

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
University City, Missouri 63130  
**VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**  
**Monday, August 22, 2022**  
**5:30 p.m.**

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

At the Special Session of the City Council of University City held via Videoconference, on Monday, August 22, 2022, Mayor Terry Crow called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

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

Councilmember Stacy Clay  
Councilmember Steven McMahon  
Councilmember Jeffrey Hales  
Councilmember Tim Cusick  
Councilmember Bwayne Smotherson  
Councilmember Aleta Klein (excused)

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

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Crow noted that Mr. Rose had requested that Item J (2), the ratification of emergency purchases be moved from the Consent Agenda to the City Manager's Report.

Councilmember Hales moved to approve the Agenda as amended, it was seconded by Councilmember Clay, and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Smotherson moved to approve the Amended Agenda, it was seconded by Councilmember Cusick, and the motion carried unanimously.

**D. PROCLAMATION - none**

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - none**

**F. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - none**

**G. SWEARING IN TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - none**

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

***Procedures for submitting comments for Citizen Participation and Public Hearings:***

*ALL written comments must be received **no later than 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.** Comments may be sent via email to: [councilcomments@ucitymo.org](mailto:councilcomments@ucitymo.org), or mailed to the City Hall – 6801 Delmar Blvd. – Attention City Clerk. Such comments will be provided to City Council prior to the meeting. Comments will be made a part of the official record and made accessible to the public online following the meeting.*

*Please note, when submitting your comments, a **name and address must be provided.** Please also note if your comment is on an agenda or non-agenda item. If a name and address are not provided, the provided comment will not be recorded in the official record.*

Mayor Crow acknowledged the written comments had been received by members of Council and he thanked the citizens that had provided comments. He stated everyone is looking forward to meeting in person soon.

**I. PUBLIC HEARINGS – none**

**J. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Canton Phase II Engineering Services Contract
2. Ratification of Emergency Purchases due to Flooding (2nd) - *(moved to City Manager's Report)*

Councilmember Smotherson moved to approve item #1 of the Consent Agenda, it was seconded by Councilmember Cusick.

Voice vote on Councilmember Smothers' motion carried unanimously.

**K. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT (vote required) – none**

1. Ratification of Emergency Purchases due to Flooding (2nd)

Mr. Rose stated that University City was severely impacted by the historic rain levels which resulted in major flooding on July 26 and July 28, 2022. To allow impacted residents to remove damaged items and materials from their homes, staff started the cleanup efforts on August 1, 2022. Bulky item pickup in the most severely impacted areas of the city has been completed, and staff is making good progress towards completion of removing all damaged materials. We're on schedule to complete the initial pickups in about two weeks. As today, we have completed all of the east area and are about 75% complete in the central area. The west area should start sooner than we had anticipated.

Based upon the volume of materials to be removed and the number of resources available, staff and the other municipalities that aided us is to be commended for their hard work to clean up our community. A special thank you to the City of Richmond Heights, who not only assisting with clean up efforts but who has agreed to allow our Centennial Commons members to use their facilities while Centennial Commons is being restored. Our members just need to show their membership card. Mr. Rose thanked Mayor Crow for his assistance in this arrangement.

Mr. Rose shared that he met with a representative from FEMA earlier in the day and have been in contract with FEMA on all levels trying to ensure that we provide residents with good information and assess regarding the services that FEMS provides. We also want to ensure FEMA understands the damages that the City has incurred as a result of the flooding and that we work through their process for reimbursement when appropriate. We are working closely with FEMA and our insurance company as multiple claims have been filed for reimbursement for equipment and damages to the facilities.

Mr. Rose stated the emergency ratification item was removed from the consent agenda to allow Interim Public Works Director, Darren Dunkle, to make your aware of changes. Mr. Dunkle stated the due to market conditions around supply and demand, storage and availability of computer chips for vehicles things are continually changing. Since the vehicle list contained in the packet, several vehicles are no longer available. You almost need cash in hand because deals will not hold anything due to the high demands in the market. We lost out on 5 trucks that were listed in the packet, we were able to locate 2 replacement trucks and we are moving forward to secure. We are moving forward with the purchase of (3) One Ton Dump Trucks and going through the process for the mowers etc. We are working to do due diligence and trying move quickly on theses purchases. This is what we've identified at this time. Some vehicles initially looked like they were working but after driving a day or so, damages are determined, or they completed die completely. We will continue to monitor and evaluate and work to find replacement purchases.

Mr. Dunkle stated without the assistances and efforts of Maryland Heights, Clayton, Ladue, Olivette, Chesterfield and Ellisville we could not have gotten through the bulk pickup as our dump truck and other pickup trucks were damaged in the flood. These municipalities have helped over the past three weeks and will be heading back to their normal responsibilities after this week.

We are also leasing equipment on short-term bases to get through this process.

Mr. Rose stated for clarification, we are asking for approval to purchase 2 pickup trucks, one F-150 for approximately \$42,000 and one Chevy Silverado for approximately \$43,000. The dump trucks listed on the ratification list will remain. The F-250 Super Cab Long Bed 4WD, F-250 Crew Cab Long Bed 2WD, F-250 Super Duty Regular Cab Long Bed 4WD, Chevy Pickup Truck K2500, GMC Pickup Truck K2500 HD should be removed from this list. The mowers and everything else on the can remain. There will be an additional charge for about \$13,000 for the addition of a cab to the mower that we also use for snow plowing and spare tires.

Councilmember Clay moved to amend emergency purchase list by removing the five items listed below and adding the two trucks listed below. It was seconded by Councilmember Hales.

**Remove:**

F-250 Super Cab Long Bed 4WD	48,975.00
F-250 Crew Cab Long Bed 2WD	46,390.00
F-250 Super Duty Regular Cab Long Bed 4WD	46,430.00
Chevy Pickup Truck K2500	54,097.00
GMC Pickup Truck K2500 HD	54,234.00

**Additions:**

Ford F-150 Pickup Truck	42,700.00
Chevy Silverado Pickup Truck	45,200.00

Councilmember Smotherson asked Mr. Rose to please send Council the updated list reflecting these changes. Mr. Rose said he would.

Councilmember Hales asked what are the 2 new pickups that have been located? Mr. Dunkle stated one is the Ford F-150 and the other is a Chevy Silverado.

Voice vote on Councilmember Clay's motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Clay moved to approve the emergency purchase as amended, it was seconded by Councilmember Cusick, and the motion carried unanimously.

**L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none**

**M. NEW BUSINESS– none**  
***Resolutions (vote required)***

**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. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Cusick reminded everyone of the importance of going the FEMA website if you were affected in any matter by the rainwater, over land flooding or sew backup. Everyone affected should be get listed with FEMA to they are aware of all flooding regardless of the type of flooding. FEMA has indicated that they need to know the extend of all the damages throughout University City from stormwater, runover or sewer backups.

Please go to the website: <https://www.fema.gov/> to complete an application. They may not be able to help everyone financially but it's better to find out if you're eligible for any benefits.

Mayor Crow shared that idea for going to Richmond Heights for use of their recreation facilities came from a resident. We may have helped it along, but someone else came up the idea.

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Cusick moved to approve to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Councilmember Clay, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Crow adjourned the Regular Session at 5:49 p.m.

LaRette Reese,  
City Clerk, MRCC

**From:** Tom Sullivan <tsullivan@sullivanadvco.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:13 AM  
**To:** Council Comments Shared  
**Subject:** Council Comments, August 22, 2022

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.



August 22, 2022

## **U. City Council Won't Listen to Citizens at Meetings**

(University City) -- The City Council of University City is continuing its policy of excluding citizens from taking part in council meetings. The policy will continue with tonight's meeting. For example, should any citizen wish to complain about the city's poor job of picking up destroyed furniture and belongings from the flooding, they will not be heard. The same with any other issue.

Council meetings are being held virtually and citizen comments can only be submitted in writing. Unlike meetings held by other local governments, there is no provision for citizens to speak at the meeting through a Zoom hookup. Nor are submitted comments read at the meeting. Most city councils in the area, and also the County Council, are already back to in-person meetings.

Shutting out the public has become standard procedure with University City government. The big Costco development was planned almost entirely in secret. At one meeting it was let slip that negotiations had been going on for almost a year before anyone knew about it. Mayor Terry Crow liked to note the public meetings that were held about the project. It became obvious that they were just for show. Decisions had already been made.

Tom Sullivan  
751 Syracuse Avenue  
University City, MO 63130

**LaRette Reese**

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**From:** Ellen Bern <ellendebbiebern@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2022 9:42 PM  
**To:** LaRette Reese; Gregory Rose  
**Subject:** Question on vehicle purchase

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Good evening.

In reading the agenda for Monday's Board meeting, I noticed the list of purchases to replace equipment damaged in the flood. How much of those costs will be covered by City insurance or FEMA?

Thank you.

Ellen

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Ellen Bern  
7001 Washington Ave.  
U. City, Mo. 63130  
314-721-1841 cell# 314-546-5467

**LaRette Reese**

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**From:** CEMVS-UCityFloodRisk <UCityFloodRisk@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 9:08 AM  
**To:** Liam Briick  
**Cc:** Darren Dunkle; CEMVS-UCityFloodRisk; Council Comments Shared; Buchanan, Janet I  
CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)  
**Subject:** RE: [Non-DoD Source] Wilson Avenue

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Good morning Liam!

I am the person from the Corps that you spoke with a couple days after the storm! As I stated then, what happened to your home and those in your neighborhood is awful! I appreciate you sending us the slide deck with photos and damages, and I've provided that to Darren Dunkle at the City as well.

My understanding is that the City is exploring individualized buyouts and potential floodproofing of structures in University City as we speak. Our federal project (in partnership with the City) is to construct Detention Basin 4 in Overland, which will reduce flood depths of the River Des Peres in University City. I encourage you to speak with the City about buyout and/or floodproofing efforts for your home.

Thanks much,

Matt

***Matthew A. Jones***

Project Manager / CAP Program Manager  
President, Civilian Activities Council (CAC)  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-St. Louis District (MVS-PM-N)  
Office: (314) 331-8293



**From:** Liam Briick <liam.briick@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 8:12 PM

**To:** CEMVS-UCityFloodRisk <UCityFloodRisk@usace.army.mil>; councilcomments@ucitymo.org

**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Wilson Avenue

To whom it may concern,

I am deeply concerned after reading over a decade worth of news articles, studies, and videos/pictures, that my property at 1079 Wilson Ave, University City, MO 63130 is going to continue to flood year after year.

This house was once in a 5 year flood plain, and due to the buy out in 2011, University & Fema changed my house to a 100 year flood plain. This property proceeded to flood in 2013, 2014, 2019, 2020, and 2022.

I applied for federal funding, but think that the city & USACE needs to do more for my block. Houses are completely gutted. My neighbors' houses are completely uninhabitable. They are condemned. My house and their houses are structurally questionable with warped beams and large cracks/buckling in our floors.

I'm begging and pleading that my area gets a second look. Everything that has been done since the 2011 buyout has not worked. Please come out and see the damage that this flood, as well as the previous 5 floods (since 2013) has caused myself and my neighbors.

Thank you for your time.

- Liam Briick



**From:** Liam Briick <liam.briick@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022 8:12 PM  
**To:** ucityfloodrisk@usace.army.mil; Council Comments Shared  
**Subject:** Wilson Avenue

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