

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL, Fifth Floor
6801 Delmar Blvd.
University City, Missouri 63130
Monday, July 8, 2019
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, July 8, 2019, Mayor Terry Crow 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 Stacy Clay
Councilmember Paulette Carr
Councilmember Steven McMahon
Councilmember Jeffrey Hales
Councilmember Tim Cusick
Councilmember Bwayne Smotherson; (*Excused*)

Also in attendance were City Manager, Gregory Rose, and City Attorney, John F. Mulligan, Jr.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Cusick moved to approve the agenda as presented, it was seconded by Councilmember Carr and the motion carried unanimously.

D. PROCLAMATIONS

1. Parks and Recreation Month - A Proclamation designating July as Parks and Recreation Month in the City of U City.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. June 10, 2019, Regular Session Minutes were moved by Councilmember Carr, it was seconded by Councilmember Cusick and the motion carried unanimously.
2. June 17, 2019, Study Session Minutes (FY20 Annual Operating Budget and CIP), were moved by Councilmember Carr, it was seconded by Councilmember Hales and the motion carried unanimously.
3. June 24, 2019, Joint Study Session Minutes (Plan Commission), were moved by Councilmember Carr, it was seconded by Councilmember Cusick and the motion carried unanimously.
4. June 24, 2019, Regular Session Minutes were moved by Councilmember Carr, it was seconded by Councilmember Cusick and the motion carried unanimously.

F. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

1. The University City School Board appointed Matt Bellows to the Economic Development Retails Sales Tax Board replacing Kristine Hendrix effective July 2019.

G. SWEARING IN TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

1. Tony Westbrooks was sworn into the Board of Trustees Fund on July 3rd in the Clerk's office.
2. Edward Deitzler was sworn into the Board of Trustees Fund on July 3rd in the Clerk's office.

H. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (Total of 15 minutes allowed)

Donna McGhee, 7584 Melrose, University City, MO

Ms. McGhee stated in spite of the fact that employees of the Forestry and Street Department have done a great job in their attempts to assist her with this problem, the tree is still growing and so are her issues with its encroachment on her property. Branches are protruding past her property line; the roots are pushing through the recently laid asphalt near the base of her driveway causing her to park on the street, and there is a constant need to clean up all the debris. The bottom line is that this Sycamore tree was planted in the wrong place because they need an open area to grow. Ms. McGhee stated she has gone full circle trying to resolve this problem, appearing at the Park Commission and Council meetings on numerous occasions. Nonetheless, she will continue to do so until someone honors her simple request to have the tree removed and possibly replaced with a smaller variety.

Jerrold Tiers, 7345 Chamberlain, University City, MO

Mr. Tiers stated his neighbors hired a contractor to replace their deck using the same footprint, but it took him one whole day to get a permit before he could even start the work. These unnecessary delays over simple, routine replacements are the type of issues that cause contractors to dislike and even refuse to accept work in U City. And he is at a loss to understand why things that are routine in other municipalities are a problem in U City? Mr. Tiers stated he certainly hopes this sort of problem with approvals and the need to take prompt action will not occur with the City's new partner, NOVUS, who will be managing a much larger project with complex plans. U City is going to have to step up and expedite its processes in order to establish a more competent and professional operation.

Aren Ginsberg, 430 West Point Court, University City, MO

Ms. Ginsberg stated with all of the discussions about the Dog Park, U City's Trap, Neuter, Return members wanted to keep everyone updated about BARC's low-cost neuter, vaccination, and de-worming opportunities. With proof of low-income, anyone can utilize this service for \$15.00 per cat and \$25.00 per dog, by calling to schedule an appointment at (314) 771-7387. TNR has also been sharing an article about trap, neuter, return, Working Cats, which provides rodent control for communities. According to Manatee Animal Control Service, *"If you have a problem with vermin, rats or mice, this is an ideal solution"*. Ms. Ginsberg stated in the past two weeks, TNR Volunteers working in the 3rd Ward have trapped, neutered, vaccinated and returned eight adult cats and sent four kittens to rescue.

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

J. CONSENT AGENDA – Vote Required

1. Annual Renewal City of Chesterfield (St. Louis APWA Cooperative) – Road Salt and Delivery Purchase.

2. An Agreement to Terminate the Dog Play Area Improvement and Maintenance Agreement with U. City People for Dogs, Inc. ("People for Dogs")
3. Facilities Manager and Project Manager – Utility Construction Positions - Revision

Citizen's Comments

Damien Ford, 7162 Vernon Avenue, University City, MO

Mr. Ford stated he is a professionally trained dog sitter for a company called Fur Real Fun, who requires its employees to be certified in pet first aid, pet sociology, and the ability to deal with large groups of animals. He stated while he is in favor of the City taking over the Dog Park, he had expressed some of his company's concerns to the Park Director, as well as his desire to be included in future discussions regarding the type of rules that need to be established and the enforcement of those rules. Because self-policing is something they would like to see continued. Mr. Ford stated his hope is that as the City moves forward with this venture it will provide the public with information on a timely basis in order to promote community interaction and engagement.

Morgan Matz, 7248 Amherst, University City, MO

Ms. Matz concurred with Damien's comments regarding the need to allow public engagement prior to the City making any changes in policies or procedures to the Dog Park.

Susan Bourey, 7245 Princeton, University City, MO

Ms. Bourey stated she has been going to the Dog Park three or four times a week since January and often sees the dog walkers there who take very good care of their dogs. In fact, she tries to go at the same time they are there because her dogs enjoy playing with their dogs. And the only time she has ever experienced any issues was with individual dog owners. Ms. Bourey stated she had no idea People for Dogs wanted to pass this on to the City, but either way, she would like to get involved as a volunteer because she wants the park to continue. In her opinion, it's much better for the City to provide a place for active dogs to run and play, but the main reason she wants to see it continue is that everyone who goes there loves it.

Bryce Kehoe, 6552 Corbitt, University City, MO

Mr. Kehoe stated the City has been beating on this issue about the Dog Park for over a year now, so he was surprised to learn that it was still a topic of discussion. Obviously, the City has more resources to maintain the park than an individual organization, so in his mind, this would be a good transition for everyone who utilizes this area. The City has also been beating on this thing about chickens for a long time and since it's something he would like to do, he thinks it's time to get this issue resolved as well.

Councilmember Hales moved to approve all three items on the Consent Agenda; it was seconded by Councilmember Clay.

Councilmember Clay stated he wanted to acknowledge the position of Project Manager, which includes oversight of the construction being conducted in the City by its utility partners. This is an issue that both he and Councilmember Smotherson have brought up on several occasions, so he is looking forward to seeing how the Project Manager progresses with managing these entities.

Voice vote on the motion to approve carried unanimously.

K. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1. BILL 9387** – 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 7098. Bill Number 9387 was read for the second and third time.

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

Roll Call Vote Was:

Ayes: Councilmember Carr, Councilmember McMahon, Councilmember Hales, Councilmember Cusick, Councilmember Clay, and Mayor Crow.

Nays: None.

- 2. BILL 9388** - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 510.060 AND 510.080 OF THE UNIVERSITY CITY MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND TAX ABATEMENT OR EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 353 OF THE REVISED STATUTES OF MISSOURI. Bill Number 9388 was read for the second and third time.

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

Roll Call Vote Was:

Ayes: Councilmember McMahon, Councilmember Hales, Councilmember Cusick, Councilmember Clay, Councilmember Carr, and Mayor Crow.

Nays: None.

- 3. BILL 9389** - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 210, ARTICLE I (ANIMALS GENERALLY) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY CITY, BY AMENDING SECTION 210.030 THEREOF, RELATING TO CHICKENS; CONTAINING A SAVINGS CLAUSE AND PROVIDING A PENALTY. Bill Number 9389 was read for the second and third time.

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

Citizen's Comments

Kathy Straatmann, 6855 Plymouth Avenue, University City, MO

Ms. Straatmann stated in the country, cats lived in the barn to keep the mice and rat population under control; dogs borrough a hole under one of the out-buildings and lived on squirrels, rabbits, and table scraps, and chickens lived in a coup where you would often find snakes. E - 1 - 4

Councilmember Smotherson informed her that this Resolution is probably going to pass, so it's something she's going to have to live with. But when country girls move to the city they don't pack up their chickens and bring them with them because it's not the kind of animal they are going to miss. Ms. Straatmann stated there was a young woman who spoke at the last meeting asking for fewer restrictions on chicken owners, however, she would like to see some type of restrictions and monitoring because chicken coups can get pretty gross.

Roll Call Vote Was:

Ayes: Councilmember Hales, Councilmember Cusick, Councilmember Clay, Councilmember Carr, Councilmember McMahon, and Mayor Crow.

Nays: None.

4. **BILL 9390** - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 115.270 OF THE UNIVERSITY CITY MUNICIPAL CODE, RELATING TO PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES DESIGNATED, BY DESIGNATING THE DOG PLAY AREA AS A PARK. Bill Number 9390 was read for the second and third time.

Councilmember Cusick moved to approve, it was seconded by Councilmember McMahon.

Roll Call Vote Was:

Ayes: Councilmember Cusick, Councilmember Clay, Councilmember Carr, Councilmember McMahon, Councilmember Hales, and Mayor Crow.

Nays: None.

M. **NEW BUSINESS** *RESOLUTIONS*

Introduced by Councilmember Carr

1. **Resolution 2019-10** - Establishes ambulance billing procedures and fees when service is provided by the University City Fire and EMS. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hales.

Mr. Mulligan stated this Resolution executes and administers an existing policy passed by City Council several years ago, which decrees that any person using the City's in-house ambulance service shall be charged one or more fees for the use as may be established from time-to-time. The City has not had an occasion to impose these fees due to its contract with an outside provider; which is still in effect. But with the impending transition to an in-house service the Fire Department has requested that Council establish the same fees currently being utilized by one of its neighboring jurisdictions; namely, the City of Ladue. However, should staff determine that this rate is not in line with the City's actual costs, the Resolution specifically states that Council may adjust these fees after it has had the opportunity to consider the actual cost of services. So moving forward, Council could be presented with additional recommendations to address some of the changes that might be needed.

Mayor Crow noted that the Resolution had one typographical error on page 1, and requested that "*disposals*," be amended to read "*disposables*".

Voice vote on the motion to approve the Resolution carried unanimously.

BILLS

N. COUNCIL REPORTS/BUSINESS

1. Boards and Commission appointments needed
2. Council liaison reports on Boards and Commissions
3. Boards, Commissions, and Task Force minutes
4. Other Discussions/Business

O. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (continued if needed)

P. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Clay stated based on his belief that there are far weightier things Council is wrestling with; he really does not see Bill Number 9389 as a particularly significant movement either way; because irrespective of the price point the fee reduction from \$50.00 to \$25.00 will not cause the City to realize a significant generation of revenue. Nevertheless, he would like to highlight one point he thinks Council should give some consideration to, and that is the signaling associated with this reduction. While this is a voluntary action, the City has established fees for several of its amenities which are not optional and can be challenging for some residents; refuse service, sewer lateral programs, et cetera. So, in his mind, to institute a fee reduction on something that is an option is a little concerning.

Councilmember McMahon stated if you go back to when the Ordinance was first passed there were only five permits in the entire City. But when you coupled that with the fees being charged overtime for multiple inspections, what could reasonably be determined is that the number of people who owned chickens equaled more than five and that many of those owners were not applying for permits. In essence, while the Ordinance permitted folks to own chickens, the fee was created as a deterrent to stop people from owning them. In fact, there is a statement in the minutes of that meeting which basically says, *"We're going to have them, but we are going to do it in a way that says we are not going to have them."* He stated, as a result, it became pretty obvious that members of this Council were trying to appease both sides by saying one thing and doing another. However, this Council's philosophy is either we are going to have chickens, or we're not going to have them. And if we are going to allow them, then it only made sense to impose a reasonable fee and inspection schedule. So to the folks who presented him with their concerns about the need to address this issue; the wheels may turn slowly, but Council has finally got it done.

Mayor Crow made the following announcements:

- City Council is on its summer schedule and will be conducting only one meeting in the months of July and August. The next Council meeting will be held on August 12th.
- The Economic Development Retail Sales Tax Board will meet tomorrow at 6 p.m. on the 5th floor of City Hall.
- On August 6th, the Police Department and the Neighborhood Watch Focus Group are partnering with the School District to conduct a rally at the McNair Administrative Building in celebration of National Night Out against crime. Donations can be made by contacting Captain Dana Morley.

- 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 Cusick moved to go into a Closed Session; it was seconded by Councilmember Carr.

Roll Call Vote Was:

Ayes: Councilmember Hales, Councilmember Cusick, Councilmember Clay, Councilmember Carr, Councilmember McMahon, and Mayor Crow.

Nays: None.

R. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Crow closed the regular City Council meeting at 7:08 p.m. to go into a Closed Session on the second floor. The Closed Session was reconvened in an open session and adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

LaRette Reese
City Clerk



Brought to you through
the generosity of:



Barcstl.org
Ameren.com/Missouri
CarolHousePetClinic.org

Patriotic Paws – JULY 2019

BARC's \$15 Cat Fix!

Low-Income Missouri/Illinois Residents **FIX YOUR CAT FOR \$15**

if you can show proof of low income.

\$15 Special Includes:

- Cat Spay or Neuter
- Free Rabies & Distemper Vaccinations
- Free Dewormer

*Spay/neuter required to be in July 2019 to qualify for free vaccinations. Not valid for previously fixed cats. Rabies vaccination only given to cats 4+ months of age at time of spay/neuter. Cannot be used in the future.

Over \$100 Value!
Limited to 100 cats, so don't delay!!

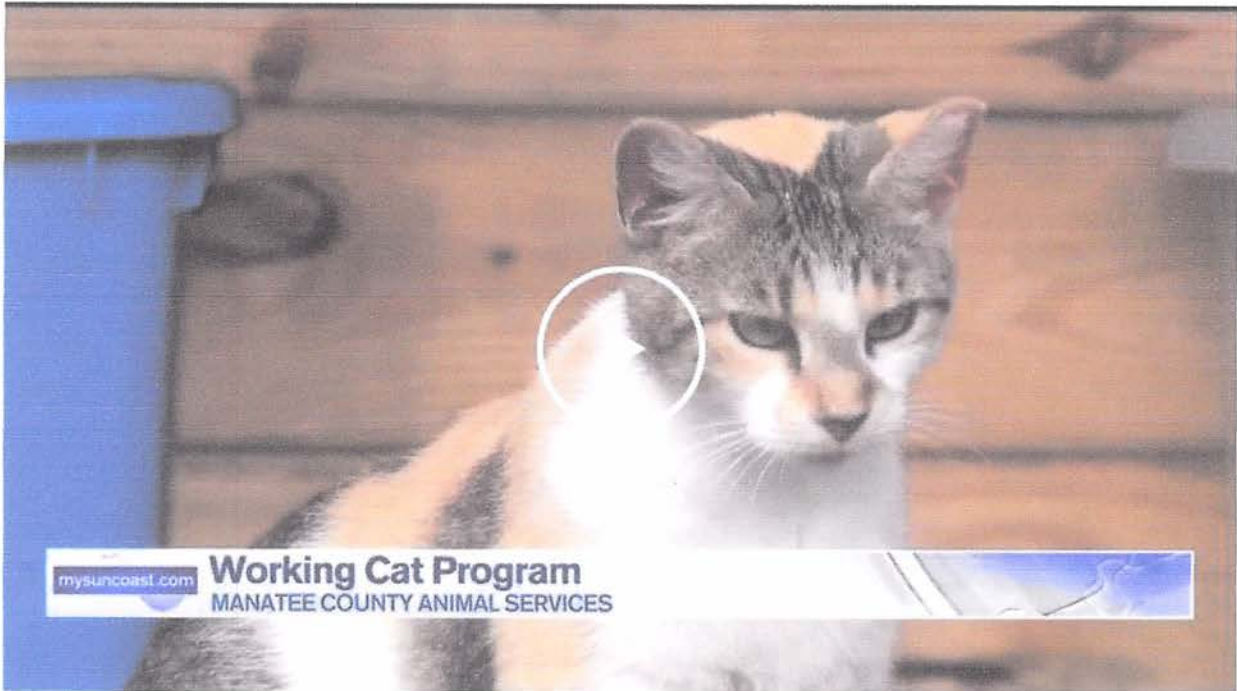
Call Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic at 314.771.PETS to schedule an appointment (located at 1218 S. Jefferson, St. Louis, MO 63104)

*Low income requirement = any form of government assistance (or yearly income of no more than \$32,000/family or \$20,000/person).



BARC's program is
for owned pets only,
no rescue groups.

Working Cat Program in Manatee County utilizing feral cats to help curb the rodent population



MCAS Working Cat Program

By [Rick Adams](#) | [July 3, 2019 at 9:56 PM EDT](#) - [Updated July 5 at 12:34 PM](#)

[BRADENTON, Fla. \(WWSB\)](#) - Feral cats in Manatee County now have a purpose. A program through the county's animal services is bringing these felines to places where they are really needed and utilized.

"These are cats that are going to be outside, you may not see them all too very often," said Hans Wohlgefahr, Outreach and Event Specialist for Manatee County Animal Services. "Especially if you do have a problem with vermin, rats or mice, this is an ideal solution."

People can adopt these feral cats. Since they are most likely not going to be the cuddly type, the pet owner's responsibility is mainly just to feed them and show them love. In return these cats roam around and help take care of the property.

Animal services say it's ideal for farms and businesses. Many EMS stations throughout Manatee County have taken in feral cats, including Station 5. In fact one of the

paramedics had built a shelter to give the six feral cats that are currently on their property a place to stay and keep them safe from other wildlife such as raccoons or coyotes.

“For us we enjoy them, just having them around being able to break away from the daily stress of our job,” said Sherri Pellien, a Paramedic with Manatee County EMS.

Workers at Station 5 are happy they are participating in this program and see it as a win/win for them and the cats. All cats in the Working Cat Program are spayed and neutered and given their vaccines. There are even many of these cats that Manatee County Animal Services uses on their property in Palmetto.

“I think this is an important program because it gives animals that are coming into animal services another pathway for us to consider,” said Wohlgefahrt.

For more information on how you can be part of Manatee County Animal Services Working Cat Program, you can log onto

https://www.mymanatee.org/departments/public_safety/animal_services/working_cat_program or call 941-742-5933.

Copyright 2019 WWSB. All rights reserved.

Jerrold Tiers

7345 Chamberlain

Apparently U-City is at it again. Things that are routine in other municipalities are a problem here.

My neighbors are having some work done by a contractor. One item is replacing a deck that was badly damaged by the fall of a tree. The deck is being replaced on the same footprint, so there should be no big issues, just a replacement to current standards by a company that does that work regularly.

But, I am told that it took the contractor all day to actually get the permit for the deck. The process had already been started, so it should not have been a case of trying to do a "walk-in" permit, although even that would not have been too unreasonable.

So, a straight replacement of a deck requires all day for a permit when the process has been already started? This contractor does work all over the area, and did not expect such a problem.

It is just that sort of un-necessary delay over simple routine things that causes contractors to dislike working in U-City, or even to refuse to bid on projects here.

I surely hope that this sort of problem is not going to occur with approvals and actions needed by your new partner, Novus. When working with a large project, and complex plans, U-City is going to have to step up and do a professional job.

It's not going to improve your image if there are problems and delays that would not occur in other municipalities. Word has it that you are already due for problems and bad publicity. No need to make it worse.

