizations concerned with athletic training and health care have joined together in a common desire to raise public awareness of the importance of the athletic training profession and to emphasize the importance of quality health care within the aforementioned settings; and

WHEREAS, such an effort will improve health care for athletes and those engaged in physical activity and promote athletic trainers as health professionals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, as follows:

Now, Therefore, I, James W. Knowles III, Mayor of the City of Ferguson, Missouri do hereby proclaim the month of March as National Athletic Training Month in the City of Ferguson, Missouri and urge citizens to learn more about the importance of athletic training.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No 2019-08 – A Resolution Appropriating Additional Revenue, And Amending The 2018-2019 General Fund And Capital Improvement Sales Tax Fund Budgets

Lipka- Asked if this an addition to the original cost- it's not it's timing of expense 50% this year and 50% next year not spending more.

Motion made by B. Fry
and seconded by H. Robinett

To adopt Resolution No 2019-08. **ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Fry
Councilman Kallstrom
Councilwoman Burrow
Councilwoman Robinett
Mayor Knowles
Councilwoman Lipka
Councilwoman Jones
MOTION PASSED

Resolution No 2019-09 – A Resolution Of The City Of Ferguson, Missouri, Authorizing The City Manager To Acquire Certain Real Property Known As 9315 West Florissant Road

Non species trees and trash will be removed by Republic.

Mayor- organize earth day April 22nd /city wide clean up to help clean area April 27th. Look into public safety concern for clean-up.

Motion made by Fry
and seconded by Kallstrom

To adopt Resolution No 2019-09. **ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Fry
Councilman Kallstrom
Councilwoman Burrow
Councilwoman Robinett
Mayor Knowles
Councilwoman Lipka
Councilwoman Jones
MOTION PASSED

Resolution No. 2019-11 – A Resolution Amending The Authorized Signers For UMB Bank Accounts

Jeff Blume is the only name on list, City needs to update list to include City Clerk and current Director of Finance.

Motion made by Lipka
and seconded by Fry

To adopt Resolution No 2019-11. **ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Fry
Councilman Kallstrom
Councilwoman Burrow
Councilwoman Robinett
Mayor Knowles

Councilwoman Lipka
Councilwoman Jones
MOTION PASSED

Resolution No. 2019-12 – A Resolution Of The City Of Ferguson, Missouri, Authorizing The City Manager To Sign And Execute Contracts With Lawn Care Service Companies For Grass Cutting Services For The City Of Ferguson

Reason for change is to increase quality and service provided. Lawn service is the best price and best references.

Motion made by Robinett
and seconded by Lipka
To adopt Resolution No 2019-12. **ROLL CALL:**
Councilman Fry
Councilman Kallstrom
Councilwoman Burrow
Councilwoman Robinett
Mayor Knowles
Councilwoman Lipka
Councilwoman Jones
MOTION PASSED

Resolution No. 2019-13 – A Resolution Declaring Certain Used Vehicles And Used Equipment Owned By The City Of Ferguson As Surplus Property And Authorizing The City Manager To Sell Said Property At Its Fair Market Value

Title is sign (Jolly Trolley)- will advertise on website- City will get a proceed of sales.

Motion made by Kallstrom
and seconded by Fry
To adopt Resolution No 2019-08. **ROLL CALL:**
Councilman Fry
Councilman Kallstrom
Councilwoman Burrow
Councilwoman Robinett
Mayor Knowles
Councilwoman Lipka
Councilwoman Jones
MOTION PASSED

BILLS REQUIRING FIRST READING

Bill No. 7163 – An Ordinance Of The City Of Ferguson, Missouri Granting A Special Use Permit To Verizon For The Purpose Of Taking Down A Light Pole And Replacing It With A New Pole At 201 North Florissant Road Subject To The Conditions, Restrictions, And Requirements Set Forth Herein

Questions for Verizon-

Lipka- Open to other locations to be discussed.
Burrow- if we say no, not a good idea is it up to them.

Bill No. 7164 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 4 Of The Municipal Code Regarding The Use And/Or Sale Of Alcoholic Beverages In The City Of Ferguson

Primary Changes-

1. Define a grocery store
2. Modify definition of store w/o or with gas
3. 66.7% sales of alcohol

Applies to new business only.

Resolution needs to be corrected from 2019 to 2018

Businesses will not display packaging in window.

BILLS REQUIRING SECOND READINGS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

City Council rep for Farmer's Market- H. Robinett

Mayor encourages residents to volunteer to farmer's market and provide input.

RAISE found a grant for \$15k and are willing to do Racial equality workshop. City will host the workshop with community group involvement. City needs to provide a venue and provide food for 160-175 ppl. Planning committee will plan a date and discuss workshop agenda. Looking at June or July. One day workshop.

Council would like advance notice on various projects taking place in the City and proper protocol followed.

Council should follow proper order when engaging with City Staff.

NEW BUSINESS

None

MISCELLANEOUS

Councilman Fry –

Clear up he has never said anything bad about City of Ferguson.

Councilman Kallstrom Working with Metro on bus rt will include getting bus to community center.

Councilwoman Burrow MSD erosion- a lot to learn. Residents must come out to be educated. Find out cost and who will be service first.

Councilwoman Robinett Welcomed new officers- Ferguson Ecology them has a video March 20th at 7:00pm presenting "Paris to Pittsburgh the climate for change is now" at St. Stephens, 33 N. Clay. Kellie Shelton doing a great good with neighborhood meetings. April 27th city wide clean up, meet at 9am at January Walbash.

Councilwoman Lipka

Blue candle –Kathlyn Alex to is her 25th birthday donations to back stopper or wounded warrior.

Red candle- Captain Jake Ringering funeral today. Two funds at Carrolton bank for Ringering and warren. Fundraiser at Baked Pizza March 19-Ferguson Baptist Youth org. help with hurricane Harvey clean up. March 20 Baked Pizza fundraiser for Todd Shelton (coach).

March 21 Taste in Ferguson will highlight another restaurant Foo Long 6-8pm 8627 Olive Bld. Sr. resources expo will be May 1st. Registration is open for Strength and Honor summer camp. Great rivers green way needs your input for a transportation grant on a survey. Greatrivergreenway.org complete survey

March 22nd Family nerf war tickets available.

Councilwoman Jones

Public concern about city county merger. Attend “Better together” meeting. Attended MML meeting petition handed out regarding “Better Together”. Attended a bond workshop learned city will still have to pay bonds under “Better Together” can’t make new bonds. Merger will hurt city. Sign petition. Turn petitions into City Clerk by June.

City Attorney Carey

N/A

City Clerk Pittman

N/A

Mayor Knowles

Would like to propose to hold a town hall on “Better Together” to provide education and feedback for residents in the next month. Invite a rep. from MML to conduct a presentation. Staff get a time in the next month, end of April- place in Ferguson Times.

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by H. Robinett and seconded by E. Jones to adjourn the meeting at 10:37
Unanimous vote in favor taken; **MOTION PASSED.**

Approved on the 26th day of March, 2019.

ATTEST:

James W. Knowles III, Mayor

JoAnna Spencer, Deputy City Clerk/HR

