

FERGUSON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting, June 10, 2003

**Closed Session, 7:00 P.M.
Council Meeting, 8:00 P.M.**



The regular meeting of the Ferguson City Council was called to order at 8:00 p.m. on June 10, 2003 by Mayor, Steven Wegert, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 110 Church Street, Ferguson, Missouri. Mayor Wegert 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 Steven Wegert
John Corson
Keith Kallstrom
Mark Crinnion
Tom Wolf
Peggy Faul
Bill Duncan

Mayor Wegert welcomed all present and explained the meeting tonight would be the Public Hearing Portion, the Public Portion and the Business Portion. There were two Public Hearings scheduled:

- 1) Community Development Block Grant Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year 2004; and
- 2) the Proposed Budget for the 2003-2004 Fiscal Year and the Capital Improvement Program.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Chief Moonier presented retiring Officer Paul Matthews a plaque and badge for his 21 years of service with the City of Ferguson. Officer Matthews appreciated and thanked the Chief, Mayor and Council for his presentation.

PUBLIC HEARING - Community Development Block Grant Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year 2004

Mark Etling, Housing Development Coordinator, presented the Community Development Block Grant Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year 2004. Mr. Etling asked people to sign in with their name and address; distributed the Public Hearing handout

and asked that everyone take time to read it. Mr. Etling explained that the City of Ferguson participates in the CDBG program and as a CDBG grantee; St. Louis County receives funds directly from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, or HUD. Ferguson receives its CDBG funds as a sub-grantee of the County. In 2004 Ferguson is scheduled to receive \$172,570 in CDBG funds. The purpose of this public hearing is to solicit comments and suggestions regarding possible uses of the 2004 CDBG allocation and for staff to present its proposals for the use of the funds. Staff, represented by Mr. Etling, proposes two uses of CDBG funds for 2004:

- a. Florissant Road Streetscape project - \$157, 570. The project in its entirety will involve street resurfacing, curb and sidewalk reconstruction, signal replacement, and streetscape work from Thoroughman south to Brotherton Lane. CDBG funds would be used only from Carson Road south to Brotherton, in order to meet the CDBG program's low/moderate income area benefit (as indicated on low-mod map).
- b. Blueprints for room additions in Forestwood - \$15,000. The City will contract with an architectural firm to produce two sets of drawings for room additions (one for a bedroom, one for a family room) to the frame homes in the Forestwood neighborhood (bounded by Chambers, Forestwood Dr., Ferguson Ave. to Meadowcrest, then to Bayview). Households that meet the low-mod income household test would have access to the drawings at no cost. Others in the neighborhood would be able to purchase the drawings at nominal cost (\$20). Households that make use of the drawings would be encouraged to apply for a CHIL loan to finance the room addition.

Other ideas for use of CDBG funds to date:

- a. Pocket park on S. Florissant Road.
- b. Skateboard/rollerblade park.
- c. Reconstruction of the Wayside Park Bridge.
- d. Accessible path in Hudson Park.
- e. Operation of a public trolley.

Mr. Etling informed everyone that written comments and suggestions for the use of 2004 CDBG funds may be submitted to City Hall, 108 Church Street, to the attention of Mark Etling no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 20, 2003.

CDBG application is due to St. Louis County by Thursday, July 3, 2003 and funds due to be released to the City on January 1, 2004. At this time Mr. Etling asked for public suggestions, comments and/or questions.

There being no further comments, the public hearing portion concluded at 8:10 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING - Proposed Budget for the 2003-2004 Fiscal Year and the Capital Improvement Program.

Jo Ann Bordeleau, Finance Director, presented and gave an overview of the Proposed Budget for the 2003-2004 Fiscal Year and the Capital Improvement Program.

Ms. Bordeleau explained similar to problems that all governmental agencies are facing, Revenues were down. The City has reserves accumulated over past years which will allow the City to continue operations without drastic cuts. The following operating budget was proposed:

<u>Category</u>	<u>All Budgetary Funds</u>
Public Safety	6,172,930
Capital & Debt	2,260,603
Parks & Recreation	1,496,506
Streets & Highways	1,069,790
General Government	1,702,633
Community Development	<u>491,714</u>
Total	13,194,176

The General Fund \$9,383,666 – includes Police, Fire, Streets, Community Development and General Government. The budget is made up of 61% personnel costs. The budget also includes funds for 3% average merit increases for all full-time and permanent part-time personnel. Ms. Bordeleau explained the major personnel changes would include the elimination of the Project Manager and reclassification of one Public Works Supervisor position to a Public Works Superintendent to manage the Public Works Maintenance Division. This is the elimination of a position which is now vacant. The City will be combining two part-time Community Development positions into one full-time position, one position is now vacant, which will lead to more efficiency and cost savings. The City is making an addition to personnel in adding a Receptionist, telephone operator and will be eliminating a vacant part-time clerk position.

The Park Fund totals \$900,436 which includes added personnel and supplies for the operation of the new Splash at Wabash.

The Special Business District Fund total budget is \$38,200, which includes a new Downtown Development Coordinator which is funded 50% by the business district and 50% by General Funds.

Capital Improvement Sales Tax Fund is \$1,325,000 which includes funds for the design of the Florissant Road Streetscape and Maline Creek Greenway. January Wabash Memorial Park improvements include the Lake Aerator and Trail Lighting, as well as the continued asphaltic overlay program, vehicle amortization and debt service on the Splash at Wabash and various other smaller projects and equipment items.

The Municipal Garage Fund provides maintenance and replacement of the vehicle fleet

and the purchase a new Jolly Trolley which is funded mostly by a Federal Grant and 20% by the City. The City will also purchase five new police cars.

Ms. Bordeleau informed everyone that Proposed Budget and Capital Improvement Program copies were available and asked if there were any comments, suggestions or questions with regard to the Proposed Budget and Capital Improvement Program.

Mayor Wegert announced there will be another Public Hearing on June 24th, 2003 for a final opportunity for public comments, suggestions or questions on the Proposed Budget.

There being no further comments, the public hearing portion concluded at 8:15 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chris Wright, Superintendent of Schools in the Hazelwood School District, came before the Mayor and Council to introduce herself and give the Council a School District update. Mark Behlmann, President of the Hazelwood Board of Education was also present.

Bruce Bennett, 423 Millman came before the Mayor and Council to appeal the Park Board's decision regarding the removal of a City tree on his property. Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Bennett's objections and concerns regarding the removal and solution for removal of the tree. Council thanked Mr. Bennett.

Matt Muckler, 13 N. Elizabeth, State Representative District 70, came before Mayor and Council with Legislative updates. He commented on Ferguson's DePaul Trauma Care Resolution and the importance of funding it and will work hard in keeping the DePaul funding in the budget. He spoke about the importance of the Airport Development Area and the opportunity of the Super TIF for the project.

There being no further comments, the public portion concluded at 8:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes

Regular Council Meeting, May 27, 2003 - A motion was made by Mr. Kallstrom, seconded and carried to accept the minutes as presented.

Board of Adjustment Meeting, May 20, 2003 - A motion was made by Mr. Kallstrom, seconded and carried to accept the minutes as presented.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Chief Moonier explained the items on the Agenda.

REQUESTS – Liquor License

A motion was made by Mayor Wegert to approve the request for a Liquor License for *A Touch of Creole Café*, the business has applied and met all of the criteria for a Liquor License. Mr. Young was at the meeting for questions and comments and thanked Council. Hours of Operation are 11:30 A.M. - 8:30 P.M. Tuesday – Thursday and 11:30 A.M. – 9:00 P.M. Friday and Saturday. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

BILLS REQUIRING FIRST READING

Bill No. 6651 - AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2002-3147, 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 2003-2004; EFFECTIVE WHEN, introduced by Council as a Whole, and read the first time.

Bill No. 6652 - AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2002-3148 APPROVED JUNE 25, 2002, AND ENACTING A NEW ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON; EFFECTIVE WHEN; introduced by Council as a Whole, and read the first time.

MISCELLANEOUS

John Corson – The Farmer's Market and Safety Days events on Saturday June 7th, were very well attended and was impressed with City Staff and the child safety issues at Safety Days.

Keith Kallstrom – congratulated Officer Paul Matthews on his retirement. Mr. Kallstrom enjoyed the Farmer's Market and was very impressed with the Safety Days and found it very educational.

Mark Crinnion – best wishes to Officer Paul Matthews. Enjoyed the opening of Splash, the Farmer's Market and Safety Days. Thanked Staff and residents who were involved with the projects.

Tom Wolf – wished Officer Paul Matthews well and thanked Matt Muckler for the Legislative update. Mr. Wolf commented on the tree issue and residents being responsible for maintenance of their trees. He understands the arguments on both sides and the Park Board's perspectives.

Peggy Faul – congratulated Officer Paul Matthews on his retirement. Encouraged everyone to attend the Farmer's Market and visit the Caboose for story time. Mrs. Faul thanked Mr. Muckler for the update.

Bill Duncan – after many years it was very gratifying to see the Farmer's Market open. With regard to the tree issue, Mr. Duncan suggested a possibility of City leaf collection.

Mayor Wegert – congratulated Officer Paul Matthews for his 21 years of service with the City. The Farmer's Market was a tremendous success and reminded everyone that the market was a growers market so every week will be different. Safety Days was a success as well and thanked Terri House and John Hampton for all of their efforts and thanked everyone involved with the projects. With regard to tree removal, this issue had been looked at previously and explained it was not the vacuuming of the leaves but the disposal of the leaves.

Attorney Bresnahan – congratulated Officer Paul Matthews on his retirement.

Chief Moonier – remind everyone that there would be a Neighborhood Watch Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday June 11th in the Council Chamber. Farmer's Market was a success and thanked Theresa Carper for her efforts and all who were a part of the project. Safety Days was a success and thanked Terri House for her efforts and all who were a part of the project. Thanked the Whistle Stop for their involvement with the events that took place on Saturday, June 7th, and congratulated Officer Paul Matthews on his retirement.

At this time, Mayor Wegert announced the Council would enter into closed session. There being no further business to consider, the meeting recessed at 8:50 p.m. Council at 8:50 p.m. entered into closed session in accordance with RSMo 610.021 to discuss matters relating to Real Estate 610.021 (2).

A motion was made by Mayor Wegert and seconded to enter into closed session under Section 610.021(2) RSMo. On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

AYES: 7 – Kallstrom, Crinnion, Wolf, Wegert, Faul, Duncan, Corson

NOES 0

A motion was made by Mayor Wegert and seconded to reconvene to open session. On roll call vote the motion carried as follows:

AYES: 7 – Wegert, Faul, Duncan, Corson, Kallstrom, Crinnion, Wolf

NOES: 0

There being no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Debbie Matthies, City Clerk