MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

OF THE CITY OF SUNSET HILLS, MISSOURI

HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2008

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Board of Aldermen of the City of Sunset Hills, Missouri met in regular session at City Hall Quarters, 3939 S. Lindbergh Blvd., in said City on Tuesday, August 12, 2008. The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting began with those present standing for the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present:	R. Michael Svoboda	-Mayor
	Frank Hardy	-Alderman – WARD I
	Douglas McGuire	-Alderman – WARD I
	John W. Littlefield	-Alderman – WARD II
	Thomas Hrastich	-Alderman – WARD II
	Stephen Webb	-Alderman – WARD III
	Jan Hoffmann	-Alderman – WARD III
	Frank Gregory	-Alderman – WARD IV
	Patricia Fribis	- Alderman – WARD IV
	Laura A. Rider	-City Clerk
	Lieutenant Greg Zveitel	-Acting Chief of Police
	Anne C. Lamitola	-City Engineer
	Ted Schuessler	-City Collector
	Robert C. Jones	-City Attorney
	Gerald Brown	-Director of Parks and Recreation

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Copies of the Minutes of the July 8, 2008 Board of Aldermen meeting were distributed to the members for their review. Alderman Gregory made a motion to accept the Minutes as submitted. Alderman Webb seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Proclaim August 29, 2008 as "Dr. Albrecht Day" in the City of Sunset Hills.

This item was addressed after Requests for Business Licenses

REQUESTS FOR BUSINESS LICENSE

A) Maureen Fox, LAC, 4600 S. Lindbergh Blvd., Suite 3

Ms. Maureen Fox was present and stated she will be working out of Dr. Allison Harvey's office. She offers acupuncture services. She added that she is a nationally accredited acupuncturist. Ms. Fox stated she treats ailments ranging from sinus problems to severe pain.

Alderman McGuire made a motion to approve the above request for business license. Alderman Fribis seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

UNAPPROVED

B) US Title, 3828 S. Lindbergh Blvd., Suite 101

Ms. Paula Tatgenhorst, Vice President of Operations, was present and stated the business works with a Coldwell Banker Gundaker office.

Alderman Gregory made a motion to approve the above request for business license. Alderman Hoffmann seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

C) be Better Networks, 9717 Landmark Parkway

Ms. Jocelyn Tobnick, representative, was present and stated that the business is a health promotion and wellness company based out of Charleston, West Virginia. The company offers health promotions to employers in the St. Louis area. This will be the first office in the area.

Alderman McGuire made a motion to approve the above request for business license. Alderman Fribis seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

D) Spirit Halloween Superstores, LLC, 3614 S. Lindbergh Blvd.

Mr. Steve Rothmiller representative, was present and stated the business is a national Halloween retailer with over 600 stores in 47 states. They sell Halloween costumes, make-up and accessories. This location will be a temporary location from September through mid-November.

Alderman Hardy made a motion to approve the above request for business license. Alderman Hoffmann seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

The members addressed the Proclamation, proclaiming August 29, 2008 as “Dr. Albrecht Day” in the City of Sunset Hills.

Dr. Jerry Albrecht was present. Mayor Svoboda presented Dr. Albrecht a framed copy of the Proclamation.

Those present applauded Dr. Albrecht.

REQUESTS TO BE HEARD

A) Request from Growlers Sunset Inn for a one day extension of premise to their liquor license.

Mr. Chris Craemer, General Manager, was present and stated that the event, Oktoberfest, will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2008 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Setup will begin around 7:00 a.m. and the tent will be taken down immediately after the event. Mr. Craemer further stated this is not the first year for the event.

Alderman Hardy made a motion to approve the above request. Alderman Hoffmann seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

B) Request from Lindbergh Lacrosse Club for permission to place temporary signs advertising their craft show.

UNAPPROVED

Mr. George Leighton was present and stated the request involves temporary signs to be placed in three locations in the City. He advised that he has received permission from the three property owners. The signs would be 4' X 4' and would be put in place in early September and removed October 27. He added that this is not the first year for the requested temporary signs.

Alderman Hoffmann asked why the signs need to be in place for two months as this seems to be a long period of time. Mr. Leighton explained that the vendors participating in the craft show like to see the signs advertising the event well in advance.

Alderman Hoffmann asked if Mr. Leighton would agree to putting the signs in place on or after September 15, 2008 and remove them on October 27, 2008. Mr. Leighton replied yes.

Alderman Hoffmann made a motion to approve the temporary signs to be put in place on or after September 15, 2008 and removed October 27, 2008. Alderman Hardy seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC HEARING: Establish the annual rate of tax levy for the year of 2008, on all property within the City of Sunset Hills, Missouri.

Mrs. Rider stated the 2008 tax rates are proposed to be the same as 2007. She further stated that 2008 is not a reassessment year; therefore the assessed valuation did not change much from last year. The revenue to be generated by the real estate, all three categories, based on the proposed rate for 2008 totals $184,337 as compared to the 2007 revenue at $198,064. Therefore the city would be receiving a smaller amount than in 2007. The commercial assessed value was adjusted after the Board of Equalization met last year.

Mrs. Rider explained that it is her understanding of the new law that the tax rate set this year will be the tax rate ceiling next year and the city will be required to roll back the rate in a reassessment year if the assessment increases so the revenue will remain neutral and will not be increased over the previous year.

Mr. Jones commented that there is a decline this year and will most likely be a decline next year.

Ms. Jane Petry, resident, stated that property values have decreased but the taxes stayed the same.

Alderman Hrastich stated the property values did not decrease, they increased. However, the tax rate stayed the same.

Ms. Petry stated that it is her understanding that there are some Aldermen that were not sympathetic to the homeowner's needs last year. She commented that she feels the Aldermen need to address this situation.

Alderman McGuire asked Ms. Petry if she understood that she is asking for fewer services. Ms. Petry replied yes, that would be fine with her. She stated she feels there was a lot of waste and there still is a lot of waste.

Mayor Svoboda declared the public hearing closed.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill #13 An ordinance amending Subsection 6.3-4(A)1. of Appendix B of the Code of Ordinances relative to parking and loading area setback requirements. SECOND READING

UNAPPROVED

Alderman Gregory read Bill #13 by title only.

Alderman Hrastich stated that the setbacks will be changed to 10 feet, with the exception of Planned Development properties. In addition there are only eight properties on the list that fits in the category that would be allowed to be reduced to 6 ½ feet.

Alderman Gregory made a motion to approve Bill #13. Alderman Littlefield seconded the motion, and the members voted:

Alderman Fribis	AYE
Alderman Hrastich	AYE
Alderman Hoffmann	AYE
Alderman McGuire	AYE
Alderman Webb	AYE
Alderman Hardy	AYE
Alderman Littlefield	AYE
Alderman Gregory	AYE

There being 8 AYE votes and 0 NAY votes, the motion passed.

Mayor Svoboda declared Bill #13 adopted and placed in the custody of the City Clerk and entered as Ordinance #1728 of the City of Sunset Hills.

CITY OFFICIAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

(A) TREASURER/COLLECTOR – Mr. Schuessler presented these reports.

(B) CITY CLERK – Mrs. Rider advised that A T & T is now providing cable service in the city and will be paying a franchise fee. The payment for the handicapped accessible playground equipment has been made and the Golden Anniversary bank account has been closed; the Golden Anniversary Corporation was automatically terminated at the end of 2007. She requested two readings of Bill #14, the property tax rate, due to the deadline of September 1 for the rates to be set.

(C) CHIEF OF POLICE – Lieutenant Zveitel had nothing to report.

(D) CITY ATTORNEY – Mr. Jones had nothing to report.

(E) CITY ENGINEER – Mrs. Lamitola reported that the 2008 concrete project is progressing well. The microseal project will begin the week of August 25 with work being done predominantly in Ward II. Mattese and Tributary B storm water projects are continuing in the design phase with the consultants. The Lincoln storm water project is substantially complete. There has been lighting added to the soffits at City Hall and additional landscape lighting will be installed to improve the lighting. The front entry doors to city Hall will be retrofitted for ADA compliance in the next six to eight weeks. The Street Department has been busy addressing storm water projects such as Meppen Drive culvert, Roanna drainage channel and will soon move onto Barrington drainage channel project. The Public Works Department has been processing code compliance complaints such as grass, weeds and home maintenance issues. The complaint report will continue to be emailed to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen the Friday prior to the Board of Aldermen meeting.

Mrs. Lamitola presented a brief slide show representing the progress made regarding the nuisance project at 13060 W. Watson Rd. The project is anticipated to be complete by Labor Day.

UNAPPROVED

(F) PARKS DIRECTOR – Mr. Brown reported Minnie Ha Ha Park is now open and is being used. There are a few nights wrapping up the spring softball season at the athletic fields. However, the Football Athletic Association will be using the fields on Tuesdays and Thursdays to November 1. The 20th anniversary pool party is Saturday, August 16, 2008 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. A fishing derby will be held tomorrow evening at Watson Trail Park.

(G) COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE – Alderman Hrastich reported a meeting will be held later this month.

Alderman Hrastich made a motion to approve a budget amendment in the amount of $1,285,000 to revenue account 0100004093, Telephone Utility Receipts, to account for the cellular telephone settlements. Alderman Gregory seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Alderman Hoffmann had nothing to report.

PARKS STEERING COMMITTEE – Alderman Littlefield had nothing to report.

POLICE ADVISORY – Alderman McGuire had nothing to report.

PUBLIC WORKS – Alderman Gregory reported a bid was received for street striping from Park Mark in the amount of $32,067.

Alderman Gregory made a motion to accept the bid received from Park Mark for street striping in the amount of $32,067. Alderman Hrastich seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE – Alderman Littlefield reported the Committee has been working on programming for a community center and an aquatics center. A workshop will be held tomorrow evening with the Board of Aldermen at 7:00 p.m.

REQUESTS TO BE HEARD (NON-AGENDA SUBJECT)

Ms. Audrey Bamberger, resident of Rambling Oaks, was present and stated that she was Chairman of Sunset Hills Friends of Parks and the group worked very hard getting Proposition P passed. She further stated that she hopes the funds will be spent as promised to the citizens.

Ms. Esther Geir, resident, was present and stated she was a member of Sunset Hills Friends of Parks and is a member of Sunset Hills Garden Club. She commented that now that Proposition P has passed, she as well as other citizens are anxious to see the majority of the funds from Proposition P used to support the parks by building the recreation center, a new pool and to make efforts to beautify the City.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill #14 An ordinance establishing the annual rate of tax levy for the year of 2008, on all property within the City of Sunset Hills, Missouri. FIRST READING

Alderman Fribis read Bill #14 by title only.

Alderman Littlefield made a motion to suspend the rules and read Bill #14 for a second time. Alderman Gregory seconded the motion, and the members voted:

Alderman Gregory	AYE
Alderman Hoffmann	AYE
Alderman Hardy	AYE

UNAPPROVED

Alderman Webb	AYE
Alderman Fribis	AYE
Alderman McGuire	AYE
Alderman Littlefield	AYE
Alderman Hrastich	AYE

There being 8 AYE votes and 0 NAY votes, the motion passed.

Alderman Fribis read Bill #14 by title only. SECOND READING.

Alderman Hardy asked if the Bill is passed as written, if it would create a ceiling for the tax rates in 2009. Mrs. Rider replied yes, that is her understanding.

Alderman Hrastich stated that it is his understanding that the State law will force the city to become revenue neutral. If the assessed valuation decreases next year, the rate will stay the same and there will be less revenue and residents will pay less taxes to the city.

Alderman Gregory stated the legal maximum tax rate for residential is 6.8¢ per $100 of assessed valuation. He then asked if the rate that is approved this year becomes the new legal ceiling for 2009. Mrs. Rider replied for at least two years due to 2009 being a reassessment year.

Mr. Jones commented that taxes cannot be increased unless it is approved by the voters.

Mrs. Rider stated that real estate taxes are a small amount of the city's revenue budget. The city's tax rate of 5.4¢ for residential properties is low compared to other municipalities.

Alderman Gregory commented that the 5.4¢ results in a home valued at $100,000 would pay the city $10.26 in real estate tax or for a home valued at $200,000 would pay $20.52 which provides residents with police protection, street maintenance, snow removal, access to over 215 acres of parkland, zoning enforcement, etc.

Alderman Gregory made a motion to approve Bill #14. Alderman Littlefield seconded the motion, and the members voted:

Alderman McGuire	AYE
Alderman Hrastich	AYE
Alderman Hardy	AYE
Alderman Littlefield	AYE
Alderman Hoffmann	AYE
Alderman Gregory	AYE
Alderman Fribis	AYE
Alderman Webb	AYE

There being 8 AYE votes and 0 NAY votes, the motion passed.

Mayor Svoboda declared Bill #14 adopted and placed in the custody of the City Clerk and entered as Ordinance #1729 of the City of Sunset Hills.

Bill #15 An ordinance amending Sec. 4.3(c) of Appendix A of the Code of Ordinances by requiring an ordinance to be adopted in compliance with RSMO Section 445.030. FIRST READING

Alderman Webb read Bill #15 by title only.

Alderman Littlefield made a motion to suspend the rules and read Bill #15 for a second time. Alderman Webb seconded the motion, and the members voted:

UNAPPROVED

Alderman Littlefield	AYE
Alderman Webb	AYE
Alderman Hoffmann	AYE
Alderman Gregory	AYE
Alderman McGuire	AYE
Alderman Fribis	AYE
Alderman Hrastich	AYE
Alderman Hardy	AYE

There being 8 AYE votes and 0 NAY votes, the motion passed.

Alderman Webb read Bill #15 by title only. SECOND READING.

Alderman Littlefield made a motion to approve Bill #15. Alderman Gregory seconded the motion, and the members voted:

Alderman Fribis	AYE
Alderman Hrastich	AYE
Alderman Webb	AYE
Alderman Hardy	AYE
Alderman Hoffmann	AYE
Alderman Gregory	AYE
Alderman McGuire	AYE
Alderman Littlefield	AYE

There being 8 AYE votes and 0 NAY votes, the motion passed.

Mayor Svoboda declared Bill #15 adopted and placed in the custody of the City Clerk and entered as Ordinance #1730 of the City of Sunset Hills.

INVOICES TO BE APPROVED

Alderman Gregory made a motion to approve payment of the invoices. Alderman Littlefield seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Alderman McGuire expressed appreciation for the city sending a get well floral arrangement to former Alderman Flowers.

A MOTION TO HOLD A CLOSED MEETING

Alderman Hoffmann made a motion to hold a closed meeting with closed votes and records immediately after adjournment of this meeting. Alderman Webb seconded the motion, and the members voted:

Alderman Webb	AYE
Alderman Hoffmann	AYE
Alderman Hardy	AYE
Alderman Gregory	AYE
Alderman McGuire	AYE
Alderman Littlefield	AYE
Alderman Fribis	AYE
Alderman Hrastich	AYE

There being 8 AYE votes and 0 NAY votes, the motion passed.

UNAPPROVED

APPOINTMENTS

a) None

b) Reappointments
None

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Gregory made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Alderman Fribis seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Recording Secretary,

Laurie Govreau

UNAPPROVED