

FERGUSON CITY COUNCIL

**Council Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2008**



COUNCIL MEETING, 7:00 P.M.

CITY HALL

110 CHURCH STREET

The regular meeting of the Ferguson City Council was called to order at the new meeting time of 7:00 p.m. on February 12, 2008 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 and to keep the City of Kirkwood in their thoughts and prayers for the terrible, senseless tragedy that occurred at Kirkwood City Hall during their February 7, 2008 City Council meeting.

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

Mrs. Matthies declared a quorum was present.

Also present were City Manager John Shaw, City Attorney Stephanie Karr, and City Clerk Debbie 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

❖ Auditor's Presentation

Michelle Graham with Botz, Deal and Company who performed the City's Annual Audit returned to address the final Audit submission and to answer Council questions. Ms. Graham provided some insight into the results of the audit as well as the challenges both staff and the auditor worked through to complete the audit.

Ms. Graham gave an overview and presented the Auditor's Report.

Discussion and questions were had regarding financial highlights, changes in fund net assets, long-term debt, various grants, and departmental cross-training for employees.

Council and staff thanked Ms. Graham for presenting the Auditor's Report.

❖ Splash Recommendations

Parks and Recreation Director, David Smith gave an overview of the recommendations for the Splash at Wabash. The comprehensive 2007 Splash at Wabash Aquatic Complex Annual Report was submitted and reviewed by the Park Board at their January 29 meeting.

Mr. Smith explained the primary decreases and increases in revenue compared to the previous season and further commented that the relatively wet and cool Memorial weekend through mid June was a significant factor in the season operation.

Mr. Smith discussed the recommendations and the financial bottom line for 2008 and feels the recommended changes along with good summer weather should be able to somewhat reduce the current operating deficit and increase the facility use.

Discussion ensued regarding family memberships, hours of operation, and closing policy due to bad weather conditions.

Mr. Smith explained that the hours of operation are open daily May 26 through August 12 - open Weekends only Aug. 18-19, Aug. 25-26, & Sept. 1-3, Fridays 4-8 pm August 17, 24 & 31.

Open Swim is Monday and Thursday (12:45 - 6:00 p.m.) Tuesday and Saturday (12:45 - 7:00 p.m.) Wed., Fri., and Sun. (12:45 - 8:00 p.m.) Adult Swim (11:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.). If a swim meet is scheduled, the Splash closes at 5:00 p.m.

The Park Board requested the recommendations be presented to the City Council for consideration and approval.

A motion was made by Council Member Faul, seconded by Council Member James to approve the Splash recommendations as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sharon Grant – 123 Wesley – 1144 Hudson – thanked Council for introducing Bill No. 6828 regarding Miniature Horses.

Kim Cooper – 330 Robert Ave. – questioned the Splash at Wabash policy on weather and closing.

Parks and Recreation Director, David Smith - explained that the *Splash* would not open for the day if the air temperature is below 75 degrees at 11:00 a.m. and the forecasted high for the day is 80 degrees or less. The complex will also close during periods of severe rain and/or lightning. In addition, the *Splash* may close if there are less than 25 swimmers after 2:30 p.m. with rain checks issued if closed before 4:00 p.m.

There being no further public comments, Mayor Fletcher closed the Public Comments at 7:50 p.m.

BUSINESS PORTION **MINUTES**

Council Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2008. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco and carried to approve and receive as presented the Council Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2008 and file as appropriate.

**CONSENT AGENDA
MINUTES**

Parks & Recreation Board Minutes – January 29, 2008. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Faul, and carried to receive the minutes as presented and file as appropriate.

Plan Commission Minutes – January 16, 2008. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Faul, and carried to receive the minutes as presented and file as appropriate.

Plan Commission Minutes – October 17, 2007. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Faul, and carried to receive the minutes as presented and file as appropriate.

Ferguson Municipal Library Minutes – November 19, 2007. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Faul, and carried to receive the minutes as presented and file as appropriate.

Ferguson Pension Board Minutes – October 22, 2007. A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Faul, and carried to receive the minutes as presented and file as appropriate.

APPOINTMENTS

Council appointed Ed Taylor to the Landmarks Commission.

PROCLAMATION

City Attorney, Stephanie Karr, read a Proclamation commending Joan Cleveland on being selected as North County Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year.

BILLS REQUIRING FIRST READING

BILL NO. 6828 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 6-1 AND 6-22 OF TITLE 6 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF FERGUSON DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN HORSES AND MINIATURE HORSES AND REGULATING THE KEEPING OF MINIATURE HORSES WITHIN THE CITY, was introduced by Council Member James W. Knowles, III and read the first time.

Mr. Shaw explained this Ordinance follows the intent expressed by Council Member Knowles and endorsed by the City Council in relation to permitting miniature horses. The owner must have at least one acre of land and receive a permit from the City.

BILL NO. 6829 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FAÇADE EASEMENT IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT WITH JOEL A. LONERO REGARDING THE FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT AND RESTORATION OF 418 SOUTH FLORISSANT ROAD, was withdrawn by applicant.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Faul – personal condolences to the City of Kirkwood.

Mr. James – thoughts and prayers to the City of Kirkwood. Commended the Public Works Department for their snow removal efforts. Enjoyed his first Boards and Commissions dinner.

Mr. Knowles – thoughts and prayers to the City of Kirkwood.

Mr. Crecelius - thoughts and prayers to the City of Kirkwood. Reminded everyone that with more winter weather coming be careful driving on the ice.

Mayor Fletcher - thoughts and prayers to the City of Kirkwood. Informed the City that safety is a major concern and steps are being taken to review the City's security situation.

Mayor Fletcher commented the City Manager's report explained that the City is set to receive funds from NorthPark from the "Public Improvement Fund." The City needs to write a letter requesting the funds and stating what the intended use will be along with a Resolution to this affect. Mr. Shaw recommended the Resolution and the letter to indicate the use in connection with Suburban Road improvements.

Council consensus was to prepare the letter and prepare the required Resolution for the February 26, 2008 Council Meeting.

City Manager, John Shaw – reported that staff is making progress on bringing the City website up-to-date. The Police Log and the Directory

of Community Resources are now live. Staff will continue to work on a number of different elements and encouraged Council to forward their concerns or interests so staff can continue to improve that resource to the community.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:00 p.m. a motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Grecco to enter into closed session in accordance with RSMo 610.021/610.022 Section(s) (1)(2)(3)(16) and (17). Motion carried.

Having concluded the closed session at 9:25 p.m., a motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Faul to convene to open session. On roll call vote, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Council Member Knowles, seconded by Council Member Faul to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Brian P. Fletcher - Mayor
City of Ferguson, Missouri

ATTEST:

Deborah L. Matthies - City Clerk
City of Ferguson, Missouri

