

FERGUSON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting, August 12, 2003

Work 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 August 12, 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

Also present were Interim City Manager Tom Moonier, City Attorney Rick Bresnahan and City Clerk Debbie Matthies. Mrs. Matthies declared a quorum was present.

Mayor Wegert welcomed all present and explained the meeting would be in two portions, the Public Portion and the Business Portion.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mayor Wegert and Mr. Poelker introduced the Pride of the City winners. Mayor Wegert presented each of the winners with certificates and City Flags. Mayor Wegert stated that the goal was to make sure every house in Ferguson has a City Flag. In Ward 1 the winner was 600 Larkin, Robert and Eileen Wells, Ward 2 was 101 Robert, Richard M. Fojut and Ward 3 was 332 St. Louis Avenue, Virginia L. Foeller. All were present to receive their awards and signs will be placed in their yards by the Inspections Department. Council congratulated the winners.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Chief Moonier introduced the new employees; Police Officer Jonathan Brannan, Corrections Officer Matthew Klenke and Corrections Officer Matthew Bebe. Director of Public Works Rick Murray introduced new employees; Public Works Maintenance Worker Brian Harper and Assistant Public Works Director Terry O'Neil. Council welcomed the new employees to the City.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kathy Noelker - 423 Church Street, gave Council an update on the different projects the Garden Group was involved in and wanted to thank Council for installing the watering system at the Library. Ms. Noelker had concerns about debris on the Library parking lot. Ms. Noelker wanted to let everyone know that new gardeners are always welcomed. Ruth Brown was also present from the Ferguson Volunteer Flower Department.

Jim Weiskopf – 1259 Deer Ridge, representing the Ferguson Citizens Committee. Mr. Weiskopf commented that the Committee started the initiative Petition process, and is in the process of acquiring signatures, but would like to see Council take the appropriate steps to place the term limit issue on the November ballot. Mr. Weiskopf thanked Council.

Mayor declared the public portion closed at 8:20 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes

Regular Council Meeting, July 22, 2003. A motion was made by Mr. Crinnion, seconded and carried to accept the minutes as presented.

Closed Council Meeting, July 22, 2003. A motion was made by Mr. Crinnion, seconded and carried to accept the minutes as presented.

Closed Council Meeting, July 19, 2003. A motion was made by Mr. Crinnion, seconded and carried to accept the minutes as presented.

Closed Council Meeting, July 12, 2003. A motion was made by Mr. Crinnion, seconded and carried to accept the minutes as presented.

Park Board Meeting, July 15, 2003. A motion was made by Mr. Crinnion, seconded and carried to accept the minutes as presented.

Board of Trustees Library Meeting, June 16, 2003. A motion was made by Mr. Crinnion, seconded and carried to accept the minutes as presented.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim City Manager Tom Moonier explained the items on the Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

A request to move the November 11th (Veteran's Day Holiday) Council Meeting to November 18th, 2003 was made by Councilman Crinnion, seconded, and passed 7-0.

APPOINTMENTS - Continue Board and Commission Appointments.

Appointments were made as follows:

Councilman Duncan motioned to appoint Walter Coleman of 525 Darst, Ward 1, as a resident representative to the FNIP Board, seconded, approved unanimously 7-0.

Councilman Wolf motioned to re-appoint Alan Mueller of 435 Darst, Ward 2, to the Landmarks Commission, seconded, approved unanimously 7-0.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2003-10 recognizing the Ferguson Swim Team was introduced by Council as a Whole and read by the City Attorney. On roll call, the motion carried as follows:

AYES: 7- Corson, Kallstrom, Crinnion, Wolf, Wegert, Faul, Duncan
NOES: 0

Resolution No. 2003-11 – Enterprise Zone Resolution was postponed by Mayor Wegert until such time Council has before them all of the particulars in writing. Motion was seconded, passed unanimously 7-0.

REQUESTS

Request for a temporary Liquor License for Festival Latina (September 14, 2003) at January Wabash Memorial Park – Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, applicant Rev. A. John Schuler. A motion was made by Councilman Crinnion to approve, seconded and passed unanimously 7-0.

Request for a temporary Liquor License for FSBA for the Street Fest (September 26, 27 & 28, 2003), applicant Terri House. A motion was made by Councilman Crinnion to approve, seconded, and passed unanimously 7-0.

BILLS REQUIRING FIRST READING

Bill No. 6663 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2003-3179, 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.

BILL No. 6664 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, CALLING FOR AN ELECTION TO AMEND ARTICLE III THE COUNCIL, SECTION 3.2.3 ELECTION AND TERMS OF THE CITY CHARTER BY DELETING LIMITATIONS ON THE TERMS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THE MAYOR; EFFECTIVE WHEN,

A motion was made by Councilman Corson to postpone Bill No. 6664 until all Petition signatures are verified by St. Louis County, seconded and failed 5 – 2.

AYES: 2 – Corson, Duncan

NOES: 5 – Kallstrom, Crinnion, Wolf, Wegert, Faul

Bill No. 6664 was introduced by Councilman Crinnion and read by the City Attorney.

BILL No. 6665 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE POSITION OF CITY MANAGER; EFFECTIVE WHEN, introduced by Council as a Whole.

BILLS REQUIRING SECOND READING

BILL NO. 6654 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION FOR THE YEAR 2003 BY LEVYING A TAX FOR GENERAL AND OTHER PURPOSES ON ALL PROPERTY MADE TAXABLE BY LAW WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI; AND LEVYING A TAX FOR FREE PUBLIC PARKS IN THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI; EFFECTIVE WHEN, introduced by Council as a Whole and read the first time.

A motion was made by Mayor Wegert to postpone Bill No. 6654 upon receiving information from St. Louis County, seconded and passed unanimously 7 – 0.

BILL NO. 6655 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY TO ACCEPT FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES, REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS LOCATOR NO. 12H220209, HELD IN TRUST BY THE TRUSTEE OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY FOR A FEE OF TWENTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$26.00) TO COVER THE RECORDING FEE; EFFECTIVE WHEN, introduced by Council as a Whole and read the first time.

A motion was made by Councilman Crinnion, seconded and carried to read the Bill a second time and place it upon its passage. On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

AYES: 7 – Crinnion, Wolf, Wegert, Faul, Duncan, Corson, Kallstrom
NOES: 0

Bill No. 6665 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 6665 thus became Ordinance No. 2003-3185 and is permanently recorded in Book 25, on page 190.

BILL NO. 6656 AN ORDINANCE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW WATER MAIN AND FIRE HYDRANTS ALONG PERSHALL ROAD STARTING AT ITS INTERSECTION WITH NEW HALLS FERRY ROAD AND CONTINUING WEST ALONG PERSHALL ROAD IN THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, EFFECTIVE WHEN, introduced by Council as a Whole and read the first time.

A motion was made by Councilman Crinnion, seconded and carried to read the Bill a second time and place it upon its passage. On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

AYES: 7 – Wolf, Wegert, Faul, Duncan, Corson, Kallstrom, Crinnion
NOES: 0

Bill No. 6656 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 6656 thus became Ordinance No. 2003-3186 and is permanently recorded in Book 25, on page 192.

BILL NO. 6661 (AS AMENDED) AN ORDINANCE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW WATER MAIN AND FIRE HYDRANTS ALONG ELIZABETH AVENUE, PERSHALL ROAD AND CHARLOTTE DRIVE, IN THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, EFFECTIVE WHEN, introduced by Council as a Whole and read the first time.

A motion was made by Mayor Wegert to postpone Bill No. 6661 to September 9, 2003, per the request of Grater Grace Church, seconded and passed unanimously 7 – 0.

BILL NO. 6662 AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE TIME FOR THE GREATER GRACE CHURCH TO COMPLETE THE INSTALLATION OF A CERTAIN WATER MAIN AND LINE EXTENSION AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED IN THE ESCROW AGREEMENT GUARANTEEING UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS ENTERED ON THE 25th DAY OF JULY, 2002. EFFECTIVE WHEN, introduced by Council as a Whole and read the first time.

A motion was made by Mayor Wegert to postpone Bill No. 6662 to September 9, 2003, per the request of Greater Grace Church, seconded and passed unanimously 7 – 0.

MISCELLANEOUS

Peggy Faul – Welcomed the new employees and thanked the Ferguson Volunteer Garden Group for all of their hard work.

Bill Duncan – Welcomed the new employees and commented that “National Night Out” on Tuesday, August 5, 2003, was a huge success.

John Corson – Welcomed the new employees. Mr. Corson agreed that “National Night Out” was very successful and thanked Chief Moonier and the Police Department.

Keith Kallstrom – Welcomed the new employees. Mr. Kallstrom agreed that “National Night Out” was very successful and received several suggestions from the citizens and is looking forward to next year.

Mark Crinnion – Welcomed the new employees, thanked the Ferguson Volunteer Flower Department and congratulated the Pride of the City Winners. Mr. Crinnion requested a special meeting for second readings on Bill No. 6664 (Terms of Council Members) and

6665 (Execution of City Manager Employment Agreement) as well as any other business to come before Council on August 19, 2003.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Corson asked, "Even without the petition signatures?" Mr. Crinnion said he will request the committee have the signatures at the August 19th meeting or preferably in advance of the meeting on the 19th. Mr. Crinnion commented that if the committee does not have what they say they have then the Council's course will be clear. This is the second time Mr. Weiskopf has come to the meetings. Other citizens interested in this topic have attended previous meetings as well and would like to see it move forward. Mr. Crinnion feels it is an issue that the Council should allow the citizens an opportunity to reconsider the issue if they so desire.

Tom Wolf – Welcomed the new employees. Mr. Wolf had concerns regarding the term limit issue going through a charter commission or on an initiative ballot. Mr. Wolf feels that the people that brought the issue to the Council are sincere in their effort and he feels it should at least go forward and see what it brings to the next meeting.

Mayor Wegert – Welcomed the new employees and thanked Chief Moonier and Rick Murray for presenting and introducing the new employees to the City and Council. Mayor agreed that "National Night Out" was successful having two new group additions this year. Mayor thanked Chief Moonier and the Police Department and everyone involved with the event.

City Attorney Bresnahan – Welcomed the new employees and looks forward to working with them.

Chief Moonier – Welcomed the new employees and thanked the Mayor and Council for their support with "National Night Out" and everyone involved with "National Night Out". This year there were 11 locations and over 200 participants at the various locations throughout the City and the addition of two new groups. Two of the locations were hosted by Council members. Several Police Officers came back to enjoy "National Night Out" with everyone. Chief Moonier commented on Police Officer Casem, who does an excellent job of public relations, and Superstar Flik with their upcoming trip to Los Angeles to tape the Jay Leno Show as well as Those Amazing Animals on the Animal Planet network. Chief will make sure everyone in the City knows when he will be appearing.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Debbie Matthies, City Clerk