

**CITY OF FERGUSON , MISSOURI
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
December 14, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Ferguson City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on December 14, 2010 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 (Absent)
James W. Knowles, III
Dwayne T. James
Mark Byrne
Fran Grecco

Ms. Matthies declared a quorum was present. Council Member Salant was excused.

Also present were City Manager, John Shaw, City Attorney, Stephanie Karr and City Clerk, Deborah Matthies.

Mayor Fletcher welcomed all present and explained the Council meeting would have a 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.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Audit Presentation

Finance Director, Jeffrey Blume presented the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2010.

Accountant, Allen Schulte of Boltz, Deal & Company, PC. presented the audit for the year ended June 30, 2010 and discussed the related audit information.

Northwest Chamber of Commerce

City Manager, John Shaw commented that the North County Chamber of Commerce recently closed and the Northwest Chamber assumed all of its members. Executive Director, Larry Perney was scheduled to provide an introduction to the Northwest Chamber to the Council and discuss the benefits of membership.

Business Owner, Gary Crump understood the Chamber to be the best fit for the area. A specific Chamber of Commerce can be endorsed, but he thinks it would be in the best interest to let the businesses in this area decide what direction they are going to go. The Chamber is meant not as a social function but as a business function. He feels that there was not enough participation in the North County Chamber. There were also members in the North County Chamber who were also members of the Northwest County Chamber. Mr. Crump feels the decision will be made by individual businesses and feels some businesses will join both Chambers.

Council discussed the two Chambers and agreed to hear presentations from both.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ralph and Kathy Rockamann – Mr. Rockamann explained that their family decided to start a foundation named The Ferguson Foundation because of growing up, living and working in Ferguson for over fifty years this was their way of giving back to the community. Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, the Churches in town and the Ferguson Caring League is why they decided to start off in their first year by gifting to the three different organizations within those confines. Mr. Rockamann feels that Ferguson is a special place. He complimented the Police, Fire, Public Works, and Parks Department for all doing a splendid job and feels that City Manager, John Shaw is a good fit for the community and has done a great job keeping everything on track, which shows a lot of promise and good things to come. Mr. Rockamann then presented checks on behalf of the organizations to Council Member Mark Byrne, Council Member James Knowles and Mayor Fletcher.

Council thanked the Rockamanns.

Mr. Rockamann would also like to see the City of Ferguson, the community and the greater Ferguson area approach having their own Chamber of Commerce. He has made visits to 13 area businesses and 12 have signed an intent to want to proceed with looking into the possibility. He is not upstaging what the Ferguson Business District has done or the different organizations within the community which have all done wonderful work. He feels that Ferguson should be very proud of what it has and what is going on; the momentum is excellent. The Loneros and other people have done a great job with the redevelopment and marketing campaign and feels the City can build off of that by reaching to the cities around Ferguson and possibly comeback with the old Chamber. Mr. Rockamann feels with the support of the City of Ferguson, and the core of the businesses could reach out to UMSL, Emerson Electric, Express Scripts, Vatterott etc. and believes Ferguson is an excellent road map for a City Chamber. Mr. Rockamann would like more input from the City before moving forward.

There being no further public comments, Mayor closed the Public Comments portion at 7:30 p.m.

BUSINESS PORTION **MINUTES**

Council Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2010. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to approve and file the Council Meeting Minutes of November 9, 2010. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA **MINUTES**

Senior Citizens Commission Minutes – November 18, 2010. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to receive and file the November 18, 2010 Senior Citizens Commission Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Park Board Minutes – October 19, 2010. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to receive and file the October 19, 2010 Park Board Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Ferguson Municipal Public Library Minutes – October 25, 2010. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to receive and file the October 25, 2010 Ferguson Municipal Public Library Minutes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ferguson Municipal Public Library Minutes – September 27, 2010. A motion was made By Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to receive and file the September 27, 2010 Ferguson Municipal Public Library Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS

Council appointed Judy Kandlbinder to the Park Board and Ruth Field to the Senior Citizen Commission.

PROCLAMATIONS

Paul's Market - 50th Anniversary Mayor Fletcher read and presented a Proclamation to the owners of Paul's Market, Tracy and Gary Crump. Mr. Crump commented that between the City employees, all of the people that work for the City, the Police Department, Fire Department, EMT, neighbors and the general area, this is an older City but just a special little place in St. Louis County. Council should be proud of the work they do and Crumps are very proud to be a part of this community. Mr. Crump thanked everyone for the opportunity and support and enjoys being in the City and helping people all of the time. Tracy and Paul thanked Council and the City for taking time to acknowledge their 50 years.

Mayor and Council thanked Paul and Tracy as well; the Crumps add tremendous value to the City in making it the small town atmosphere that everyone enjoys.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2010-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF AN AUTOMATED PHOTO TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM WITHIN THE CITY, was introduced by Council Members present and read by City Attorney, Stephanie Karr.

City Manager, John Shaw explained this Resolution approves the selection of ATS for the installation of the red light cameras at the two locations agreed to by the City Council. Once this Resolution is passed, Staff will work up an implementation schedule with ATS for review with the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member James and carried to read Resolution No. 2010-21. Motion carried unanimously.

On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

AYES: 6 - Crecelius, Knowles, James, Mayor Fletcher, Byrne, Grecco

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Salant

Resolution passes.

RESOLUTION 2010-22

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH LACLEDE GAS COMPANY, A MISSOURI CORPORATION, RELATING TO PLACEMENT OF CERTAIN UTILITY FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY'S STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAME, was introduced by Council Members present and read by City Attorney, Stephanie Karr.

City Manager, John Shaw explained this approves the franchise agreement with Laclede Gas that was distributed to Council by email on December 6th. Primarily this

agreement sets the standards of how the City and Laclede Gas will work with one another in the course of Laclede providing services to the residents and businesses.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to read Resolution No. 2010-22. Motion carried unanimously.

On roll call vote, the motion carried as follows:

AYES: 6 – Knowles, James, Mayor Fletcher, Byrne, Grecco, Crecelius

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Salant

Resolution passes.

OLD BUSINESS

City Manager Shaw explained during the last CIP Work Session, Council approved pursuing four homes within the designated landbanking area for purchase and demolition. These will be in addition to the five homes that were already approved for classification of dangerous structures. There will be a hearing on those properties for the dangerous structure designation this Friday, December 17, 2010 at City Hall. St. Louis County has requested that we use this meeting to confirm for them, and for HUD, that the City plans to use the \$20,000 allocated from the 2010 CDBG funds to go towards the demolition of 6125 Emerald, 7553 Rowles, 448 Shirley, 245 Randolph, and 412 Abston. Mr. Shaw requested Council acknowledge this for the minutes.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to direct the City Manager to proceed to use the \$20,000 CDBG money for the demolition of the stated properties. Motion passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Crecelius – Happy Holidays, be safe. Congratulated Paul's Market and thanked Mr. Rockamann for the work with the foundation and looks forward to many years of helping the community. Reminded everyone that food pantries are still in need, please give.

Mr. Knowles – thanked Rockamanns for their generosity both to the Caring League and other organizations and for his initiative to take something which is a void and hopefully fill it with a Ferguson focused charitable group. Mr. Knowles feels there are other great groups in town, Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, etc. and the business district all very active with volunteers, which makes Ferguson special and different from a lot of other places. Mr. Knowles hopes that his generation would get more involved and start looking into groups. Mr. Knowles congratulated Paul's Market. Merry Christmas.

Mr. James – Congratulated Paul's Market, thanked Ralph and Kathy Rockamann for all they do and starting this foundation; very nice to see and worthwhile. Everyone needs to walk by the walk of fame, the event was well attended, and recipients were very honored to receive a plaque, thanks to the Historical Society for all they did. The carriage rides event was well attended and very nice, thanks to Mary and FSBD for bringing the event to the downtown. The walkable/bikeable study committee met and are pursuing on how to make the community more walkable and bikeable and what trails and avenues the City can do to get people outside of their homes comfortably and safely. Mr. James hopes when this happens they don't hear "not in my backyard." The Youth Initiative will be finalizing the youth report from the summit on how the City can move forward in partnering with BTC, Ferguson-Florissant, Guadalupe and all of the other organizations that are doing great things for our youth. Thanks to Sam and John for getting the information on the City

website. The second annual 5K run is May 14, 2011 the goal is 1200 people. Mr. James was asked to challenge Council Members to sign up for the 5K, if you did the one mile last year you are challenged to do the 5K this year. This year they are looking into getting teams and partnering to come out on May 14, 2011. \$15.00 to walk or run 3.1 miles, the money goes towards a good cause, the Emerson Family YMCA. Saturday, Farmers' Market indoors at St. Stephen's 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Happy Holidays, Happy New Year, be safe have fun and be merry.

Mr. Byrne – feels that the two presentations are what makes Ferguson so great, echoes fellow Council Members. Congratulated Crumps and Paul's Market for 50 great years. Gary and his family are always very supportive of everything going on in Ferguson. Hopes there are 50 more years. Thanked Rockamanns and the Ferguson Foundation for their contribution to BTC, it is very nice and much needed at this time. On behalf of everyone at BTC, thank you. 2010 has been a great year for Ferguson, 2011 will be even better. Happy New Year.

Ms. Grecco – echoes fellow Council Members, congratulations to the Crump family and Paul's Market for 50 wonderful years and a plea for 50 more. Happy Holidays to everyone, be safe, be merry and with the cold weather watch out for your neighbors. Questioned the demolition of the old Church building at Paul and Bermuda.

City Manager, John Shaw explained that Permalot purchased the building with the intention of tearing it down to build a more attractive frontage that would still screen their facility. The expectation would be the eventual expansion of their yard.

Mr. Shaw extends his thanks to the Crumps and Rockamanns for the services they provide.

Mayor Fletcher – Congratulations to the Crumps for 50 great years and a jewel of Ferguson and thanked Ralph and Kathy Rockamann for their efforts on behalf of the Ferguson residents and community with the Ferguson Foundation. Recognized the Northern Lights Festival committee for their wonderful festival and parade on November 29 which was well attended. The ice sculptures were amazing.

On a personal note, Mayor Fletcher announced that he will not be seeking a third term as Mayor. After over twenty years on a Ferguson ballot he has decided to take a break; but will not disappear. He will still stay active in the Ferguson community, which he loves very much. Mayor hopes good residents or Council Members decide to run and to keep the City on track. Mayor is very proud of the last six years he has been in office and feels the City has made tremendous growth in the community, the number of neighborhood associations and the Downtown Business District. The corner of Suburban and Florissant Road could not have happened without City investment and every corner of that parcel has City monetary investment.

Mayor announced a closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:55 p.m. a motion was made by Council Member Grecco, seconded by Council Member Knowles and carried to enter into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021/610.022 to discuss matters relating to RSMo 610.021 Section(s) (1) legal actions, causes of action or litigation and confidential or privileged communications between the Council and its attorneys; (2) lease, purchase or sale of real estate and (12) negotiations of a contract and (19) existing or proposed security systems and structural plans of real property owned or leased by a public governmental body. On roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Approved: 1/11/11

Having concluded the closed session at 10:15 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 Grecco, moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

Deborah Matthies – City Clerk
City of Ferguson, Missouri
Approved: 1/11/11

Dwayne T. James – Mayor Pro -Tem
City of Ferguson, Missouri