

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE CITY OF SUNSET HILLS, MISSOURI
HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 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, December 9, 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
	William LaGrand	-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 October 28, 2008 Board of Aldermen meeting were distributed to the members for their review. Alderman Webb added the following sentence to the ninth paragraph on page 3: "Alderman Webb agreed and stated he felt it would be better and more cost effective to add features than change or delete features after the design phase is underway."

Alderman Hardy added the following after paragraph 11 on page 3.: "Alderman Hardy stated that because of the volatility of the financial market place and the constraints of having to spend most of the funds within a definite time period, it might be wise to delay issuing the Proposition P Certificates of Participation for the six to nine months of the design phase for the new pool and community center. This delay would allow the financial marketplace to hopefully stabilize and give the Board a clearer and more accurate picture of the actual Proposition P funds that will be available for the proposed Proposition P Parks and Storm Water Improvement Projects. During that six to nine month period the costs associated with the design of the new pool and community center plus the storm water projects costs could be paid out of the City's General Fund and would be reimbursed to the General Fund by the Proposition P Certificates of Participation when they are issued and those funds become available to the City."

Alderman Littlefield made a motion to approve the October 28, 2008 Minutes as amended and to approve the November 11, 2008 Minutes as submitted. Alderman McGuire seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATION – WESLEY SEARCY, ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER

Mrs. Lamitola presented Mr. Searcy a clock for his 20 years of service as Assistant City Engineer.

Those present applauded Mr. Searcy in appreciation of his service to the City.

PRESENTATION OF HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST AWARDS

Alderman Hoffmann, member of the Parks and Recreation Commission and Chairman of the Pool Advisory; Mrs. Barb Scott, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission; Ms. Pat Duke, member of the Pool Advisory; Alderman McGuire, member of the Parks and Recreation Commission; Ms. Georgia Dowling, member of the Parks and Recreation Commission; Mr. Blake Harris, member of the Parks and Recreation Commission; Alderman Fribis, member of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Pool Advisory and Mr. Brown presented a Christmas tree ornament and a \$25 gift certificate for Gianino's restaurant to the following contest winners:

WINTER WONDERLAND AWARD

The Fishburn Family was present to receive the award.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS AWARD

The Volansky Family was present to receive the award.

CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS AWARD

The Veath Family was not present to receive the award.

TRAFFIC STOPPER AWARD

The Davis Family was present to receive the award.

CLASSIC CHRISTMAS AWARD

The Braaf Family was present to receive the award.

POSTCARD CHRISTMAS AWARD

The Dolle Family was not present to receive the award.

NORTH POLE AWARD

The Gregory Family was present to receive the award.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY PROBLEM PROPERTY UNIT PRESENTATION

Mr. John Thro, Supervisor of St. Louis County Problem Properties Unit, Ms. Debbie Kricensky, Resource Coordinator and Mr. Tony Simpson, Municipal Contract Manager, were present. Mr. Thro stated the program started about seven years ago and has solved 97% of the cases before going to court.

Mr. Thro stated there are several reasons for a problem property such as bankruptcy, foreclosure, divorce, poor health conditions, loss of employment or a death in the family. He presented a power point presentation of a few of the properties that were in very poor condition. Mr. Thro explained that they have many contacts and resources that can be of assistance. Some of the contacts are able to get donations from private companies.

Ms. Kricensky explained that she is the Resource Coordinator of the Unit. When an inspector runs across an individual that may need help such as an elder person or if there are children involved, she will meet with the individual. It takes time, but most of the time the individual eventually agrees to accept help. Sometimes volunteers assist with cleaning the property.

Mr. Simpson explained the charge is \$90 per hour for each problem property and the unit agrees to work five hours. Currently there are 16 to 18 contracts with municipalities and have been very successful resolving issues prior to going to court. The Problem Property Unit requires one person of contact through the municipality. If the problem cannot get resolved within five hours, they will return to the point of contact to determine the next step. The \$90 per hour fee would be paid by the municipality. He also explained that the city would be billed for the time spent on the case; if only one hour was spent working on the case the city would be billed for one hour. Mr. Thro stated it typically takes two hours or less for the process to get moving and progress to be made.

Mr. Thro explained that family members, friends, neighbors or perhaps paramedics contact them regarding less than favorable situations. St. Louis County would not investigate without a contact with a municipality. The contact person would be notified when they would be going to the property. He added that around 10% of the cases are located in municipalities. Municipalities typically do not refer cases to St. Louis County; usually one or two a year. Mr. Simpson stated there are not joining fees or monthly fees; St. Louis County bills on an as needed basis. Therefore, a bill not be received unless services are rendered.

Mr. Thro stated that St. Louis County does not disclose how they found out about a situation.

Mr. Jones asked what would happen if an individual hired an attorney. Mr. Thro replied that St. Louis County invites the attorney to meet with them at the property to discuss the matter and usually the attorney recognizes the problem. Mr. Jones asked if St. Louis County would report to the city that the individual has hired an attorney. Mr. Thro replied that he does not think St. Louis County has had an individual in a municipality that hired an attorney.

Mr. Jones asked if St. Louis County operates on vacant properties. Mr. Thro replied yes and explained that St. Louis County's ordinance allows them to operate on vacant property. He added that St. Louis County notifies the owner of record that they have seven days to rectify the nuisance situation. Mr. Jones stated that the city has ordinances for the city to go on to property. He commented that if St. Louis County went on to a property and the city did not know about it, there could be a problem. Mr. Simpson stated he is not sure and would have to contact St. Louis County's attorney.

Mr. Thro stated that St. Louis County would not operate in a municipality without the municipality being aware of their involvement.

Mayor Svoboda thanked Mr. Thro, Ms. Kricensky and Mr. Simpson for the information provided.

REQUESTS FOR BUSINESS LICENSE

A) The LPA Group Inc. 10805 Sunset Office Dr., Suite 300

Mr. Wayne Ellenberger, representative, was present and stated that the nature of the business is consulting engineers specializing in transportation, highways, rails and aviation.

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

B) American Family Insurance, 3802 S. Lindbergh Blvd., Suite 107

A representative was not present.

C) Andrew Tolch Art & Antiques, LLC, 11624 Gravois Road

Mr. Andrew Tolch was present and stated the business is an antique toy store.

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

D) Classic Equestrian, LLC 11624 Gravois Road

Ms. Sarah Tolch was present and stated the business sells horse supplies such as English riding supplies. She added that there is one other supply store such as this in the St. Louis area.

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

E) GT Investments Group, LLC 11603 Gravois Road

Ms. Anna Ramos, representative, was present and stated the business took over the previous business in April. GT Investments has another station in Wentzville.

Mayor Svoboda pointed out the business is also requesting approval for a liquor license.

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

F) Premier Pilates St. Louis, 3808 S. Lindbergh Blvd., Suite 101

Ms. Lacy Hubbard was present and explained the business will be a transfer of ownership from Body By Pilates. The massage therapists that were working with Body By Pilates will not be working in the new business. The business hours will typically be 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with the exception of Friday and Saturday and will be closed on Sunday.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Bill #21 An ordinance approving a Lot Consolidation Plat of 12363 Alswell and 10618 Sunset View Estates. **SECOND READING**

Alderman Gregory read Bill #22 by title only.

Alderman Hrastich made a motion to approve Bill #21. Alderman Gregory seconded the motion, and the members voted:

Alderman Littlefield	AYE
Alderman Fribis	AYE
Alderman Hrastich	AYE
Alderman Hoffmann	AYE
Alderman Gregory	AYE

Alderman McGuire AYE
Alderman Webb AYE
Alderman Hardy AYE

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

Mayor Svoboda declared Bill #21 adopted and placed in the custody of the City Clerk and entered as Ordinance #1738 of the City of Sunset Hills.

Bill #22 (Amended) An ordinance to deter blight and deterioration of non-residential structures, accessory buildings and the properties on which they are located. SECOND READING

Alderman Hrastich read amended Bill #22 by title only.

Alderman Hrastich stated the amendments were to item 11.

Alderman Gregory made a motion to approve amended Bill #22. Alderman Hrastich seconded the motion, and the members voted:

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

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

Mayor Svoboda declared amended Bill #22 adopted and placed in the custody of the City Clerk and entered as Ordinance #1739 of the City of Sunset Hills.

Resolution #305 A resolution adopting the 2009 Budget.

Alderman Hrastich read Resolution #305.

Alderman Hardy asked of the pension level increasing in the budget from L7 to L6. Alderman Hrastich explained that before any changes are made, the Finance Committee will study the pension and will make a recommendation to the Board of Aldermen in 2009. Alderman Hrastich further stated that the Finance Committee did not feel it was necessary for a change in the budget as a balanced budget was presented. He added that even though it is in the budget, it is not an obligation; a change in the pension will have to be approved by the Board of Aldermen. He also explained that the funds are in the budget for a pension change, but the change has not been approved.

Alderman Hrastich made a motion to approve Resolution #305. Alderman Gregory seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

It should be noted that Resolution #305 was re-addressed following the Committee Reports.

CITY OFFICIAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- (B) CITY CLERK – Mrs. Rider reported that the candidate filing for office for the April 7, 2009 election will open on December 16th and will close on January 20th.
- (C) CHIEF OF POLICE – Chief LaGrand had nothing to report.
- (D) CITY ATTORNEY – Mr. Jones had nothing to report.
- (E) CITY ENGINEER – Mrs. Lamitola reported this year’s concrete replacement project is wrapping up. The Street Department has been applying salt on isolated areas. The Tributary B and Mattese Creek designs are ongoing. Request for Qualifications are due by the end of the month for Sappington Barracks Road. The Planning and Zoning Commission will discuss parking modifications regarding medical offices and swimming pool and will also address two bridge replacements at their January meeting.
- (F) PARKS DIRECTOR – Mr. Brown reported this year’s brochure, which is a calendar, has been mailed to residents. He stated there are two resolutions on tonight’s agenda for grant applications; one for funding assistance with a restroom at the Claire Gempp Davidson Memorial Conservation Area and the other for assistance with planning for the design of a community center and a new pool.

Alderman McGuire thanked Mr. Brown for the work on the calendar.

(G) COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE – Alderman Hrastich displayed graphs regarding General Fund revenue projection, General Fund Status and 1% sales tax revenue, 2-year trend. The Finance Committee will be looking carefully at the execution of the budget and the revenue that is received in 2009.

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 had nothing to report.

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE – Alderman Littlefield had nothing to report.

The members returned to the business of Resolution #305. Mr. Jones suggested the Board of Aldermen have a roll call vote in regards to Resolution #305.

Alderman McGuire made a motion to approve Resolution #305. Alderman Hrastich seconded the motion, and the members voted:

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #306 A resolution authorizing submittal of a project proposal to the Department of Natural Resources for the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant round fiscal year 2009.

Alderman Hoffmann read Resolution #306.

Alderman Hoffmann made a motion to approve Resolution #.306. Alderman Gregory seconded the motion, and the members voted:

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

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

Resolution #307 A resolution authorizing application for grant-in-aid under the Municipal Parks Grant of St. Louis County.

Alderman Fribis read Resolution #307.

Alderman Gregory made a motion to approve Resolution #307. Alderman Littlefield seconded the motion, and the members voted:

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

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

INVOICES TO BE APPROVED

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

APPOINTMENTS

a) None

Reappointments

- a) Thomas Henkle – Planning & Zoning Member – 3 year term
- b) William Groth – Board of Adjustment Member – 5 year term

Alderman Webb made a motion to approve the above reappointments. Aldermen Hrastich seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Littlefield made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. Alderman Webb seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Recording Secretary,



Laurie Govreau