

MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY HALL, Fifth Floor  
6801 Delmar Blvd.  
University City, Missouri 63130  
**April 24, 2017**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

At the Regular Session of the City Council of University City held on the fifth floor of City Hall, on Monday, April 24, 2017, Mayor Shelley Welsch, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

In addition to the Mayor, the following members of Council were present:

Councilmember Rod Jennings  
Councilmember Paulette Carr  
Councilmember Steven McMahon  
Councilmember Terry Crow; (*via video conference*)  
Councilmember Michael Glickert  
Councilmember Bwayne Smotherson

Also in attendance was Interim City Manager, Charles Adams.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Hearing no requests for amendments Councilmember Jennings moved to approve the Agenda as presented.

Point of Information: Councilmember Glickert asked whether the Agenda should be amended to include the Closed Executive Session? Mayor Welsch stated her belief is that it did not have to be placed on the Agenda since the Closed Session held prior to this Public Meeting had been recessed rather than adjourned. Councilmember Glickert stated his thoughts were to make the public aware of this action. Mayor Welsch asked Mr. Adams if she could inquire of Mr. Mulligan, and after receiving approval to do so, posed the question to Mr. Mulligan.

Special Counsel John Mulligan recommended adding the closed session to the agenda.

Mayor Welsch requested that the Agenda be amended to include a Closed Executive Session according to RSMo 610.021 (1); Legal actions.

Councilmember Jennings moved to approve the Agenda as amended, seconded by Councilmember Carr and the motion carried unanimously.

**D. PROCLAMATIONS**

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. April 10, 2017, Regular Session Minutes were moved by Councilmember Carr, it was seconded by Councilmember Glickert and the motion carried unanimously.

**F. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

**G. SWEARING INTO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

1. Robert Klahr was sworn into the Historic Preservation Commission at tonight's meeting.
2. Dennis Hoppe was sworn into the Human Relations Commission at tonight's meeting.

**H. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (Total of 15minutesallowed)**

**Sue Slater, 7543 Drexel Drive, University City, MO**

Ms. Slater thanked the City for addressing a need she identified in 1985 to provide handicap reserved street parking signs in front of the homes of senior or disabled residents to ensure their safety and independence. And thirty-one years later, she is proud to see that they are still a part of this community.

Today, as a member of the Senior Commission, she would also like to thank the City for funding their request to hire a part-time Senior Service Coordinator, who has done a wonderful job. Over the last three years, members of this Commission have spent hundreds of volunteer hours trying to identify services that could improve the quality of life for seniors. One of those issues; which has also garnered the Mayor's support, involves the lack of adequate transportation for seniors/disabled residents who live in U City. Therefore, the Commission would like to request that Council gives consideration to adding \$7,500 to the budget for scholarships to purchase memberships and ride credits for the Independent Transportation Network (ITN); a senior transportation network which has run successfully in St. Charles County for eight years.

Ms. Slater expressed the Commission's disappointment with Councilmember Carr's lack of participation and interest, especially as it relates to this current initiative. She stated that although ITN has articulated a desire to expand its services to St. Louis County, implementation for U City cannot be accomplished without a commitment from this administration. So her hope is that Council will reflect on this request as a viable service that will not only benefit this generation of seniors, but the generations to come. *(Ms. Slater asked that her written comments be made a part of the record.)*

**Dustin Chalfant, 231 East Washington Avenue, Kirkwood, MO**

Mr. Chalfant, a partner with Senn Bierwerks stated that in spite of a few unforeseeable delays, they have now been successful in purchasing the property where this business will be located. Site plans have been submitted to staff for review, and construction is scheduled to commence once they are approved. The estimated time for completion is six to eight months.

**Nachun Chase, 937 Wild Cherry Lane, University City, MO**

Mr. Chase expressed concerns over actions taken by the City's Police Department with respect to \$550.00 he had found on a bike trail approximately one month ago.

**Matthew Chase, 937 Wild Cherry Lane, University City, MO**

Mr. Chase recanted his son's story about the money he had found around Peachtree and Whorter and stated his assumption was that by instructing his son to do the right thing and turn the money over to the police, the money would be returned if no one came forward to claim it. Instead, they received a call from the Police Department notifying them that even though no one had claimed the money, pursuant to the City's Charter all unclaimed funds are placed in the general revenue after one year. So, he and his son are here tonight with the hope that someone will step up and acknowledge that this action is inappropriate. It's common law that if no one makes a claim for lost money, then the person who found it becomes the rightful owner. But more than anything, this is about his desire to instill good values in his son, and his son's need to see public policies that enhance those values. *(The report number is 17-10066, and the badge number of the officer who took the report is PO-485.)*

**I. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**J. CONSENT AGENDA**

**K. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

1. Approve Project 1284 - Sidewalk and Curb Replacement Project.

Mr. Adams stated staff is recommending that this project be awarded to Pride Master Construction, in the amount of \$463,169.

Councilmember Carr moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Jennings and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Approve Project 1293 - Asphalt Overlay Improvements Annual Street Resurfacing Contract.

Mr. Adams stated staff is recommending that this project be awarded to the lowest, responsible bidder, Ford Asphalt Company, in the amount of \$528,600.

Councilmember Glickert moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Carr and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Approve Picnic Liquor License for Fair U City

Mr. Adams stated the applicant for this request is Mr. Robert Parker, the Treasurer of Fair U City, who has been properly vetted by City staff.

Citizen's Comments

**Patricia Washington, 7040 Plymouth Avenue, University City, MO**

Ms. Washington thanked Council for their generous support of Fair U City, which has been intricately woven into this City's fabric of community and family. The Fair is the premiere fund-raising arm for the newly formed U City Community Foundation. A Foundation created with the intent to establish another level of support for families within the community through the issuance of grants. She stated that a meeting is scheduled tomorrow to finalize the grant process, and there has been a lot of discussion about how to sustain the Foundation's undertakings. This license and the anticipated proceeds are heavily relied upon and greatly contribute to the Foundation's mission, so the hope is that Council will look favorably on granting approval of this application.

Council's Comments

Councilmember Carr asked whether St. Charles was the correct address for Mr. Parker?

Ms. Washington stated members felt it was important for the Treasurer to be the person responsible for the liquor license and Mr. Parker, who is the Foundation's new Treasurer, does reside in St. Charles. Councilmember Carr asked for an explanation of how someone from St. Charles could be the Treasurer of U City's Foundation? Mayor Welsch stated although she is not involved with the Foundation, her belief is that there are some members of the Board that are not residents of U City. Ms. Washington stated the will of the Executive Board was to attract individuals with varying levels of expertise. So the Foundation's members consist of U City residents, as well as individuals who reside throughout the St. Louis metropolitan region.

Councilmember Carr stated that based on the incorporation documents, it appears as though Fair U City is a not-for-profit corporation instituted by the Mayor and Jan Adams, and they are the two individuals responsible for the operational aspect of the Fair? Mayor Welsch stated she and Mr. Adams were two of the twelve individuals involved in the Fair's incorporation. Councilmember Carr asked whether another organization had been established to disburse grants? Mayor Welsch stated the objective of Fair U City has always been to raise enough money to establish a foundation. That non-profit foundation was placed into operation last year, and its formal name is The U City Community Foundation. Councilmember Carr asked whether Fair U City had been dissolved? Mayor Welsch stated since Fair U City has now become The U City Community Foundation, it no longer exists as a non-profit.

Councilmember Carr questioned whether liquor had ever been sold in the past? Ms. Washington stated that it had been. Councilmember Carr asked if there was a reason why the Fair had never sought approval for a liquor license until now? Mayor Welsch stated as she understands it, the liquor laws of the State of Missouri have changed and now require the distributor to apply for a Picnic License. Previously, they had only been required to obtain the City's liquor license.

Councilmember Carr stated that since the City has given \$10,000 to the Foundation, who then redistributes it back into the community in the form of grants, she would like to see an accounting of the monies that come into the Foundation. Because if the Foundation is making a profit, then her hope is that it will no longer need the City's financial support. Councilmember Carr stated that while her comments are not addressed to Ms. Washington, personally, everybody believes that their project should be funded at the highest level, but that is not the mission of the City. As a government, the City's mission is to take care of its infrastructure, public safety, and then it can fit other things in. And as you've probably just heard, there are members of the Senior Commission who are disgruntled because their funding disappeared in 2013. But the City no longer has the "*Discretionary Fund*," that Mr. Walker apparently had. Ms. Washington thanked Councilmember Carr for her comments and stated that the Foundation's books are open and they would be happy to provide the requested accounting. However, the financial support provided by the City is only used to cover the expenses needed to organize the Fair.

Councilmember Carr stated that in addition to the Foundation's records, she would also ask the City Manager to provide Council with an accounting of the City's in-kind services provided to support the Fair.

Councilmember Crow stated he is trying to understand why the application for the liquor license states Fair U City when it no longer exists? Mayor Welsch stated her belief is that Fair U City was listed because it is the name of the event that the license is being requested for.

Mr. Adams informed Councilmember Crow that he had made a note of his question and would ask staff to research this issue to determine whether the application should be amended.

Councilmember Crow questioned whether Council's vote of approval meant that the license would be issued to Robert H. Parker since it could not be issued to an entity that does not exist? Mayor Welsch indicated that the bank account states U City Community Foundation/Fair U City. So it would appear as though both the bank and the IRS still recognize Fair U City as part of the legal entity.

Councilmember Crow stated he had no problem with issuing the license; his only concern is whether the application was correct.

Mr. Adams then asked Special Counsel John Mulligan, if he could address this issue?

Mr. Mulligan stated he is not sure how well-informed his opinion would be since he had not reviewed the application materials or the applicable ordinances. However, generally speaking, the permit has to be issued to an existing entity or individual.

Councilmember Crow asked Mr. Adams if the note in Council's packet which indicates that this request could not be rescheduled, was correct? Mr. Adams stated the desired goal is to receive Council's approval, so if necessary, it could be rescheduled.

Mayor Welsch stated that the Fair is only six weeks away, and once the application is approved by Council it has to go to the State. So waiting until May 8th, which is the next Council meeting, would make it very difficult. Mayor Welsch informed Council that Mr. Parker is an individual who has satisfied all of the criteria, as previously mentioned by Mr. Adams. She then asked Ms. Washington if she and Mr. Parker had discussed his conversation with St. Louis County? Ms. Washington stated Mr. Parker had informed her that St. Louis County had instructed him to put the name of the event on the application.

Councilmember McMahon stated that as a housekeeping matter, the section pertaining to the Picnic License should be amended to read Section 600.030 rather than Section 600.909. He also thinks that the Ordinance pertains to an organization and not an individual, since it states, "*It may be issued to a church, school, civic service, fraternal order, veteran or political organization.*" The Ordinance also requires that the application be submitted to the Director of Revenue to make a determination regarding the non-profit's liability with respect to sales tax. And finally, the application states "*spirits,*" but the cover sheet states that the request is only for beer, which is the only thing he believes they have ever sold. Mayor Welsch agreed that the only liquor to be sold was beer.

Councilmember Jennings stated although he would agree that clarification is needed on exactly who the permit could be issued to, he would note that there are several businesses with liquor licenses whose owners do not live in U City. So that aspect should not be a problem. He stated the School District, churches, non-profits, and countless volunteers, all get involved in Fair U City, which has been an overwhelming success for the last seven years. So, it would behoove Council and staff to get any of these corrections made in a timely manner in order to preserve this event. And since it appears that Council's ultimate goal is to make this a self-sufficient organization, along with Councilmember Carr's requests he would like the City's accounting to include what Fair U City has meant to this City in terms of PR and the sales tax dollars that it generates. Because it's also important not to overlook what the Fair has done and will continue to do for this City.

Councilmember Carr questioned how the Foundation had been able to use the address of 630 Trinity Avenue, which is for a building that is now closed? Mayor Welsch stated that Mr. Walker had allowed Fair U City, Prison Performing Arts, and other non-profits, to utilize space in that building. And now that the building is closed and the Foundation is operational their address may change, but at this point in time, that is still the current mailing address.

Councilmember Smotherson asked if someone could explain why or how non-residents had been allowed to become members of this community organization? Ms. Washington stated the original intent was to bring in a variety of folks who had experience and expertise working with other organizations throughout the St. Louis region. So no restrictions were ever placed on who could become a member.

This was an extensive process, and although a majority of the members are residents, it was designed to build a robust board consisting of individuals who possessed vast knowledge and experience in the successful operation of a non-profit organization.

Councilmember Jennings stated there are teachers, members of staff, and in fact, the entire night crew that stayed to clean up the park after the event all lived outside of U City. So all of these individuals should be commended for their service and made to feel welcome here. He stated that the address, which could perhaps be changed to the City Hall's address, is minor, and something that could easily be fixed.

Mayor Welsch asked Ms. Charumilind if she was aware of whether this application had already been approved by St. Louis County, because if it has, a lot of the questions being raised may have already been answered. Finance Director Tina Charumilind stated her experience has been that a Picnic License is issued for the actual event occurring within the City and that the person representing the organization and being issued the permit was not required to be a resident. However, they are required to pay the appropriate fees and provide a background check performed by either St. Louis County or the State of Missouri. And once the permit is issued, the organization is allowed to sell liquor for a maximum of three days. However, once an organization's application has been approved by City Council and the individual identified as their representative remains the same, the organization can reapply for up to ten years, without the need for Council's approval.

Mayor Welsch asked if the application, once it is approved by Council, would then be submitted to the State to assess any liabilities associated with sales taxes; as mentioned by Councilmember McMahon, are levied and paid? Ms. Charumilind stated once the City's fee of \$25.00 is paid any other fees are handled by the State.

Councilmember Carr questioned whether Council was essentially being asked to approve a ten-year liquor license for the event Fair U City, sponsored by The U City Community Foundation? Ms. Charumilind stated that unless there is a change in the organization's representative listed on the license that is correct.

Councilmember Crow asked whether members of staff had assisted the applicant with filling out this application? Ms. Charumilind stated that they had. Councilmember Crow stated he is intrigued by how staff can be used for some functions and not others. And secondly, while he would agree that the Foundation should change its mailing address his hope is that it will no longer be associated with any city-owned property since he does not believe that would be an appropriate function of city government.

Councilmember Carr stated although she understood Ms. Charumilind's explanation, her confusion remains with the fact that where the application asks for the organization's name, it states, "Fair U City," rather than The U City Community Foundation, and mentions nothing about the name of the event.

Councilmember Carr stated that while she hates being such a stickler for details, it does appear as though Council is being asked to grant approval for a liquor license to an entity with a fictitious name. As well as the fact that the issue of sales tax still needs to be cleared with the State. So, at this point in time, she is unable to cast a favorable vote to approve this application.

Ms. Charumilind stated that a non-profits' revenue and expenditures are listed on Form 990, which is filed at the end of the year and designed to make certain that the money is being used for its intended purpose. Councilmember Carr stated she would like to see these corrections made to the application prior to casting her vote.

Councilmember Jennings stated although this is a new process, the Fair has sold liquor for the last seven years. So he would suggest that Council vote for a conditional approval tonight, requiring that the requested changes be made, and once they are completed the application can move forward without the need for another meeting.

Councilmember Crow asked the City Manager if he could provide any other examples of where staff has assisted applicants with completing their application for a liquor license? Mr. Adams stated although he is certainly willing to provide the requested information, he does not believe much effort is required to fill out the application.

Mayor Welsch asked Ms. Charumilind if she could walk Council through the process she utilized for completing this application, as well as any other applications she may have been involved with? Ms. Charumilind stated when such requests are made, she sends the applicant an application, along with the procedures that must be followed, and advises them on how to get a background check.

Councilmember Jennings stated the fact that City staff is assisting customers does not seem to be out of order. Staff has obtained specific knowledge because of their daily interaction with these documents, so providing good customer service based on that expertise is what they should be expected to do.

Mayor Welsch asked Council if they would advise Ms. Charumilind of what corrections they would like to see, because based on the City's experience in handling these applications some of the corrections may not even be necessary.

Councilmember Carr stated approval of a conditional permit is not listed on the application. However, her belief is that the organization will still be able to move forward after the application is amended to include the correct name of the entity, the term "spirits" is removed, and if possible, the mailing address is changed.

Mayor Welsch asked Ms. Washington if it was also her understanding that Fair U City was still part of the Foundation's official name? Ms. Washington stated that members had consulted with the IRS, as well as the previous Treasurer of Fair U City regarding this issue, and been informed that the Foundation could still use The U City Community Foundation/Fair U City, for an extended period of time. And that is the name you will find listed on all of the Foundation's documents and correspondence.

Councilmember Carr requested that the documents referenced by Ms. Washington also be submitted to the City and that the application be amended to reflect the correct name.

Councilmember McMahon stated he thinks the only documents that count are the ones members of Fair U City filed with the State of Missouri in December of 2015, to change their name to The U City Community Foundation, because that was completed, Fair U City as an entity ceased to exist.

So while the Foundation can continue to use the name of Fair U City to identify the event, it seems to be abundantly clear that the license should be applied for under their new name.

Mayor Welsch asked Mr. Adams if it would be appropriate for Council to make a motion to change the organization's name on the application to The U City Community Foundation? Mr. Adams stated he thinks the simplest thing to do would be to correct the application and bring it back, even if it requires a special meeting to ensure that everything gets completed on time. If possible, Mayor Welsch stated she would like to schedule a short meeting for Wednesday of this week and ask staff to provide Council with a list of available times to select from.

Councilmember Jennings acknowledged that both the Foundation's name and address seem to be a point of contention.

Mayor Welsch stated that until it is officially changed, 630 Trinity is the legal address that can be found on all of the organization's documentation.

Councilmember Glickert made a motion to postpone consideration of this application until a meeting can be held later this week to review the requested changes; it was seconded by Councilmember Smotherson.

**Point of Information:** Councilmember Glickert stated he also wanted to advise staff of a typo, which reads, liqor instead of liquor.

Voice Vote on the motion to postpone carried unanimously.

## L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### BILLS

## M. NEW BUSINESS

### RESOLUTIONS

### BILLS

*Introduced by Councilmember Glickert*

1. **Bill 9311** – Kingsland Ave. “Alley Bridge” Replacement Project – Surface Transportation Program (STP) Agreement. Bill 9311 was read for the first time.

*Introduced by Councilmember Jennings*

2. **Bill 9312** – Trolley Do Not Pass – Municipal Code Amendment. Bill 9312 was read for the first time.

*Introduced by Councilmember Jennings*

3. **Bill 9313** – Trolley Obstruction Zone – Municipal Code Amendment. Bill 9312 was read for the first time.

4. **Bill 9314** – Parking Prohibition – 7001 Forsyth

**Point of Information:** Mayor Welsch informed Council that although the cover sheet for this Bill is correct, the wrong ordinance had been attached.

Councilmember Carr moved that Bill 9314 be postponed for consideration until the next meeting of Council, seconded by Councilmember Glickert and the motion carried unanimously.

## N. COUNCIL REPORTS/BUSINESS

### 1. Boards and Commission appointments needed

Mayor Welsch announced the appointments that were needed.

### 2. Council liaison reports on Boards and Commissions

Councilmember Carr stated in June of 2012, Council passed a budget to include \$10,000 for the Senior Task Force to conduct a Transportation Study, and \$15,000 to be split evenly between the Youth Task Force and the Senior Task Force. At the end of the fiscal year the funds were not sequestered or reapproved, and all of that funding went back into the City's reserves. No one notified the Senior Task Force; which actually became a Commission in 2014, of this action. As a result, the Commission believed that those funds were still available and that they were obligated to fulfill the mandate given to the Task Force to provide transportation for seniors and those visually impaired. During that period of time, the Commission's Chair, Margie DieKemper, worked with an organization providing transportation for seniors within St. Charles who had expressed a desire to expand their services to St. Louis County.

Councilmember Carr stated that in contrast to what Ms. Slater has said this evening, she does read everything and is intimately familiar with all of the Commission's documents. And while in attendance at their meeting held last week, Councilmember Carr stated she had explained to the new Chair, Mary Hart, as well as all of the members in attendance, that this funding was no longer available. However, as their liaison, she would be willing to advocate for any request made by the Commission and suggested that they do so prior to Council's approval of the budget. So, she is not sure what this is all about, or why Ms. DieKemper is so upset, but any entity that requests funding is required to submit a budget to Council. And at this point, no determination has been made about whether the City should even establish a policy regarding transportation for seniors.

Councilmember Carr stated she realizes that she does ask a lot of questions and it is her intent to continue to do so until she retires from this office. However, after learning about the Mayor's involvement with the Commission, she had also informed the Commission at their last meeting of her willingness to step aside if their preference was to have the Mayor act as their liaison. Ms. Hart indicated that she was happy with Councilmember Carr's performance and no measure of dissatisfaction was uttered by any member. She stated that in contrast to what this community may have seen happening over the last two years, this is a body of seven that makes decisions collaboratively.

### 3. Boards, Commissions, and Task Force Minutes

### 4. Other Discussions/Business

#### a. **Selection of City Manager Search Firm**

*Requested by Councilmember Carr and seconded by Councilmember Crow*

Councilmember Carr stated Council will be discussing the selection of a search firm to assist them in hiring a new City Manager. The RFP was released to the public in April, eight firms responded, and any information related to those responses has been made available for review on the City's website. She stated that she had developed a matrix for Council highlighting each firm's response in relation to the following requirements outlined in the RFP and approved by Council.

- City Council engagement; *(ensures that all of the firm's discussions will be conducted with the entire Council and not individual members of Council.)*
- Public Engagement Program; *(elicits the firm's desire to participate in a robust component of citizen engagement.)*

- Diversity Program; *(ensures that the firm's commitment to this concept is similar in nature.)*
- Comparable Cities; *(elicits the firm's placement of City Managers or Administrators in similarly-situated cities.)*
- Experience
- Costs

Councilmember Carr stated at this point, she would ask members to express their thoughts on which firm they believe ranks highest in each of the aforementioned categories.

Mayor Welsch thanked Councilmember Carr for the matrix, and stated that GovHR USA was her first choice because in her opinion, they have been the most responsive to the City's requests; their costs are in line with the City's expectations, and their strongest asset is that they specialize in the hiring of government employees; recently placing individuals in Maryland Heights and Ferguson. So they already know the market well and probably have a list of candidates that have already expressed an interest in this market. And since Councilmember Carr's matrix appears to substantiate her opinion, this is the only firm she would be in favor of approving.

Councilmember Glickert thanked Councilmember Carr for preparing the matrix and stated that after taking a cursory look he would like to make two selections. The first is the Mercer Group, whose costs were in line, but based on their response, additional work would have to be initiated by Council to ensure that the City's requirement for engagement was satisfied. GovHR also came in with a reasonable cost assessment and he would have to agree that they do seem to have a thumb on the pulse of the Midwest. The bottom line is that all of the firms were impressive, but his belief is that the California firms are honed in on areas along the West Coast.

Councilmember Jennings stated there were a lot of companies listed on the original spreadsheet, so he really appreciates the matrix. Basically, he would concur with the previous comments and make GovHR his first choice. Mercer also came in second, however, the fact that they had no response to the Diversity Program requirement, and indicated "*possible*" with respect to Public Engagement, caused him some concerns.

Councilmember McMahon stated he was also impressed with GovHR, especially with regard to Ferguson and their apparent ability to find the right candidate and build a consensus, so that the community was able to buy into it as well. He stated he was not overly impressed with the Mercer Group, who did not appear to be directing their actions to the full Council and seemed somewhat deficient in the areas of diversity and comparable cities.

Councilmember Crow stated as he read through these his number one choice would also be GovHR, for many of the reasons that have already been expressed. His second choice would be SGR, although it does sound like Council has reached a consensus he is very pleased with.

Councilmember Smotherson agreed that GovHR was the firm that looked the most promising, and Mercer would be his next choice. He stated he had eliminated the California firms mainly because of their estimated costs, which seemed too high.

Councilmember Carr stated although GovHR was number one for many of the same reasons, their response to the question regarding Council engagement mentioned the use of individual interviews and contacts. So if they are selected she would like to make sure they are aware of Council's preference with respect to engagement.

GovHR has an excellent record in the category of Diversity Programs and specifically mentioned their commitment to providing a diverse pool of applicants, which was only brought up by one other firm. Ferguson shares some of the same demographics and issues as U City, so knowing that they've utilized GovHR speaks very highly of them.

Mayor stated that since it appears as though Council has reached a consensus she would entertain a motion to hire GovHR USA, with the proviso that discussions be conducted to modify their approach to Council Engagement.

Councilmember Jennings moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Crow, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Welsch asked Councilmember Carr if she would be working with Mr. Adams and Ms. Cannon to ensure that all of the necessary steps from this point on were carried out? Councilmember Carr stated that she would.

**b. Update on Audio Recording of City Meetings**

*Requested by Councilmember Carr and seconded by Councilmember Smotherson*

Councilmember Carr stated that staff had provided Council with an update on this procedure, the recorder is present at tonight's meeting, and the protocol seems reasonable. Recordings are turned on when the meeting is called to order; turned off when the meeting is adjourned, and all recording will be posted on the website unaltered.

Mr. Adams stated that a sample beta test was being performed tonight to determine the quality of the recording. He stated that the protocol, which was prepared by the Director of Community Development, was designed to be as simple as possible in order to get the job done. However, Council is free to make any changes they deem necessary.

Councilmember Carr stated she had discussed this process at a recent Commission meeting and the staff liaison was unaware that Council had voted to reinstate audio recordings. So going forward, she would like to make sure that all staff liaisons are made aware of their responsibilities with regard to this process. Mr. Adams stated his thought process had been to make sure Council was satisfied with the procedures that had been put in place prior to informing members of his staff.

Mayor Welsch asked Councilmember Carr if a vote was needed on this discussion? Councilmember Carr stated she had included "*Discussion and Vote*," as a precautionary measure, but at this point, no vote was needed.

**O. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (continued if needed)**

**Jeff Hales, 7471 Kingsbury, University City, MO**

Mr. Hales thanked Council for reinstating the audio recordkeeping process for Boards and Commissions, which is extremely helpful. He then expressed concerns regarding how much energy the Mayor appears to put into issues like Fair U City, The Chamber of Commerce, and Create Space, yet fails to exhibit that same level of passion towards fixing the City's streets and sidewalks. So while he is pleased to hear that a larger amount of money has been allocated in this year's budget to address some of these issues, he would like to stress the point that all of this other stuff really should come second.

Mr. Hales stated two weeks ago, there was a lengthy discussion in the Mayor's newsletter about the loss of Create Space, and certain members of Council who raised countless questions about their merit. But here again, he would like to stress the importance of telling the whole truth.

Create Space was dissolved by the State of Missouri in January, and yet, they

approached the EDRST Board in March asking for more funding. So perhaps, all those countless questions the Mayor wrote about were well grounded.

**Thomas Jennings, 7055 Forsyth, University City, MO**

Mr. Jennings asked Council whether the requirement that the new City Manager becomes a member of the National Manager's Association could be reinstated in order to provide another level of oversight?

**P. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Smotherson stated the City was forced to place rocks on the bank of the River Des Peres because Mona Drive, which is located next to the River, is in danger of being flooded. The worst part about this is some of the residents had informed him they were the ones who maintained the weeds on the city-owned fence that runs along Mona Drive. And an even bigger concern is that this is not the only fence line that needs dire attention. So he would like to see staff start to perform maintenance in these areas on a regular basis, and would ask Mr. Adams and Council to think about how funds could be allocated in this year's budget to make certain that this maintenance continues throughout the year.

Councilmember Carr stated she and several members of Council had observed the conditions on Mona Drive and she was reminded of the City's need for a Stormwater Master Plan. Not only will this plan help with situations involving MSD, but it will help with the prioritization of issues associated with its infrastructure. Because in her opinion, the temporary stabilization of Mona Drive is so insufficient that it should not even be considered as a short-term fix. Fortunately, some of these problems related to infrastructure have been included in the City's budget which Council will be looking at in the very near future.

Councilmember Crow promised Mr. Jennings that he would do whatever he could to make sure that the next City Manager becomes a member of the National Manager's Association and that he or she will be required to maintain that membership as long as they are employed by the City. He stated it is clear that the City's priorities must be focused on public safety and infrastructure. And along that same vein, he would like to thank the Interim Manager and his staff for their preparation of the Draft Budget which recognized these priorities. Councilmember Crow stated another thing Council and staff need to work together on is an analysis of the EMS outsourcing and its impact, if any, on the budget.

Councilmember Smotherson asked Mr. Adams if he would check into Mr. Chase's claim so Council could gain a better understanding of why the money had not been returned to his son once a determination had been made that it was unclaimed?

Mayor Welsch stated that after hearing from Mr. Chase earlier today, she had talked to Mr. Adams and her belief is that he is already looking into the matter? Mr. Adams stated there is a City Ordinance which basically says that all monies that come into the Police Department, regardless of how they are received, must be held for a period of one year and if it is not claimed during that time the money shall be reverted back to the general fund.

Councilmember Jennings reminded everyone about the Police Department's monthly Focus Group Meetings, and thanked Lions Against Litter; an ad hoc group of residents he is passionate about, who volunteer to clean up the City. Their focus has been in the 3rd Ward, but the next clean-up will be in the 2nd Ward and would encourage everyone to come out and participate. Councilmember Jennings stated one officer who participates with the group informed him that the fines for littering are harsher than fines for a Third Degree DWI. So perhaps, litter is something the City should seriously look at enforcing because he is always amazed at how much litter is picked up.

Mayor Welsch stated the preview party for U City in Bloom's annual plant sale will be Friday night. The sale starts on Saturday and ends on Sunday.

**Q. Roll-Call vote to go into a Closed Council Session according to RSMo 610.021 (1) Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys and (3) Personnel hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded.**

Councilmember Carr moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Jennings.

Roll Call Vote Was:

**AYES:** Councilmember Carr, Councilmember McMahon, Councilmember Crow, Councilmember Smotherson, Councilmember Glickert and Councilmember Jennings.

**NAYS:** None

**R. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Welsch thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the regular City Council meeting at 8:09 p.m., to go into a Closed Session on the second floor.

LaRette Reese  
Interim City Clerk



April 24, 2017

Council members:

Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you.

My name is Sue Slater and I live at 7543 Drexel Avenue. I grew up in University City and have been a resident here since my marriage in 1982. I am a senior and am now completely blind due to a hereditary disease for the past 35 years.

I am a member of our City's Commission on Senior Issues and am here tonight to encourage your consideration and support for a recommendation and modest 2018 budget proposal that we submitted and hope will come before you regarding a unique senior transportation service for U. Citians. It is only the second time in our 3 years of existence that we have brought before you a recommendation and funding request – thanks at that time in 2015 to the Mayor, then City Manager Walker and you all, we now can count ourselves among only 4 cities in St. Louis county with a staff level senior services coordinator. I take very seriously my responsibilities as a citizen and especially as a member of this commission to again make a recommendation that is meaningful not only to me but to our entire community.

In 1985, I came before the Council to advocate for handicapped reserved street parking signs in front of homes to assure that older adults, disabled, and visually impaired residents could reserve parking so they could get in and out of their homes and vehicles without the fear of falling or coming into unsafe conditions. I am proud to say that 35 years later, the signs are still part of our community.

The modest budget request submitted, \$7500, will provide for “ride scholarships” for U. City seniors or visually impaired adults to purchase introductory memberships and ride credits with ITN – Independent Transportation Network – a new senior transportation service for St. Louis County. ITN has been operating in St. Charles Co. for nearly 7 years. At this time, we are not asking the council to fund a return to a municipally owned and run transport service. We are recommending funding that will demonstrate our Commission's and the city's commitment to help jump start this St. Louis County ITN expansion and introduce our seniors to a nationally and regionally renowned well planned transportation service that can help them maintain their independence when/if they can no longer drive themselves. I know this need all too well.

There are 21 million adults in the u.s. that will have or have some form of visual impairment. Transportation is the number one issue that affects everything else in our lives. The transportation services available to older adults and people with visual impairments in U. City are not adequate and do not allow an independent way of life!! We on the Senior Commission believe our recommendation to support and introduce U. Citians to use ITN can contribute positively to quality of life for me and others who cannot drive. The Senior Commission will be happy to provide you supportive information if you need it.

Since the Commission was formed in 2014 and up until Spring 2016, our Council Liaison, Arthur Sharpe was present at each of our meetings to listen to our concerns, updates on our progress identifying needs and services, and hear out our recommendations for community services; to let us know of council doings and to take our recommendations back to the council and advocate for us and for our senior adults if we asked him for that assistance. He was a careful listener and provided clarification when asked. The current Council Liaison, Councilwoman Paulette Carr, was appointed when Mr. Sharpe retired.

With all due respect, Councilwoman Carr, some of us on the senior commission have been dismayed with your apparent low level of participation in the commission. We feel that you do not respect the hard work that our commission is doing and continues to do to make our seniors' needs known to the council and the community at large and to improve the quality of life for our older adults. From your comments especially on this latest recommendation, it is not apparent that you have taken the time to read or reflect on our past 15 months of regular meeting minutes that have documented all the work we have been doing with ITN Gateway and to make sure that U. City is included in the proposed expansion.

If you had, you would have seen that Mayor Welsh was instrumental in identifying this need and having a first meeting with other mayors and agencies serving older adults at a lunch meeting in the Delmar Loop. You would have also seen that 3 members of the senior commission along with Ms. Mermelstein have gone to meetings over the past 15 months and worked with the executive director of ITN St. Charles to expand this service to St. Louis county and specifically U.city . You would have seen that ITN is a membership based non profit service as are both the Village in the Central West end and NORC in Creve Coeur and perhaps appreciated that this is a forward thinking, progressive, and viable model for a vital senior service. You would have learned that the commission's recommended support for ITN Gateway "ride scholarships" is not a waste of tax payer money as you explicitly stated, but a positive step towards supporting needed valuable services that people like me need and want. Incidentally, nor is ITN the sketchy, fly-by-night business venture you seemed to imply it is but a 22 y.o. bonafide 501c3 agency that is regionally and nationally known and that has obtained a matching Federal grant to pursue this expansion in St. Louis County including U. City. Your apparent antipathy to our Commission's hard work has been very disappointing.

Our novel and modest effort supported through the monies we hope you all will come to understand and approve, is one of our Commission's best efforts to fill an existing service gap for seniors and we hope that can be respected and appreciated by all of you. A positive response and vote on this budget request is a vote for Seniors in U. City. Please reach out to Commission members if you need more information on this exciting development.

Finally, I would ask the members of this council to think about 20, 30, or 40 years from now and what your lives might be like if you could no longer pick up and get into your car whenever you wanted day or evening and go to the store, catch a movie , attend a concert, visit a friend or your kids and not have to wait on other people to do it for you! Just because a person loses sight or has other impairments preventing driving, does not mean that they have lost their love of life, sociability or intelligence; nor do they deserve to be isolated and to be made to feel no longer adequate or part of our U. City community!!! Granting this budget request will assure that this generation of older adults and many more generations of older adults going forward will have this service available to them!

Thank you for taking the time to listen to me and I hope you will reflect on what I have said when voting on this request to be included in the 2017-18 budget! This is not just for today but for decades to come!!

Sue Slater  
7543 Drexel