

FERGUSON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY HALL, 110 CHURCH STREET
August 25, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Ferguson City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on August 25, 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, Kevin O'Keefe and City Clerk, Deborah Matthies.

Mayor Fletcher welcomed all present and explained the Council meeting would have a Public Hearing Portion at which time you are invited to speak on the specific request or proposal; 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.

A motion was made by Mayor Fletcher, seconded and carried to amend the Agenda to move 5E. Proclamation under 3. Special Presentations as the first presentation. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING - PROPERTY TAX RATE PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Fletcher opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m.

City Manager, John Shaw explained each year, in accordance with the Revised Statutes of Missouri, the City of Ferguson is authorized to levy a property tax on real and personal property within its corporate borders. These levies must be approved by the City Council and submitted to St. Louis County prior to September 1, 2009.

As noted before, there may still be some changes once the County and State provide the property tax assessment changes and feedback from the State Auditor.

There being no public comments, Mayor Fletcher closed the Property Tax Rate Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Fletcher read and presented the Ferguson Sea Lions Swim Team with a Proclamation recognizing their tenth-straight conference meet title, a conference record. Coach Eric Froeschner and team members were present to accept the Proclamation. Council congratulated the Swim Team on their achievement.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Fire House Proposal

Mr. Shaw explained that members of the management team interviewed candidates for the Fire House #1 Study, which, was included in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget. Based upon the responses to the RFP and those interviews, Staff is pleased to select Arcturis as the architectural firm for the planning project.

Mr. John Mueller, Principal of Architecture for Arcturis thanked Council and introduced his team - Dick Brinson, Project Manager, Paula Hart, Civil Engineer, John Sonderman, with EDM and John Campos, Architect were present. Mr. Mueller informed Council about their firm and gave a presentation on their plan for conducting this study.

Mr. Mueller further explained that in building a firehouse it is the functional critical, nature of the facility and its importance in fighting fires and to the members of the fire department. Also, it is a civic building that should be unique and represent the characteristics of Ferguson. This new building will need to be an expression of Ferguson and the goal of Arcturis is to make certain that not only is it a very functional building but also a building that reflects Ferguson.

Mr. Mueller explained some of the experience their firm brings to this project and presented photos of past or current projects showing buildings that not only have the functional requirements necessary for a fire station but also the civic identity in the architectural character that is warranted. This project also needs to employ a community room to bring the community together.

Arcturis visited the Ferguson Fire Departments and can see a strong need by the firefighters to have a new station. Mr. Mueller further discussed some of the needs assessment, and what the City is looking for as well as location.

Mr. Mueller discussed their approach, which is different from other architects. Arcturis believes strongly in engaging in collaborative workshops and offered to City officials and firefighters a bus tour of newer fire stations to see what is available. Then present a workshop where Arcturis works with the firefighters through the program.

Project Manager, Dick Brinson explained the Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rating. Fire departments get a rating based on qualifications and things that impact the qualifications is the type of training, equipment, facilities operated out of and response time. The importance of ISO is that insurance rating impacts not only commercial properties but also impacts residential properties in the City. It has a direct impact on the cost of City insurance and the amount of premiums paid.

Mr. Brinson further explained the importance of the ISO rating and presented a graph, showing coverage and response times of Fire Stations No. 1 and 2.

Mr. Mueller commented that because the City does not have a site yet, Civil Engineer, Paula Hart explained site selection and the importance of site analysis. John Sonderman of EDM explained the mechanical, electrical plumbing and fire protection engineering as well as economical solutions.

Mr. Mueller commented there will be discussions with the City regarding a community room which is really a multi-purpose room. Some ways it has been used is that it can double as a community room, training room and emergency operation center; there is many uses with this type of facility. It is a hybrid type of a room.

Mr. Mueller explained a program called REVIT, which is the next generation of how architects and planners draw and create projects. It is called building information modeling, which is building a 3-dimensional model of the project with the benefit of visualizing the project before being built. By building a 3-dimensional model, this technology shows all of the ductwork, structure and the architecture and to assess and determine where the conflicts are before building it. Architect, John Campos then demonstrated the REVIT program and some of the visualization techniques. Arcturis will be using some of this technology and approach. Arcturis thanked Council for the opportunity and looks forward to working with the City of Ferguson.

Council thanked Arcturis and looks forward to working with their firm.

Pride of the City Winners – Month of September

Public Works Director, Terry O'Neil explained the Pride of the City Program. Mr. O'Neil and Mayor Fletcher introduced and congratulated the September Pride of the City winners. The winners are Ward 1, Imogene Brennan, 407 Superior Dr., Ward 2, Mr. & Mrs. Bradley Kohler, 42 N. Harvey Ave., and Ward 3, Mr. Eric Stafford, 30 Patricia Ave. Each of the winners will receive a Certificate and City Flag. Pride of the City signs will be placed in their yards. Council congratulated the winners.

Quarterly Financials

Finance Director, Jeffrey Blume briefly discussed the most recent quarterly financial report distributed to Council since the last City Council Meeting.

Mr. Blume explained the General Operating Fund, Parks Fund and Capital Improvement Funds. Capital Improvement Funds includes both vehicle replacement as well as all other capital expenditures.

The Downtown TIF Fund is on a case-by-case basis and has its own funding source and works in conjunction with the Downtown Vision Plan.

The Halls Ferry TIF Fund is a debt service fund and has its own funding source as well as the sewer lateral fund, which works well all by itself.

Mr. Blume explained that the General Fund for the year ended June 30, 2009. The City had budgeted revenues of \$10.6 million dollars and actually had revenues of \$10.8 million dollars, \$200,000 more than originally budgeted. At the half year the City was down about 5% and now at the end of the year the City is up about 2% which is a 7% swing in six months. That is substantially due to the recoulement of sales taxes.

The City had \$12 million in budgeted expenditures and came in at \$11.3 million or about \$700,000 less. The City was slightly behind budget at the half year mark. In looking at a situation where it was thought that the year was going to end more badly than it did reduced the expenditure rate and shows in the year-end figure.

Mr. Blume further mentioned when looking at revenues last year's revenues were about \$12.5 million as compared with this year's \$10.6 million. If the one time receipt last year is taken out relative to the settlement of the telecommunications lawsuit, it takes the City down to about \$11.8 million, which is \$1 million higher than

this year, This is represented in two different pieces. First, sales taxes are about \$850,000 less this year than last year, about a 17% decrease, also a twelve year low.

Mr. Blume further commented that relative to where this economy is, he is not looking at that to improve greatly this year. Second, Intergovernmental taxes which are tax receipts that the City receives from the State of Missouri that are collected by the State and then apportioned to the various counties and municipalities on a per capita based on population. Diminished revenue, seen locally, is also being experienced state-wide as well.

The Park Fund is substantially the same. \$2.2 million in revenues were anticipated and are actually going to experience \$2 million, about a \$200,000 decrease of which \$100,000 is a grant that has to be booked in the following year because the Forestwood project was not finished before the end of the year therefore, not being able to record the grant revenues related to it.

Anticipated expenditures were \$900,000 and came in at \$800,000. \$100,000 short related to not enough revenues in the concessions and swim related areas.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carol Bullock – Ward 2 – felt the Fire House presentation was great and feels a lot is expected of the fire personnel and they deserve the best. Ms. Bullock had several concerns and comments she would like to be addressed regarding Allied Waste, City billboards, trash, turn lanes on City streets as well as Post Office parking.

Mayor Fletcher commented that Councils have been working very hard on Florissant Road to remove billboards. The City Manager has been able to negotiate to remove the billboard at the 501 Suburban location. The City is continuously working to remove billboards in the City, but the City does not control the content of the message.

Public Works are currently working on street markings and will try to address the concerns at Shop N Save. The Post Office parking is hard to monitor and has always been a problem. The Post Office is changing carrier routes, which means fewer vehicles and hopefully opens up additional spaces for parking.

City Staff will follow up with the concerns.

Gerry Noll - Chair Person for Sunday Parkways gave a brief report on the first, August 23, 2009 Sunday Parkways festivity sponsored by the City, Live Well Ferguson and TrailNet. Thanks to Mayor and Council Members, City Staff, volunteers and everyone involved. Special thanks to Recreation Superintendent, Stan Kreitler and the entire City Government and Staff who were tremendously supportive, and Community Development Coordinator, Natasha Ramey who helped organize and mobilize the Neighborhood associations. Mr. Noll further commented that the Forestwood Neighborhood association played a big role as well as other Neighborhood association people and leaders stepping forward in volunteering. The Police Department and CERT volunteers did a great job, the streets were completely safe. Fire and rescue teams were there as an attraction. Council Members James and Faul were there the entire time and represented the Council and to let it be known that the City was behind this event.

Mr. Noll then provided some facts - about 25+ volunteers, mostly Ferguson residents and TrailNet people in attendance. Estimated attendance was 400-500. Survey reported that 75% attendees were from Ferguson and 25% outside of Ferguson. Fairly distribution of ages except light on the senior citizen side, but well represented down through the age groups, a lot of middle age. All the activities were popular.

The flyers distributed in the Ferguson Times helped people learn about the event. Mr. Noll then read some written comments. Some people felt that with people parking in Forestwood Park, it would help to open the bridge from Forestwood Park for Sunday Parkways.

Twenty-four bike helmets were given away and fitted. Seventeen were Ferguson residents and some from outside of the community. More helmets will be given away and more volunteers will be recruited to fit helmets at the next event.

In conclusion, Mr. Noll commented there is a wealth of information on the internet if you *Google* Sunday Parkways in Ferguson. Show Me St. Louis and KETC Channel 9 promoted the event. An article mentions other communities that are now doing this event, San Francisco, Portland, Chicago, Baltimore and Ferguson, Missouri.

Council Member Faul also thanked the Farmers' Market for lending their tents. Council thanked Gerry for doing a wonderful job and everyone involved, it was a great first turnout.

The Sunday Parkways event is a free community event. The next event is September 27 and then October 18 from 1-4 p.m. The focus of the event is to promote active living.

There being no further public comments, Mayor closed the Public Comments portion at 8:00 p.m.

BUSINESS PORTION

MINUTES

Council Member Knowles had a comment regarding the August 11 Work Session Minutes. Mr. Knowles feels the minutes are vague and do not give great detail. The Council met for 3 ½ hours and found it was a spirited discussion and the minutes do not reflect that. Mr. Knowles commented that Council has talked about it in the past and knows other Council Members who have made mention about wanting more detailed minutes. Mr. Knowles feels that obviously Council wants to go back and look at what Council has done in the past to help that institutional knowledge go forward. Mr. Knowles would like to see in the future, much more in-depth minutes, especially on a work session because that is where the Council does a lot of discussion and that is where a lot of the brainstorming is taking place. Council Member Knowles questioned if anybody else happened to notice that.

Mayor commented the minutes tend to put the brunt of what is talked about without captioning words said. Council has talked about it in the past and Mayor does not know if there has been any consensus one way or the other of the majority of the Council to change. Mayor commented that Council Member Knowles did bring it up and voiced his desire to see it. Council needs to see if there is a majority that feels that way.

Council Meeting Minutes, July 28, 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 July 28, 2009 and file as appropriate. Motion carried.

Council Work Session Minutes, August 11, 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 July 28, 2009 and file as appropriate. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Pension Board Minutes – April 27, 2009. A motion was made by Council Member Grecco, seconded by Council Member James and carried to receive the Pension Board Minutes as presented and file as appropriate. Motion carried.

Plan Commission Minutes – May 20, 2009. A motion was made by Council Member Grecco, seconded by Council Member James and carried to receive the Plan Commission Minutes as presented and file as appropriate. Motion carried.

Ferguson Municipal Library Minutes – June 22, 2009. A motion was made by Council Member Grecco, seconded by Council Member James and carried to receive the Ferguson Municipal Library Minutes as presented and file as appropriate. Motion Carried.

Parks Board Minutes – June 16, 2009. A motion was made by Council Member Grecco, seconded by Council Member James and carried to receive the Park Board Minutes as presented and file as appropriate. Motion carried.

Ferguson Station Business District (FSBD) – July 16, 2009. A motion was made by Council Member Grecco, seconded by Council Member James and carried to receive the Ferguson Station Business District (FSBD) Minutes as presented and file as appropriate. Motion carried.

Dog Park Task Force Minutes – July 23, 2009. A motion was made by Council Member Grecco, seconded by Council Member James and carried to receive the Dog Park Task Force Minutes with the error of Board attendance and file as appropriate. Motion carried.

Council Member Grecco had a question clarification and potential correction, with the Ferguson Dog Park Task Force Minutes of July 23, 2009. The minutes show that Kim Cooper was absent and chairing the meeting. Ms. Cooper was absent.

A motion was made by Council Member Grecco seconded by Council Member Knowles and carried to receive and file the minutes subject to the comment, if the Board wants to correct it later it can, Motion carried.

Dog Park Task Force Minutes - July 2, 2009. A motion was made by Council Member Grecco, seconded by Council Member James and carried to receive the Dog Park Task Force Minutes as presented and file as appropriate. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS

No appointments at this time.

REQUESTS

Temporary Liquor License – Ferguson Station Business District (FSBD) - Streetfest September 25 & 26, 2009. Applicant: Michael Lonero – FSBD.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to approve a conditional temporary Liquor License based upon

the receipt of the insurance verification for Ferguson Station Business District (FSBD) - Streetfest September 25 & 26, 2009. Applicant: Michael Lonero – FSBD. Motion carried.

New Liquor License – CORK Wine Bar located at 423 S. Florissant Road. Applicant/Owner Michael Lonero.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member James and carried to approve a conditional new Liquor License based upon the completion of the occupancy permit for CORK Wine Bar. Applicant: Michael Lonero. Motion carried.

Sunday Liquor License – Marley's Bar & Grill located at 500 S. Florissant Road. Applicants: Kelly and Martin Braun

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Faul and carried to approve a Sunday Liquor License for Marley's Bar & Grill. Applicants: Kelly and Martin Braun. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION

2009-14 A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ALL-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE, was introduced by Council Members as a whole and read by City Attorney, Kevin O'Keefe.

City Manager, John Shaw explained that every five (5) years FEMA requires communities to update their hazard mitigation plan(s). East-West Gateway is the coordinating agency responsible for putting the hazard mitigation plans together, but each community that is part of the plan must adopt a Resolution adopting the plan. The last time the All Hazard Mitigation Plan was updated was in 2004. This update will include updated demographic data, risk assessment of natural hazards, application of any new hazard data, as well as many other elements.

Adopting this Resolution approves the update to the Plan, and allows the City of Ferguson to be eligible for pre-disaster mitigation funding or grant assistance from FEMA, which is a necessary element in looking at the potential FEMA buy out program.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to approve Resolution No. 2009-14. Motion carried.

On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

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

Resolution passes.

BILLS REQUIRING FIRST READINGS

BILL NO. 6893 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, ENACTING A NEW SECTION 44-97 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICES, was introduced by Council Members present and read the first time.

Mr. Shaw explained Bill No. 6893 is in accordance with a recent State law on ignition interlock devices for those that have been convicted twice of driving while intoxicated and have had their driving privileges denied. They cannot have their privileges reinstated unless they file proof with the Department of Revenue that they have a breath operated ignition interlock installed. This device must be maintained for a period of six months after the reinstatement. Basically the City Ordinance will enable City officers to enforce this law.

BILL NO. 6894 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 44. TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES, ARTICLE V. STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, BY ADDING TEN STREETS TO SEC. 44-280. PROHIBITED PARKING ON CERTAIN STREETS AFTER ACCUMULATION OF SNOW OR ICE, was introduced by Council Members present and read the first time.

Mr. Shaw explained this is based upon a recent review of City streets, and is designed for safety issues when snow plowing during periods of snow or ice. The streets include:

Willmann Ct. from 1050 to Woodstock on the East Side
Wylin Ct. from 1032 to Woodstock on the East Side
Halpin from Dupree to Blanton on the North Side
Castro from 7475 to 7495 on the North Side
Briarwood at Dead End around circle
Millman from Robert to Royal on the West Side
Ballman from Robert to Royal on the West Side
Forest from Millman to Hartnett on the North Side
Superior from Robert to High on the West Side
Estelle from S. Harvey to Georgia on the South Side

Mr. Shaw explained that the Traffic Commission deals with stop signs, and citizen requests etc. this is a maintenance issue brought by Staff directly to the Council and affects the actual Ordinance that governs this.

Council Member James questioned *after accumulation of ice or snow* and should the Ordinance reflect certain months. Council discussed the Ordinance language.

Mr. Shaw explained if you are parking on a street that you know is a snow route you need to be conscious of that because you know that the plows will be coming through, it is similar to street sweeping etc. you know when there are incidents like this you need to take care.

Mr. Shaw commented that reflecting certain months makes it become more restrictive.

City Attorney O'Keefe commented that this Ordinance does not change the regulations, which are in effect in an excess of streets throughout the City. This is just adding this regulation to additional congested streets.

Council Member James is bringing concerns and worries of the residents in that the streets are so narrow, there is already a safety problem and the suggestion of possibly have the no parking in certain winter months.

Mayor commented that the appropriate signs would be erected. This is to assist the City in helping residents have passable streets. If the cars are parked on the streets the Staff cannot do their job. The intent is to try and help the residents of that street. Hopefully people will show up next month to voice their concerns.

BILLS REQUIRING SECOND READINGS

BILL NO. 6891 - AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH AT&T/SBC LANDLINE AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO FILE THE APPROPRIATE CLAIM DOCUMENTS AND EXECUTE ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS TO EFFECTUATE THE SETTLEMENT, was introduced by Council Members present and read the first time.

City Manager, John Shaw explained this will accept the \$317,578.24 settlement proposal from AT&T, and offer 1% of that amount to be voluntarily assigned to the St. Louis County Municipal League for lobbying efforts "to protect the revenue base of municipalities." Mr. Shaw also commented it is expected to increase the City's future revenues between 20 and 40%.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to read Bill No. 6891 a second time and place it upon its passage.

On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

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

Bill No. 6891 was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 6891 thus became Ordinance No. 2009-3404 and is permanently recorded in Book 31 page 18.

BILL NO. 6892 (AMENDED) - AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE RATE OF AD VALOREM TAXATION FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2009 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, was introduced by Council Members present and read the first time.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to amend Bill No. 6892 to reflect the changes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to read Bill No. 6892 as amended a second time and place it upon its passage.

On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

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

Bill No. 6892 (AMENDED) was declared passed and sent to the Mayor for signature. Bill No. 6892 (AMENDED) thus became Ordinance No. 2009-3405 and is permanently recorded in Book 31 page 19.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Faul questioned when will the City get the bridge, which is in the CIP.

Mr. Shaw responded that Staff is currently working on it along with a number of other Public Works projects.

Mr. James asked about the Dade Park funds.

Mr. Shaw responded that the CDBG funds were just recently released. The parking lot is a separate issue because it is stimulus. The bid opening for the parking lot was today, but cannot sign contracts until after the funds are released.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Salant also congratulated the Public Works Department for all of their work with Sunday Parkways.

Mr. Knowles mentioned some citizen issues and concerns about the concrete color of the new or replaced sidewalks.

Mr. Shaw commented that dye is an option with concrete and Staff is trying to get an estimate of what the expense would be to dye one section of a sidewalk.

Mr. James thanked everyone again associated with Sunday Parkways, Public Works included, the neighborhoods, the volunteers and everyone that attended. Mr. James was also impressed with the neighborhood, giving up their neighborhood by the closing of the streets. Concert series this Friday, at Victorian Plaza.

Mayor Fletcher mentioned there was approximately 300-400 people in attendance at the last concert. Food is also served at the concerts.

Mayor commented that City Manager, John Shaw has been doing a lot of good work and should get a lot of credit for the 501 Plaza. John met with Emerson Electric. Council was concerned with the current economy of trying to get some funding, grants and additional money from different corporations. Council had hoped to get \$50,000. Not only did the City get \$50,000, but also after listening to the project and the purpose of it and the cooperative effort of the whole community, Emerson offered the City a challenge. Emerson said not only will they give the City \$50,000 in this budget year, but also they will give another \$50,000 for the 501 project and challenge the community. That will be a total of \$100,000 from Emerson Electric for the project. They challenged the City to try to raise one dollar per resident, roughly \$22,000. The FSBD will assist the City in trying to raise it. This is really a true community project.

Mayor commented more information would be made available in the near future on how the community can become involved along with fund raising for the Emerson Electric challenge.

Council congratulated John and Staff for all of their involvement with the 501 project.

Ms. Faul reiterated how wonderful Sunday Parkways was and thanked everyone involved, staff and TrailNet. TrailNet volunteers came out because they enjoy it along with the residents it was a wonderful experience. Ms. Faul also mentioned the Community Gardens fundraiser, September 28, 2009 at the new Cork Wine Bar. Thanked the Pride of the City winners and residents that work hard in keeping up

their residences and congratulated the swim team. Ms. Faul reminded everyone that with the start of the school year to be careful with parking, traffic and driving. Thanked the Fire Department and EMS for attending Sunday Parkways and welcoming the residents. Ms. Faul thanked the City a lot for working with Sunday Parkways and this idea and carrying it through.

Ms. Grecco congratulated the Pride of the City winners, swim team, and Sunday Parkways, which was an absolutely incredible success and thanked everyone involved. Congratulations to two Council Members Crecelius and Knowles for being selected by North County Inc. for 30 Leaders in their 30's. Congratulations to Ferguson's own Chuck Henson selected as Chairman of the Ferguson-Florissant School Board.

Mr. Shaw expressed his appreciation for all of the staff, Council and volunteers that made the Sunday Parkways event so successful. Attendance was over 450 people, which is tremendous for the first event. Mr. Shaw has received nothing but compliments from all who attended the event. A fantastic job to everyone.

Mr. Shaw pointed out that it is important to note that 501 S. Florissant is underway. As a part of the construction the billboard is scheduled to be removed prior to August 31 and our appreciation to CBS Outdoor for cooperating with the City in making this improvement to the corner.

Mayor provided the additional exciting news from Emerson. Mr. Shaw is pleased to announce that the Executive Board of Great Rivers Greenway (GRG) approved a contribution to the 501 project in the amount of \$200,000. This contribution will allow the City to complete Phase II of the project concurrently with Phase I and include a number of green elements, which will compliment the City's Environmental Ordinance. Thank you to GRG, Staff involved in discussions with GRG and the City Engineer, Tom Weis who was very helpful in getting the dialogue started in establishing this as a true trailhead. Mr. Shaw feels that everyone would agree that Phase II in completing it at this time is fantastic and will allow the additional 45 parking spaces for public parking needed along with the development of the downtown area.

Mr. Shaw announced that UMB Bank has offered \$20,000 toward the replacement of Kemper fountain with a waterfall feature. There will be a similar aspect to Emerson in that they would like to give \$10,000 and match another \$10,000 and would like to retain the naming rights. A strategy will be discussed over the next couple of weeks to work with the business district in how to raise money. A definite thank you to UMB who contributes to the City in different programs and projects. Mr. Shaw also recognized business owner, Mr. Mike Lonero who did a lot of footwork on this project along with Ms. Cathy Noelker in opening the discussion with UMB Bank.

Mayor Fletcher mentioned school is now open and that our children are our precious commodity and cannot be replaced, please slow down take care and make sure the children stay safe. Please keep supporting Ferguson by shopping at the many businesses that invest in the community and keep Ferguson beautiful.

Mayor Fletcher announced a closed session.

At 8:35 p.m., a motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to enter into closed session in accordance with RSMo 610.021/610.022 to discuss matters as provided under Section(s) 610.021(1) RSMo. Motion carried unanimously.

Having concluded the closed session at 9:45 p.m., a motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco 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 Crecelius, moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Brian P. Fletcher – Mayor
City of Ferguson, Missouri

Deborah Matthies – City Clerk
City of Ferguson, Missouri
Approved: 9/8/09