

FERGUSON CITY COUNCIL

**Regular Council Meeting
April 26, 2005**

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

**CITY HALL
110 Church Street**



The regular meeting of the Ferguson City Council was called to order at 8:00 p.m. on April 26, 2005 by Mayor Brian P. Fletcher, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 110 Church Street, Ferguson, Missouri. City Clerk, Debbie Matthies gave the Oath of Office to new Council Member James W. Knowles III.

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
John Corson
Keith Kallstrom
James W. Knowles III
James Hines
Peggy Faul
Tim Larson

Also present were City Manager A.J. Krieger, City Attorney Stephanie Karr, and City Clerk Debbie Matthies. Mrs. Matthies declared a quorum was present.

Mayor Fletcher welcomed all present and explained the meeting would be the continuation of the Work Session, Public Portion and the Business Portion.

**WORK SESSION (CONTINUATION) –
Florissant Road Improvement Project - Preliminary Plan**

Consulting Engineer – Tom Weiss of P.H. Weiss & Associates, Inc. continued a lengthy discussion regarding the preliminary plan describing the Florissant Road improvements, project funding and a method for soliciting public comments and participation.

City Manager, A.J. Krieger would like the Council's concurrence to instruct P.H. Weiss to go forward and continue working with Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and to prepare more detailed plans and to consider funding options. Council discussed and concurred to utilize the Traffic Commission, who would conduct public meetings and

hearings on the elements that are discretionary to the City, and to include the Streetscape Committee in moving forward with this project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ken Bouas – 102 S. Elizabeth – had comments and concerns regarding the automated yard waste collection.

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

BUSINESS PORTION **CONSENT AGENDA**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Meeting Minutes – April 19, 2005. A motion was made by Mr. Kallstrom, seconded, and carried to accept the minutes as presented.

APPOINTMENTS

A Motion was made by Mayor Fletcher to appoint Councilman Larson as Council Representative to the Traffic Commission and Library Board. Motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Mayor Fletcher to appoint Councilman Knowles as Council Representative to the Building Board of Appeals and Pension Board. Motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.

Mayor Fletcher announced there were no other appointments at this time and encouraged all residents interested on serving on a Board or Commission to view the City Website, call City Hall or contact your Council Representative.

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager, A.J. Krieger presented a power-point presentation regarding the initiation of a city-wide improvement effort and opportunities to fund the project. City staff presented several (conceptual) ideas/examples of capital improvements designed to improve the general aesthetic quality, increase the livability of neighborhoods, improve public safety, and/or induce (re)development projects throughout the community. Staff also presented a line of credit as a vehicle to finance the range of public improvements.

City staff seeks the direction of the Council relative to the establishment of improvement priorities (either by category and/or specific projects) as well as the use of a line of credit for financing. Discussion ensued.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director Joan Jadali presented the monthly finance report explaining that the General Fund year-to-date actual reflects a \$381,202 revenue surplus over expenditures as of March 31, 2005. Compared to last year, the City had a revenue

deficit under expenditures in the General Fund of \$320,601. The Park Fund year-to-date actual reflects a \$57,023 revenue surplus over expenditures as of March 31, 2005. Compared to last year, the City had a revenue deficit of \$282,059 under expenditures. Grants are now being classified as revenues, instead of reimbursable grant expenses.

MISCELLANEOUS

Peggy Faul – welcomed James Knowles to the Council and is looking forward to the budget session.

James Hines – commented on the automated waste collection and would like to extend the contract because of the lack of communication to the residents. Mr. Hines feels the agreement should be extended another month.

Mr. Krieger explained that as of today, Midwest Waste fully understands the City's position with respect to their need to more effectively communicate with their customers. Midwest will pick up all trash during the month of May. The process will go into effect on Monday, May 2, 2005. If the majority of the Council wants to delay implementation by a month staff can do that. Discussion ensued. Mayor Fletcher suggested that if residents have questions to access the City's website.

Mr. Krieger commented there is and has been information on the website, cable station and the Ferguson Times. Mailers are being mailed to residents, which will include a map and specific information about service and variables. Midwest Waste staff will be available at City Hall the week of May 2-6, 2005 from 1-5 pm and will sign up Senior Citizens for their discount.

Mr. Krieger commented in fairness to Midwest the extension was primarily due to the City negotiating an agreement. The service that is implemented and the service being implemented on Monday, May 2, is significantly different from the service that was bid. The City tried to incorporate every change and stay consistent to the original mission, which was to provide a cleaner, quicker, more efficient method of collecting and disposing solid waste, which reduces the volume of waste that goes into the landfills.

James Knowles – thanked the citizens for allowing him the chance to serve on the City Council and hopes he does a good job for the citizens. Mr. Knowles apologized for being absent last Council meeting as a longstanding business trip took him to our nation's capitol. Mr. Knowles met with Missouri's Congressional Delegation and put in a "plug" for Ferguson. Mr. Knowles thanked everyone and is very happy to be on the City Council.

Keith Kallstrom – welcomed James Knowles to the Council and thanked the City for utilizing the website to communicate the automated waste information regarding the Senior Citizen Discounts, frequently asked questions and the scheduled "pick-up day" map. Mr. Kallstrom

reminded everyone that the Farmers' Market opens Saturday, April 30th at 8 a.m.

John Corson – welcomed James Knowles to the Council. Mr. Corson is encouraged by the development of the Neighborhood Agenda; feels there are more issues that need to be addressed, and is hopeful that the Council will have some spirited conversations.

Mr. Corson feels that way-finding and signage is an important tool which, is essential in creating a sense of help to the people walking or driving through a community as well as a great tool to help celebrate the City. Mr. Corson further stated, Council has previously discussed issues targeted toward neighborhood elements that deal with properties, inspections and abatements and would like future discussions on those issues. Mr. Corson is hopeful that the Council will see the line of credit as an opportunity to improve the quality of the City and give it some thought and planned effort. Mr. Corson commented that the City has to balance the maintenance and infrastructural pieces with the improvements of the neighborhood items and he feels there needs to be thoughtful interaction.

Mr. Krieger – confirmed the Budget Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 14, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. in the Council Chamber. Mr. Krieger reminded Council a closed session is needed after the Council meeting.

Mayor Fletcher – thanked the audience and is excited about the ideas shared. Mayor commented that the line of credit for the City is similar to a home improvement loan, which will increase property values. Mayor agrees with Mr. Corson that the City needs to look at downtown improvements as well as neighborhoods and streets and to find the delicate balance to improve the City in every respect.

There being no further business to consider, at 9:45 p.m. a motion was made by Mayor Fletcher, seconded, to recess to closed session.

Council at 9:50 p.m. entered into closed session in accordance with RSMo 610.021 to discuss matters relating to litigation, legal actions, and/or communication from the City Attorneys as provided under Section 610.021(1) RSMo, and/or personnel matters under Section 610.021(13) RSMo, and/or employee matters under Section 610.021(3) RSMo, and/or real estate matters under Section 610.021(2) RSMo.

A motion was made by Mayor Fletcher, seconded to enter into closed session under Section 610.021(1),(3) and (13) RSMo. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Under Section 610.021(1),(3) and (13) Personnel/Employee matters were discussed.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mayor Fletcher, seconded, to return to open session. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

There being no further business to consider the meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m. Debbie Matthies, City Clerk