

**CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 26, 2019**

Mayor Pro Tem Heather Robinett called the meeting to order at 7:05pm 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	Absent
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 Apollo Carey, and City Clerk Octavia Pittman.

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.)

Adrian Shropshire announced his attendance at the council candidate meet and greet and stated he felt Fran Griffin spoke with passion and concern. He stated concerns of how utility workers leave the streets upon completion of projects and noted issues with cell towers and the state regulations. Lastly he reported trash on Chambers near Griffith School.

Michael Person announced his candidacy for Ward 1. He noted his goals if elected and encouraged everyone to exercise their rights to vote on April 2nd.

Amanda Canaday commented that the council candidate event was insightful, adding that not everything spoken was truthful. She stated shame on the city council for their untruths and shame on the officers for not standing up. Lastly she requested an audit.

Patricia Cowan stated she is a member of the Ferguson Human Rights Commission and distributed flyers of their upcoming event, Sunday, March 31st; a dialogue of unity in the community and myths of how America was formed and built. She also spoke of the importance of the council doing what they say, everyone's need to exercise their right to vote and the lack of council participation on human rights events of which speaks to everyone in the community.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim City Manager Blume announced the upcoming city wide clean up event on April 27th, refreshments are being provided by the Lions Club. A town hall meeting is being scheduled to hear both side of the Better Together proposal on April 18th at the community center.

He stated his agreement with the frustrations of the utility workers, explaining they don't always comply with cities standards however, cities have no control. He added that staff will look into the trash on Chambers.

He clarified the police chief hiring process noting it was reopened from March 1st – March 31st. A number of qualified applications have been received and a schedule is being drafted for stakeholder's participation. He also clarified the recent history of public safety salaries, including raises and the FOP negotiations underway.

He thanked Chief Hampton and the Fire Department for the training idea of pulling the car out of the lake. He noted the fire department will be participating in the topping off ceremony for the Boys and Girls Club. He also noted the conversation with Metro regarding their proposed changes in bus routes; the council asked to look at street lighting of the impacted areas for pedestrians.

PRESENTATION

Ferguson Youth Initiative – Aaron Harris, Executive Director

Mr. Harris announced that FYI is a non-profit, located adjacent to City Hall, working with area teens 13-19 years of age. He noted upcoming efforts and events to include, the monthly meeting April 1st, a fundraiser April 6th, Operation Prom April 13th(offering prom accessories, makeup, hair and nail techs), April 27th FYI will participate in the city wide clean up and the May 3rd Slam.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

None

MINUTES

[Council Special Meeting Minutes March 12, 2019](#)

[Council Regular Meeting Minutes March 12, 2019](#)

Motion was made by Councilwoman Lipka and seconded by Councilman Fry to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Unanimous vote in favor taken; **MOTION PASSED.**

APPOINTMENTS

A motion was made by Councilman Kallstrom and seconded by Councilman Fry to appoint **Mary Haux, Beth Von Behren, and Stephanie Becker** to the **Farmers Market Commission**. Unanimous vote in favor was taken; **MOTION PASSED.**

REQUEST

Liquor License Approval – Om Turtle Cafe (415 S. Florissant Rd)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lipka and seconded by Councilman Fry to approve the liquor license for OM Turtle Café, after having met all the necessary requirements. Unanimous vote in favor was taken; **MOTION PASSED.**

PROCLAMATIONS

None

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No 2019-14 – A Resolution Amending The 2018-2019 Capital Fund Budget

Without objection, Attorney Carey provided the title only reading. This resolution will amend the budget to allow for the purchase and outfitting of four police cars. Motion made by Councilwoman Jones and seconded by Councilman Fry to adopt Resolution No 2019-14.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Fry – yes; Councilman Kallstrom – yes; Councilwoman Burrow – yes; Councilwoman Robinett – yes; Mayor Knowles – absent; Councilwoman Lipka – yes; Councilwoman Jones – yes; **MOTION PASSED.**

Resolution No 2019-15 – A Resolution Amending The 2018-2019 Farmer’s Market Budget

Without objection, Attorney Carey provided the title only reading. This resolution creates an account and a budget in the Farmers Market Fund for Professional Services expenditures. Motion made by Councilwoman Lipka and seconded by Councilman Kallstrom to adopt Resolution No 2019-15. **ROLL CALL:** Councilman Fry – yes; Councilman Kallstrom – yes; Councilwoman Burrow – yes; Councilwoman Robinett – yes; Mayor Knowles – absent; Councilwoman Lipka – yes; Councilwoman Jones – yes; **MOTION PASSED.**

Resolution No 2019-16 – A Resolution Amending The 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Sales Tax And General Funds Budgets

Without objection, Attorney Carey provided the title only reading. This resolution increases the General Fund budget for apparel and the Capital Fund budget for turnout gear for two firefighters who are retirement replacements. Motion made by Councilwoman Lipka and seconded by Councilman Fry to adopt Resolution No 2019-16. **ROLL CALL:** Councilman Fry – yes; Councilman Kallstrom – yes; Councilwoman Burrow – yes; Councilwoman Robinett – yes; Mayor Knowles – absent; Councilwoman Lipka – yes; Councilwoman Jones – yes; **MOTION PASSED.**

Resolution No 2019-17 – A Resolution Authorizing The Interim City Manager To Enter Into A Redevelopment Agreement, And Amending The 2018-2019 Economic Development Sales Tax Fund Budget

Without objection, Attorney Carey provided the title only reading. This resolution enables the Downtown TIF Fund to enter into a redevelopment agreement with Cotton-Branch Mortuary providing the developer with up to \$40,000 which enables the developer to complete renovations on a building vacant for over nine years. The resolution also appropriates this same amount for this purpose. This agreement is subject to a 5 year payback, decreased each year by 20%. Motion made by Councilwoman Jones and seconded by Councilwoman Lipka to adopt Resolution No 2019-17. **ROLL CALL:** Councilman Fry – yes; Councilman Kallstrom – yes; Councilwoman Burrow – yes; Councilwoman Robinett – yes; Mayor Knowles – absent; Councilwoman Lipka – yes; Councilwoman Jones – yes; **MOTION PASSED.**

Resolution No 2019-18 – A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ferguson Estimating Nonbinding Projected Tax Rates Pursuant To Sections 137.180 And 137.243 R.S.M.O.

Without objection, Attorney Carey provided the title only reading. Each political subdivision must estimate the projected tax rates for 2019 and provide such estimates to the St. Louis County Collector who is required to send notice to property owners in St. Louis County by June 15, 2019. This resolution affirms the Finance Director’s projected rates. Motion was made by Councilman Kallstrom and seconded by Councilman Fry to adopt Resolution #2019-18. **ROLL CALL:** Councilman Fry – yes; Councilman Kallstrom – yes; Councilwoman Burrow – yes; Councilwoman Robinett – yes; Mayor Knowles – absent; Councilwoman Lipka – yes; Councilwoman Jones – yes; **MOTION PASSED.**

BILLS REQUIRING FIRST READING

None

BILLS REQUIRING SECOND READINGS

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

Motion was made by Councilman Kallstrom and seconded by Councilman Fry to read Bill No 7163 a second time and place upon its passage. **ROLL CALL:** Councilman Fry – yes; Councilman Kallstrom – yes; Councilwoman Burrow – yes; Councilwoman Robinett – yes; Mayor Knowles – absent; Councilwoman Lipka – yes; Councilwoman Jones – yes; **MOTION PASSED.**

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

Motion by Councilman Fry and seconded by Councilwoman Lipka to read Bill No 7164 a second time and place upon its passage. **ROLL CALL:** Councilman Fry – yes; Councilman Kallstrom – yes; Councilwoman Burrow – yes; Councilwoman Robinett – yes; Mayor Knowles – absent; Councilwoman Lipka – yes; Councilwoman Jones – yes; **MOTION PASSED.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

MISCELLANEOUS

Councilman Fry expressed his support to the fire department on their efforts.

Councilman Kallstrom had no report.

Councilwoman Burrow shouted out the fire department on their training and removal of the car from the lake. She also noted her frustration of utility workers and shared an experience of having to go to the state to complain.

Councilwoman Robinett had no report.

Councilwoman Lipka offered comments of the coverage and expertise of the fire department. She replied to Canaday comments stating the information she relayed was obtained from city hall.

Councilwoman Jones offered comments of the fire department. She noted the meeting held with the Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi. She also offered comments of the public use of social media, the impact of negativity, and the need to grow beyond what we are doing.

City Attorney Carey announced the next quarterly status hearing will be held on April 3rd at 3pm.

City Clerk Pittman had no report.

Mayor Knowles, absent.

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilman Fry and seconded by Councilwoman Lipka to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Unanimous vote in favor taken; **MOTION PASSED.**

Approved on the 16th day of April, 2019.

ATTEST:

James W. Knowles III, Mayor

Octavia Pittman, City Clerk