

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY HALL, Fifth Floor  
6801 Delmar Blvd.  
University City, Missouri 63130  
**March 26, 2018**  
**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, March 26, 2018, 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; (*Excused*)  
Councilmember Paulette Carr  
Councilmember Steven McMahon  
Councilmember Terry Crow  
Councilmember Michael Glickert  
Councilmember Bwayne Smotherson

Also in attendance were City Manager, Gregory Rose, James Torti and Karen Lenk of Schowalter & Jabouri, and City Attorney, John F. Mulligan, Jr.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Hearing no requests to amend the agenda, Councilmember Carr moved to approve the agenda as presented. It was seconded by Councilmember Glickert and the motion carried unanimously.

**D. PROCLAMATIONS**

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. March 12, 2018, Regular Session minutes were moved by Councilmember McMahon, it was second by Councilmember Carr and the motion carried unanimously.

Referencing Item F on the Agenda, Mayor Welsch stated in accordance with the City's plan to establish a Tax Increment and Financing Commission (TIF), related to the proposed development at I-170 & Olive Blvd., Councilmember Crow was offered an opportunity to provide her with names of individuals he would like appointed to the Commission. In addition, St. County provided the City with five names of their employees for consideration.

**F. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

1. Gerry Greiman, Susan Armstrong, Paulette Carr, and from St. Louis County Tom Curran, Glenn Powers, and Maggie Hart-Mahon are nominated to the TIF Commission; (*I-170 and Olive Blvd. development*) by Mayor Welsch, it was seconded by Councilmember Crow and the motion carried unanimously.

**G. SWEARING IN TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

1. Carol Jackson was sworn into the Arts and Letters Commission at tonight's meeting.
2. David Rowan was sworn into the Urban Forestry Commission at tonight's meeting.

**H. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (Total of 15 minutes allowed)**

**Deborah Henderson, 6124 Victoria Avenue, St. Louis, MO**

Ms. Henderson provided Council with an update on the Farmer's Market 2017 activities:

- EDRST Report; copies provided to Council
- 10 new participants, including Winslow's Home
- Numerous publicity, marketing, and people in the news
- Community partners, extending from local, county, state and federal Organizations
- A natural melting pot the U City Market is one of the most diverse and inclusive Markets in the State
- Continuation of the summer youth program under the administration of the U City Chamber of Commerce

**Leif Johnson, 836 Barkley Square, University City, MO**

Mr. Johnson stated although a number of people agreed with his comments regarding how the Mayor and her followers have asset-stripped the City, they did not understand why. So, this is his attempt to provide them with an answer. The Mayor's crucial actions were focused on one thing, passing a 25 million dollar bond issue. When that failed, former Councilmember Steven Kraft lamented "*This is the worst thing that ever happened to U City*". The Mayor is a follower of Edmund Burke who believed that the highest form of commerce is financial speculation. The Mayor gets no monetary rewards for what she does and is not personally corrupt in any ordinary sense of the word. She has, from her point of view, a higher purpose; an ideology, or worldview that commerce is the law of nature, and the law of nature is the law of God. The Mayor and her followers believe they are riding a great wave of history. They may suffer local defeats but they are marching in lockstep towards ultimate victory. Theirs is the triumph of will. So, let the good people of this City relish the victory they have wrought, cherish the lessons they have learned, and prepare for the next battles ahead.

**I. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**J. CONSENT AGENDA**

**K. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

1. FY17 Audit Presentation – Schowalter & Jabouri

City Manager Rose stated this year's audit was conducted by Schowalter & Jabouri and tonight, two of their accountants; James Torti and Karen Lenk will present the results for FY17.

## Presentation by James Torti

For the year ending June 30, 2017, management prepared a comprehensive Annual Financial Report which includes the City's financial statements.

### Overview

- ❖ Page 1 - Schowalter & Jabouri's report on the City's financial statements. In the opinion of Schowalter & Jabouri, the financial statements are fairly presented in all material respects and are in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.
- ❖ Page 17 - The Fund Financial Statements are prepared using a major fund concept. All major funds of the City are shown in separate columns. All other funds are grouped together and shown in a separate column. The governmental funds are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting and the proprietary funds are prepared on the full accrual basis of accounting.
- ❖ Page 14 - Government-wide financial statements. The statement of net position presents the financial position of the City as a whole and is prepared on the full accrual basis of accounting using the economic resources measurement focus; which means that all assets and all liabilities of the City are included.
- ❖ Page 16 - The Statement of Activities presents direct expenses and program revenue for each function of the City's activities. The net amount shows the extent to which each function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the City. This statement is also presented on the full accrual basis of accounting.

*Because of the differences in the basis of accounting used in the governmental fund statements and the government-wide statements there are reconciliations provided that reconcile the total fund balance of governmental funds to the total net position of governmental activities for the City, and the reconciliation of the net change in governmental fund balances to the change in net position of the governmental activities of the City.*

- ❖ Page 4 - The Finance Department's Discussion & Analysis provides an overview and analysis of the City's financial activities. Summary of results:
  - For the year ending June 30, 2017, the total net position of the City; total assets less total liabilities, was approximately 60.3 million dollars; a decrease of approximately 1.5 million dollars from the prior year. The unrestricted net position at year-end was approximately 6.9 million dollars.
  - For the year ending June 30, 2017, the City's governmental funds had a total fund balance of approximately 20.6 million dollars; a decrease of approximately \$488,000 from the prior year.
  - For the year ending June 30, 2017, the general fund balance was approximately 17 million dollars. *(It should be noted that since the City's financial statements are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting the fund balance does not equate to cash balance.)* Of this 17 million dollar fund balance approximately 6.7 million dollars is committed for specific purposes by the Council; including 6 million dollars for a police facility. While these funds have been committed, no cash funds have been set aside at this time. The committed designation is provided to ensure that Council will not use these funds for other purposes. The unassigned fund balance is approximately 9.3 million dollars.
  - For the year ending June 30, 2017, the City's business-type activities

accounted for in proprietary funds resulted in a total net position of approximately 3.7 million dollars; a decrease of approximately \$46,000 from the prior year. The unrestricted net position of the proprietary fund at year-end was approximately \$206,000.

- As noted in the financial statements, two funds are reporting deficit fund balances. To eliminate these deficits management has implemented the following plans: **The Park and Stormwater Sales Tax Fund**. All current projects have been placed on hold and future expenditures will be reduced until the deficit fund balance has been eliminated. Future expenditures will be closely monitored to prevent a deficit from occurring again in the future. **The Grants Fund**. Approximately \$283,000 remains to be transferred from other funds to eliminate this year-end deficit. Going forward, any matching portion from grants will be paid directly from the fund responsible for the match. Any advances made from other funds to pay grant costs prior to reimbursement will be formally documented and repaid to the advancing fund as soon as practical, based on the grant reimbursement payments.

### **Additional Reports & Suggestions**

- ❖ Schowalter & Jabouri issued a report on internal control-related matters and advisory comments with suggestions for strengthening internal control and operating efficiency.
  - One deficiency in internal control considered to be significant was identified.
  - In addition to the item required to be reported, Schowalter & Jabouri made additional suggestions for management and Council to consider.
- ❖ Report to the Honorable Mayor and City Council; a required communication by the auditor to those charged with governance after the audit. Attached to this report is a document summarizing the adjustments to the City's financial statements as a result of the audit.

Mr. Rose stated management still has some work to do with regards to reconciling the general fund, fleet, and grants accounts. Part of this reconciliation will require establishing a structured loan to provide working capital for the parking garage. Although the parking garage reflects a fund balance in excess of 1 million dollars, it does not have an actual cash balance.

### **2. Ackert Walkway ADA and Lighting Improvements – Engineering Services Contract Award**

Mr. Rose stated staff is recommending that Council consider the award of a contract to Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, for the not to exceed the amount of \$41,207.13. Improvements for Ackert Walkway include a 4-inch concrete sidewalk repair, upgrade lighting, detailed signage, pavement markings, and ADA compliant curb ramps. These improvements support the City's current ADA Transition Plan, as well as the Parkview Gardens Park Plan adopted in February of 2010.

Councilmember Carr moved to approve, it was seconded by Councilmember Glickert.

Councilmember Carr questioned whether these funds would be coming out of the CIP Fund since the Parks and Stormwater Fund has apparently been frozen?

Mr. Rose stated the funds being proposed comprise a mixture of grant funding, as well as the Parks and Stormwater Fund. Future projects; rather than projects like this one, which was already in progress, have been placed on hold. Councilmember Carr asked if, at some point, Council could get a clarification on which capital improvement projects have been placed on hold. Mr. Rose agreed to do so.

Voice vote on Councilmember Carr's motion carried unanimously.

### 3. Emergency Request to contract Pool Management Services for Summer 2018

Mr. Rose stated staff is recommending that Council award a contract to Midwest Pool Management in an amount not to exceed \$198,040, for summer pool management and the reimbursement of fees associated with obtaining Lifeguard Certifications for each lifeguard employed by the company.

Councilmember Carr moved to approve, it was seconded by Councilmember Smotherson.

Councilmember Glickert stated his understanding is that last summer both staff and Council agreed that the program administered by an outside company had been very poorly managed. Mr. Rose stated although it had been staff's intent to bring management of the pool back in-house, a recent resignation prevented that plan from coming to fruition. It is also the reason why this emergency request is being made tonight. Mr. Rose informed Councilmember Glickert that at this point in time, the City simply does not have the resources to provide high-level maintenance and management of the pool's summer program. Councilmember Glickert suggested that going forward, the pool's summer program be addressed in December.

Councilmember Crow noted that Mr. Rose had included a detailed explanation of this request in Council's packet. However, when a significant resignation like this one occurs it's a little unreasonable to hold the City Manager; who started on December 28th, responsible. So in his opinion, both staff and the City Manager are doing an excellent job of trying to resolve a situation that came up expectedly.

Councilmember Carr stated this issue had also been discussed in the Park Commission's meeting, and apparently, the City is using a different firm from the one utilized last year, with the hope that their delivery will be a little bit better. Obviously, no one can control unforeseen events, so Council's next step should be to move quickly on this matter.

Voice vote on Councilmember Carr's motion carried unanimously; with the exception of Councilmember Glickert.

## L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### *BILLS*

1. **BILL 9353-** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI FOR MULTIJURISDICTIONAL DRUG TASK FORCE SERVICES. Bill Number 9353 was read for the second and third time.

Councilmember Carr moved to approve, it was seconded by Councilmember Crow.

Roll Call Vote Was:

**Ayes:** Councilmember Carr, Councilmember McMahon, Councilmember Crow, Councilmember Glickert, Councilmember Smotherson, and Mayor Welsch.

**Nays:** None.

2. **BILL 9354** - AN ORDINANCE WITHDRAWING AN EASEMENT GRANT TO ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI AND REPEALING SECTION III OF ORDINANCE NO. 6420. Bill Number 9354 was read for the second and third time.

Councilmember Carr moved to approve, it was seconded by Councilmember Crow.

Roll Call Vote Was:

**Ayes:** Councilmember McMahon, Councilmember Crow, Councilmember Glickert, Councilmember Smotherson, Councilmember Carr, and Mayor Welsch.

**Nays:** None.

3. **BILL 9355** - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY FOR PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE RAMP AND BRIDGE SERVICES. Bill Number 9355 was read for the second and third time.

Councilmember Crow moved to approve, it was seconded by Councilmember Smotherson.

Councilmember Crow stated since Paragraph 6 rectifies the subject matter contained in Paragraph 7, he would make a motion to amend Bill Number 9355, by deleting Paragraph 7 and renumbering the remaining paragraphs. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Glickert.

Roll Call Vote Was:

**Ayes:** Councilmember Smotherson, Councilmember Carr, Councilmember McMahon, Councilmember Crow, Councilmember Glickert, and Mayor Welsch.

**Nays:** None.

Councilmember Carr posed the following questions:

**Q.** Does the language contained in what has now been designated as Paragraph 8, conform to the promises made for additional 24/7 security on the bridge?

City Attorney, John Mulligan stated if the question is how does Paragraph 8 compare to what was described during the January 2017 Study Session, his understanding is that Wash U's representation during that meeting was that their goal; not a commitment, was to provide security for the entire life of the agreement. However, what Paragraph 8 now states with respect to security services is that there will be a minimum of five years from the date of the agreement, as described in Exhibit D.

**Q.** This was supposed to be additional security, so do you know at what point Wash U., instituted this new condition?

Mr. Mulligan stated this item was mentioned during the contract negotiations which occurred in either April or May of 2017. At that time, one of the alternatives entailed Wash U making a contribution to the U City Police Department to provide an increased level of security for its residents. In response, Wash U expressed a desire to make no commitment for the life of the project, and instead, to only extend security services out to five-years.

Councilmember Carr made a motion to execute Section 2 of the Bill, which states, "*This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval by a majority of the qualified electors.*" The motion was seconded by Councilmember McMahan.

Councilmember McMahan stated the point for making a second to the motion is his belief that there needs to be a discussion on whether this Services Agreement could potentially constitute an issue with the City's Charter. Residents created that provision within the Charter, so it is important for them to know that Council has discussed this issue and given it careful consideration prior to the adoption of this Bill. He stated that initially Council started out looking at an easement, and that has now turned into something completely different. So, he would like Mr. Mulligan to express his thoughts about the work that went into the Services Agreement and why it does or does not need a vote.

Councilmember Carr stated in general, she thinks this is a good agreement. However, the City's request in Paragraph 6, to be indemnified against any prosecution by a third party claiming that this particular agreement violates the Charter, calls into question; one, whether the City is making the right process move? And two, whether this should go to a vote of the people or if there is some reason why it would not qualify for such a vote?

Mr. Mulligan stated his legal opinion is that this Services Agreement complies with the Charter, specifically, Section 98, which was a Charter amendment approved by the voters in April of 1990, which states; in pertinent part, that "*If there is a public park designated under the City's Ordinances;*" which Greenway South is, "*that park shall not be sold or otherwise disposed of, and shall remain unimproved or be used solely as a public park or recreational facility, unless the sale, disposal or change in use is approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon in an election called pursuant to an Ordinance adopted by the Council.*" As used in this section, "A public park or recreational facility includes without limitation, nature study areas, gardens, playgrounds, golf courses, and all areas accommodating activities customarily associated with park usage or outdoor recreation and the activities in the locations specifically designated in the Park Ordinance".

The first question; is the City changing the use? In 2003 an easement was granted by St. Louis County for construction of the existing bridge and ramp, which has now been in existence for more than a decade. Therefore, he does not believe that its use will be changed by the adoption of this Bill.

This is part of the Great Rivers Greenway District, known as the Centennial Greenway. The Great Rivers Greenway is a regional public agency created by a vote of the people in 2000, which included a sales tax to fund a network of greenways. In fact, State Statute 67.1706, specifically states that "*This District has as its duty, the development, operation, and maintenance of a public system of interconnecting trails and parks throughout the counties comprising the District.*"

Great Rivers Greenway links nine parks in the metropolitan area and the trail activities permitted on Centennial Greenway include biking, inline skating, and walking. In 2005, Council passed Resolution 09-1905, which declared Centennial Greenway as having a positive impact on the region as a whole, by promoting the recreational needs of U City residents, visitors, Wash U students, and faculty; many of whom live in U City. And on September 27, 2011, the Park Commission considered Centennial Greenway.

Mr. Mulligan stated the objective of this 7 million dollar investment for which the City has not been asked to contribute one penny, is to increase public safety. The current structure is not wide enough to safely accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians. Consequently, this project has been designed to double the width of the bridge, and elevate a portion of the passageway where pedestrians can walk and not have to worry about cyclists running into them. A number of additional safety features will also be added. However, only a small portion of the overpass and ramp will impact Greenway South. The vast majority will be in St. Louis County's right-of-way, known as Forest Park Parkway.

The next question is whether the City is disposing of this property? Paragraph 1 of the Services Agreement specifically states, that "*The University disclaims any ownership or other rights in or to the project and the project area.*" In other words, this is a License Agreement granting limited permission to construct and maintain the new bridge and ramp. The agreement commences and is automatically renewed for one-year terms unless either party provides notice of non-renewal on or before April 1st. Hence, if the City so desires, it has the right to terminate this agreement. So, under the terms of this agreement, there is no need to be concerned about this property being owned by Washington University.

Mr. Mulligan stated that the agreement had also been presented to a number of Boards and Commissions over the past two years. The Park Commission considered this agreement on June 2, 2016. The Green Practices Commission considered it on July 14, 2016. The Urban Forestry Commission considered it on July 13, 2016. Wash U conducted community outreach and presented this to Council in January of 2017. So there have been a lot of reviews conducted on the Greenway, and for all of these reasons he believes the agreement complies with the Charter and no vote is necessary.

Councilmember Carr asked if there was anything that precluded a vote by the electors? Mr. Mulligan stated if Council is inclined to call a Special Election, then it is within their jurisdiction to do so.

Councilmember Carr stated while she deeply appreciates Mr. Mulligan's explanation, there are two sections of the Charter that in her opinion are sacrosanct. The people of this City took the time to gather the necessary signatures to put these sections on the ballot for the sole purpose of ensuring that parkland not be transferred. So in the spirit of those actions, she would like to preserve the motion made at the beginning of this discussion.

Councilmember Smotherson asked Councilmember Carr for a clarification of her amendment to the Ordinance? Councilmember Carr stated Section 2 remains essentially as written. However, where It states, "*after its passage it goes into full force,*" she added the following language to ensure conformity with Section 98 of the Charter; "*and approval by a majority of the qualified electors*".

Councilmember Crow stated one consideration that should remain at the forefront of this discussion, is the fact that this walkway has been far more successful than anyone ever anticipated. As a former resident of Ames Place, he gets the concerns associated with traffic, but by the same token, also appreciates Mr. Mulligan's detailed explanation regarding how this agreement has been well-vetted by multiple Boards and Commissions and its compliance with the Charter. He stated while there should be no doubt about his respect for his colleague in the 2nd Ward, he has seen no evidence that would lead him to believe that the citizens who gathered signatures for those petitions have taken the time to express any apprehensions about this project. In fact, other than the agent representatives from adjacent neighborhoods, Council has been met with total silence. So, based on this level of calm; the detailed legal opinion proffered by Mr. Mulligan, and Council's exhaustive discussions on this matter, he would ask that Council move forward without spending \$40,000 on a Special Election to exercise a public vote.

Mayor Welsch stated in her opinion, Mr. Mulligan presented a sound explanation. And as she has shared on numerous occasions, her belief is that this new design will open up more of Greenway South by removing this very large and unsightly overpass which covers almost 60 feet of walkway. Therefore, she would concur with Councilmember Crow's suggestion that Council moves forward without a public vote.

Councilmember Carr reiterated her conviction that even though she thinks this is a good agreement, her stance is based on the process of making certain there is a degree of transparency; that up to this point, has not occurred.

Roll Call Vote on Councilmember Carr's motion for a public vote was:

**Ayes:** Councilmember Carr.

**Nays:** Councilmember McMahon, Councilmember Crow, Councilmember Glickert, Councilmember Smotherson, and Mayor Welsch.

Roll Call Vote to adopt Bill 9355, as amended, was:

**Ayes:** Councilmember Glickert, Councilmember Smotherson, Councilmember Carr, Councilmember McMahon, Councilmember Crow, and Mayor Welsch.

**Nays:** None.

## **M. NEW BUSINESS**

### *RESOLUTIONS*

*Introduced by Councilmember Glickert*

- 1. Resolution 2018-4** – A Resolution urging Missouri State Legislators to adopt laws to prevent gun violence and promote safe schools. It was seconded by Councilmember Crow.

Mayor Welsch noted that this Resolution was presented by Councilmember Jennings who could not be in attendance at tonight's meeting and asked that his statement be read into the record:

*"Please forgive my absence as I promised to be the moderator for the last School Board Candidate Forum and tonight was the only night that worked for all parties involved. I wanted to ask my colleagues to support Resolution 2018-4, urging our state legislators to adopt laws to prevent gun violence. As the mass shootings increase and become even more frequent in our schools, we will eventually resolve that the existing laws are just not protecting citizens in Missouri and in the United States of America.*

*U City has an opportunity again to be a leader in reform, progress, and common sense.*

*We are not here to debate the Second Amendment which was written in the 1700(s), before the proliferation of high-output, high-capacity assault weapons, and magazines that accompany them with the sole purpose of inflicting maximum casualties. We are not here to distinguish between the daily inner-city gun violence murders, as opposed to the less frequent suburban school mass shootings. We are here to support and stand with the City and School District of Parkland, Florida, Broward County, in that we are charged as elected officials with the safety of students and residents of our respective states. We are strongly advising our state elected officials that the status-quo on gun legislation is no longer good enough and cannot stand without updating to new, sensible, modern-day responsible gun laws.*

*Change is coming. Will it take more violence, more shootings, more deaths, for us to look at how we can better protect our citizens much like we did in response to the 911 attacks on America? We changed our entire way of life when we lost over 3,000 citizens in just one day. I hope and pray that we stand united in the support of Resolution 2018-4."*

Councilmember Smotherson stated he had several concerns, one of which involves the generic nature of the Resolution which literally seems to open the door to a number of interpretations. For example, the statement which reads, "*Concern requiring minimum levels of security in all public or state chartered schools and providing appropriate funding,*" could be interpreted to mean arming teachers, which is something he does not agree with. His second concern involves the timing of this Resolution. Councilmember Smotherson stated he would like to see something more specific to U City based off of the feedback and perspective of this community's residents and School District.

Councilmember Crow stated he had the privilege of participating in the march led by a wonderful group of young adults, who did a phenomenal job of getting 15,000 people out on a cold and rainy Saturday. But with respect to timing, the purpose is twofold; one, the Parkland shootings, and two, the pending deadline for this year's legislative session. He stated even though he does not have the greatest amount of faith in this current legislative body, and citizen's input is always warranted, what Councilmember Jennings is trying to do is simply send a message about the need to have a sane conversation that results in taking some forward steps. Councilmember Crow stated he strongly believes that it is important for Council to take a stand for the children and families of this community by submitting this Resolution to elected officials prior to their adjournment.

Councilmember Carr stated this is a Resolution, not an Ordinance, which means that it is not binding. As such, her belief is that it is appropriately non-specific; giving legislators a broader range to work through, as opposed to a more detailed document that can be quickly rejected. This is simply saying that this Council wants its state legislators to pay attention to the issue; that it is unconscionable under any circumstances to not pay attention to what is happening around them and to implement the kinds of resolutions that have been talked about for years and years.

Councilmember Carr stated in this instance, her inclination is to stand with all of the young people who've marched throughout the country; all the people whose lives have been taken, and all the parents, brothers, and sisters, who could do nothing but watch while these acts of violence impacted their lives.

Councilmember Smotherson stated while he supports the concept of making a statement to legislators and understands the comments made by his colleagues; he still believes that part of this problem is our failure to tell them exactly what we think. That said, he is willing to move forward.

Councilmember Carr asked Councilmember Smotherson if he would be amenable to work on developing a more detailed statement going forward? Councilmember Smotherson stated that he would be.

Voice vote on Councilmember Glickert's motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Welsch stated she wished to thank Mayor Harold Sanger for providing her with a copy of the Resolution passed by his Board of Alderman to use as a guide. The Mayor asked Mr. Rose to send a copy of this Resolution to all state representatives, along with a letter asking them for their consideration and conclusions.

*Introduced by Councilmember McMahon*

- 2. Resolution 2018-5** – Budget Amendment #3 – FY18. It was seconded by Councilmember Carr.

#### Citizen's Comments

##### **Mary Adams, 7700 Olive Blvd., University City, MO**

Ms. Adams, Executive Director of the U City Chamber of Commerce stated the Chamber is asking that Council approve the unanimous recommendation of the EDRST Board for a budget amendment designating \$5,000 in surplus FY18 EDRST funds for administration of the U City Youth Summer Jobs Program. Since 2014, both the City and School District have partnered to share the reimbursement costs to U City businesses that employ U City High School students for up to 18 hours during eight weeks of the summer. Subsequently, this request is fully aligned with the recommended and approved use of EDRST funds, as well as and the Chamber's organizational mission. Ms. Adams stated the previous volunteer who administered the program is no longer able to do so, and as always, the Chamber is happy to step up wherever it can, to provide programs and services that support economic development in the community.

Over the past four years this program has provided summer jobs to 88 U City high school students, and of those, 42% have retained their jobs after the program. One example of this success can be found in the School District's recently published article in the *U City Pride* magazine, about a graduate of the summer jobs program who retained her job at Walgreen's through college and was recently promoted to a Lab Technician.

#### Council's Comments

Mayor Welsch read the following letter from Councilmember Jennings into the record:

*"Young people really don't care how much we know, but want to know that we care. It has been the experience in U City that we cared enough about our youth that we created a youth employment program. It was a success, as our youth learned about the world of work, stayed out of trouble, and benefitted businesses throughout U City as valuable employees.*

*My daughter was an employee at the Walgreens in U City and was retained after she graduated from high school by this national chain. She can work for them again anywhere in the country should she choose to or need to do so. I would like to encourage my colleagues and the City Manager to please fund the Summer Youth Employment Program at the same or increased level.*

*It has proven itself to be a good return on the investment.*

*One of the biggest problems we have regarding young people of color is that we have very few activities for them. This is why many find their way into mischief, at best, and trouble, at worst. Let's continue to show our commitment to U City young people by maintaining our partnership with the U City School District. I ask that we provide \$5,000 or more to the program as we have in the past".*

Councilmember Smotherson asked Mr. Rose if this Resolution was designed to only address FY18? Mr. Rose stated this item asks Council to approve \$2,500 as a portion of the coordination cost needed for FY18. He stated although the original request was for \$5,000, he had reached out and received support from the School Board who agreed to split the cost of administering the program.

Councilmember Carr stated based on some of the budgetary problems facing the City, she would like to thank Mr. Rose for his initiative, and the School Board, for their willingness to financially support this program.

Voice vote on Councilmember McMahon's motion carried unanimously.

## **BILLS**

*Introduced by Councilmember Glickert*

- 3. BILL 9356**—AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE COMPENSATION TO BE PAID TO CITY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES AS ENUMERATED HEREIN FROM AND AFTER ITS PASSAGE, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO 7044. Bill Number 9356 was read for the first time.

*Introduced by Councilmember Smotherson*

- 4. BILL 9357** - AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A RIGHTS-OF-WAY USE AGREEMENT AND SETTLEMENT WITH MCIMETRO ACCESS TRANSMISSION SERVICES CORPORATION. Bill Number 9357 was read for the first time.

*Introduced by Councilmember Carr*

- 5. BILL 9358** - AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A RIGHTS-OF-WAY USE AGREEMENT AND SETTLEMENT WITH XO COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, LLC. Bill Number 9358 was read for the first time.

## **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 McMahon stated the CALOP Commission asked him to report their unanimous approval of roughly \$9,000 in funding for computers and software to support the video classes that will be held at the library this summer. The program consists of three classes, five days a week that will be offered to twelve participants.

Mayor Welsch advised everyone that the EDRST Board would be meeting on Thursday to vote on recommendations for next year.

Relative to what has previously been discussed; Mayor Welsch stated the Board will also be seeking funding for next year's Youth Summer Jobs Program, which fits into the mandated use of training, for disbursement of EDRST funds.

3. Boards, Commissions, and Task Force minutes
4. Other Discussions/Business

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

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

Mr. Hales expressed his appreciation for the Mayor's graciousness in conceding her appointments for the TIF Commission to Councilmember Crow and hopes that Councilmember Glickert would consider extending that same courtesy to his successor. He stated while he would also like to thank Council for the discussion and questions raised regarding outsourcing of the pool and the Services Agreement, he is saddened by the fact that these issues received far greater attention than outsourcing of the City's ambulance service. But at the end of the day, it is a very welcomed change.

**Greg Pace, 7171 Westmoreland, University City, MO**

Mr. Pace stated he remembers the first year of the Youth Summer Employment Program when he had been informed that this program would be open to all teenagers who resided in U City. When in reality, the high school set up a table and filled all of the jobs. And through the work of Councilmember Carr, it was later determined that one of the participants didn't even live in U City. Mr. Pace stated based on the conversations that have taken place tonight, it appears as though this professed open invitation to all youth, still does not exist.

**P. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Carr stated some time ago, she and Councilmember Smotherson met with Drs. Hardin-Bartley and Brenner from the School District about the establishment of a venue to garner student participation in City government. Dr. Brenner, with the assistance of Mr. Rose, have come up with some excellent ideas, and together, they will be working on a plan to facilitate the engagement of all teens in U City.

Councilmember Carr stated while the Mayor's last newsletter raised insulations about Ms. Rosalyn Williams she thinks are unfounded, one of the principal misstatements was that Ms. Williams initiated and presented the Olive/1-70 development to the City. The truth is, it was she and Councilmember Smotherson who pursued this development and brought it to the attention of the Interim City Manager, Ms. Riganti, and Councilmember McMahan, so there is no conflict of interest on the part of Ms. Williams. Councilmember Carr thanked Mayor Welsch and Councilmember Crow for their appointments to the TIF Commission and stated she looks forward to all of the upcoming developments.

Councilmember Smotherson addressed his comments to the City Manager and requested that Council have an opportunity to address the EDRST Board's FY19 request for funding to administer the Summer Jobs Program, and that at the next meeting, he provides an explanation for why there is only 6 million dollars set aside for the police facility, rather than the 7 million dollars originally allocated.

Councilmember Crow informed everyone that the League of Women Voters will be conducting a Ward 2 Candidate Forum at the library on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Councilmember Crow thanked the Mayor for allowing him to make appointments to the TIF Commission and expressed appreciation to Mr. Hales, for his comments regarding tonight's discussions.

He stated on Saturday night he had the pleasure of attending the Urban League's Centennial celebration where the keynote speaker was Viola Davis. Incorporated in her message of empowerment was a comment about the need to take advantage of our ability to create opportunities for others. Rather than thinking about our lives as a sprint, it should be viewed as a relay race, where we find comfort in handing off the baton to the next person in line. Separate conversations conducted outside of Council's chamber are a little bit uncomfortable and cause him a great deal of concern, especially when aspersions are being cast on citizens and employees of U City. And with respect to the changes occurring at City Hall, the Mayor's comment in her last newsletter that *"If you're not concerned, you should be concerned,"* in his opinion, was an unfair swipe that lacks integrity and misstates history. The Mayor's exhaustive litany of employees who no longer work for U City opened up a can of worms that appears to cast doubt on the new City Manager. Everyone on this dais knows what happened with Chief Adam Long. And as Councilmember Carr noted; does it strike anyone as odd that the biggest development that has come to U City was orchestrated by two members of Council rather than Ms. Riganti's department? Ray Lay found the career opportunity he has always wanted. And finally, with respect to City Attorney, Katie Forster, it's abundantly clear that the current City Attorney presents himself in a professional, non-political manner, and serves with the utmost confidence of this Council. So, the Mayor's comment, *"If you do not find this worrisome I would respectfully suggest that you should,"* is simply her attempt to create concern in the public's mind where none exists.

Councilmember Crow provided a brief background of the City's history with respect to past employees who left within months of a change in government; exactly like the people underlined in the Mayor's newsletter. Councilmember Crow stated this is simply a change in government; period. It's what the people voted for in the last election and not one person has come up to him and said they are surprised or even concerned about the changes that have been made at City Hall. So his hope is that in the remaining weeks there will be no more aspersions cast on the City Manager and that every member of this Council can find comfort in handing off the baton with a level of integrity appropriate for this community.

Councilmember McMahon stated the EDRST Board's system of recommendations and unanimous decisions is somewhat troubling in that it can be viewed as being somewhat antagonistic. So one of the things he thinks Council may need to reflect on is how the process is set out in the Ordinance. Section 125.40, talks about *"The Board; subject to approval of City Council, shall consider the development plans"*. And further on in that same section, it states, *"Then they will present them to Council for a vote, or a change, or amendments to the plans they have adopted"*. So it appears to have been established as a two-step process. Plans are first reviewed by Council and sent to the Board, who then comes back to Council with their recommended development plans. Councilmember McMahon stated in his mind, this two-step process creates an atmosphere of working together on the overarching policy decision important to U City; economic development. It not only allows both entities to target the City's future visions, it also provides a system of checks and balances.

Because if the Mayor holds the appointments to the EDRST Board, and works with these members to create the plans presented to Council, you've basically excluded the six people who should be talking about these policy decisions and leading the charge, rather than following along behind. So going forward he thinks this is something Council really needs to talk about.

Addressing the Mayor's newsletter, Councilmember McMahon stated at some point, the focus really needs to move away from what about you, because that means you're looking backward and this City and its Council aren't looking backward anymore.

Councilmember Glickert congratulated the Chamber of Commerce on their wildly successful Taste of U City event. He stated they had more volunteers, participants, attendees, and give-a-ways than ever before, and was a wonderful reflection of U City. Councilmember Glickert stated he is also happy to report that the Recreation Department now has close to 70 kids who will be participating in their summer baseball program.

Mayor Welsch stated what she had failed to mention in her liaison report, was the EDRST Board's desire to meet with Council and the City Manager, sometime in the near future. She stated while Councilmember McMahon's recitation of the Ordinance is correct, the process now being employed by the EDRST of considering the applications before them and making a recommendation to Council, was established at the time of the Board's formation in 2007. Members of this Board are hopeful that everything can be clarified at the time of their meetings with City government.

- 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.

Councilmember Smotherson moved to go into a Closed Session, it was seconded by Councilmember Glickert.

Roll Call Vote Was:

**Ayes:** Councilmember Carr, Councilmember McMahon, Councilmember Crow, Councilmember Glickert, Councilmember Smotherson, and Mayor Welsch.

**Nays:** None.

**R. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Welsch closed the regular City Council meeting at 8:07 p.m. to go into a Closed Session on the second floor. The Closed Session reconvened in an open session at 9:16 p.m.

LaRette Reese  
City Clerk

Ms. Reese,

Please push my re appointments back to the next agenda.

I would like the following statement read at tonight's council meeting by the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem:

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Please forgive my absence as I promised to be the moderator for the last School Board Candidate Forum and tonight was the only night that worked for all parties involved. I wanted to ask my colleagues to support Resolution 2018-4 urging our State Legislators to adopt laws to prevent gun violence. As the mass shootings increase and become even the more frequent in our schools, we will eventually resolve that the existing laws just are not protecting citizens in Missouri and in The United States of America. University City has an opportunity again to be leader in reform, progress and common sense. We are not here to debate the 2nd Amendment which was written in the 1700's before the proliferation of high output, high capacity assault weapons and magazines that accompany them with the sole purpose to inflict maximum casualties. We are not here to distinguish between the daily inner city gun violence murders as opposed to the less frequent suburban school mass shooting murders. We are here to support and stand with the City and School District of Parkland Florida, Broward County, in that we are charged as elected officials with the safety of students and residents of our respective states. We are strongly advising our State elected officials that the status quo on gun legislation is no longer good enough and cannot stand without updating to new sensible modern day responsible gun laws.

Change is coming. Will it take more more violence, more shootings, more deaths for us to look at how we can better protect our citizens, much like we did in response to the 911 attacks on America. We changed our entire way of life when we lost over 3000 citizens in just one day.

I hope and pray that we stand united in the support of Resolution 2014-4.

Respectfully Yours,

Rod Jennings

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During Council Comments or at the appropriate time, please read the following regarding funding the Summer Youth Jobs Program:

To my esteemed colleagues,

Young people really dont care how much we know, but want to know that we care. It has been the experience in UCity that we cared enough about our youth that we created a youth employment program. It was success as our youth learned about the world of work, stayed out of trouble and benefited businesses throughout University City as valuable employees. My daughter was an employee at the Walgreens in UCity and was retained after she graduated from high school by this national chain. She can work for them again anywhere in the country should she choose or need to.

I would like to urge my colleagues and the city manager to please fund the Summer Youth Employment Program at the same or increased level. It has proven itself a good return on the investment. One of the biggest problems we have regarding young people of color, is that we have very few activities for them. This why many find their way into mischief at best and trouble at worst. Lets continue to show our commitment to University City young people by maintaining our partnership with the University City School District. I ask that we provide \$5000.00 our more to the program, as we have in the past.

Respectfully Yours,  
Rod Jennings  
3rd Ward Councilman, University City

3rd Ward Councilman  
University City, Missouri

Rod Jennings  
[rjmiracle007@gmail.com](mailto:rjmiracle007@gmail.com)  
314-480-2221

City Council Testimony, March 26, 2018  
Leif Johnson; 836 Barkley Square  
725-5429; [suz836@hotmail.com](mailto:suz836@hotmail.com)

Madame Mayor, members of the Council

A number of people have agreed that the Mayor and her followers have asset-stripped U. City, but they ask, "Why? What does she get out of it?" I hope to answer that question.

The Mayor's crucial actions, including reducing employees and their benefits, misappropriating funds to claim a balanced budget, and bringing the City's bond rating up to AA+, were focused on one thing: passing a \$25 million bond issue. When that failed, former Councilman Steven Kraft lamented, "This is the worst thing that ever happened to U. City."

The Mayor is a follower of Edmund Burke, who once said, "Commerce is the law of Nature and the law of Nature is the law of God". For Burke, the highest form of "commerce" is financial speculation. During the 1772 famine in England, Burke eliminated government food handouts to the poor while eliminating usury laws which gave speculators a "free market" to gouge as much as they could.

You may remember that the 2008 financial collapse occurred when the supply of new mortgages ran out. A financial bubble must be fed with new debt—in ever-increasing amounts as the bubble gets larger. This explains President Trump's **simultaneous** massive tax reductions and massive spending increases, which added hundreds of billions to the Federal deficit. High grade municipal, county, and state debt is almost as good as Federal debt. Local and state politicians across the nation are demanding tax reductions and budget cuts in people services. Tax reductions increase debt, while budget cuts guarantees debt repayment.

The Mayor gets no monetary rewards for what she does. She is not personally corrupt in any ordinary sense of the word. She has, from her point of view, a "higher purpose." She has an ideology, a cause, a world view. She believes that, "Commerce is the law of Nature and the law of Nature is the law of God." And the highest form of commerce is speculative finance: the "bubble."

The Mayor and her ilk believe they are riding a great wave of history. Cities around the country, state after state, and now the presidency, are in their control. They may suffer local defeats, but they march lock-step towards ultimate victory. Theirs is the "Triumph of Will"

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Let the good people of this City relish the victory they have wrought, cherish the lessons they have learned, and prepare for the next battles. For those of you who now think you can return to spoiling grandchildren and weeding gardens, such things will get old quickly. For those of you who are honestly concerned about your grandchildren, there are many battles ahead ....beginning now.