



**CITY OF FLORISSANT
CITY COUNCIL**



WORKSHOP

January 30, 2017

The City Council of the City of Florissant met in an open Work Session on Thursday, January 30, 2017 at 6:30 pm. in the Council Chambers at the Florissant City Hall, 955 rue St. Francois, with Council President Jackie Pagano presiding. On Roll Call the following Council members were present: Caputa, Schildroth, Henke, Pagano, Schmidt(absent), Siam, Lee, Joes, Eagan. Also present was Mayor Schneider and City Clerk Karen Goodwin and City and Finance Director Randy McDaniel.

The Chair called on Lou Jearls first to discuss public works issues.

Court Building update:

Lou Jearls reviewed the schedule for the bid process and construction projections. Advertising through the notice to proceed for this project will take a couple of months. There will be a mandatory pre-bid walk through and a second opportunity to walk through the facility. Three contracts will be awarded because of the size of the project. Mechanical and electrical will be separate bids.

Councilwoman Pagano asked if there would be any incentives for early completion. Mr. Jearls said no, just penalties if the project is delayed. He said that some delays will be allowed if it is not in control of the contractor such as weather.

Councilman Caputa asked if the roof of the building needs to be replaced. Lou Jearls said the roof needs work but cannot be done until the construction begins because equipment is being moved around on the roof.

Councilman Lee asked about the expected construction time allowance. Mr. Jearls said that they think that 9 months is a reasonable amount of time. Councilman Lee asked if there is an opportunity to open the court portion before the entire project is finished. Mr. Jearls stated that may be possible.

Councilwoman Pagano asked the Mayor if letters have been sent to other cities letting them know that the facility would be available for use. Mayor Schneider stated that he has communicated with some other municipalities.

Councilman Jones stated that he saw that St. Ann was taking some other municipalities on. He asked about the air conditioning unit that was on the roof, is there anything that can be reused? Mr. Jearls stated that the equipment could not be used because of the different configuration.

Mayor stated that the council needs to determine what the building will be called.

Trash receptacles at Bus Stops:

Mr. Jearls stated that there are currently 7 bus stops that have trash cans. They are looking to add wherever they are needed. Let him know if there are additional spots that are needed. Councilman Jones asked if the cans are secured. Mr. Jearls answered yes but they still get stolen.

Councilman Eagan asked how many citations are given for littering. He asked that littering be made a priority.

Councilman Henke would like to see a litter awareness campaign. Community service messages through signs, newspaper; a city wide effort. Councilwoman Pagano stated that she mentioned this before and would like to involve the school districts.

Council discussed trash issues in the city.

Councilwoman Pagano proposed having the next workshop in April. The plan should be to review and discuss by department.

Review selected revenue sources:

Randy McDaniel reviewed revenue sources as depicted in the handout he gave to the council.

Councilman Henke requested an executive session on specific revenue matters.

Councilman Henke stated that the state will start collecting sales taxes from Amazon. He stated that he knows we need to have a general use tax to be able to collect it. Mayor Schneider stated that he is suggesting that the cities do it all at the same time. He stated that if the city has a use tax we would only benefit from the local taxes not the pool tax. Mayor is working on a plan to be able to benefit from this change. Councilman Caputa stated that the MML is working on helping all of the municipalities to take advantage of the taxes.

Councilwoman Pagano stated that she feels they need to get the contractor for the grass and weeds and get ahead of the game. Councilman Jones stated that he has called some of the other municipalities to see how long the limit is in other cities. He said that the city staff should be cutting the city property and the private property should be cut by contractors. Councilman Henke stated that the staff needs to understand that this effort is not to replace city employees but to assist when the workload is too much.

Public Works Fees:

Mr. McDaniel reviewed the list of public works fees handed out to the council.

Councilwoman Pagano gave a brief update on the classes that are being offered in the Crime Free program. She said there has been a lot of good news and positive feedback.

Mr. McDaniel reviewed the 2017 Budget discussing the General Fund revenues and expenditure budget. He also discussed personnel and benefits.

St. Louis County Public Safety sales tax on the April ballot. The city will see some of the funds 6 months or so after it passes if it passes.

Mr. McDaniel discussed some questions that have been asked about early retirement incentives. Council discussed the retirement plans.

Mr. McDaniel discussed the bond rating the bid results and the appropriation for the 2017 debt payments. He explained the credit ratings and the bond sale.

Mr. McDaniel discussed the use tax rates in St. Louis County. He presented a list of the use tax in other municipalities. Council discussed the issue on the ballot and the approach to the residents.

Councilman Lee stated that he is thinking ahead to the 2020 census. He is concerned about what will happen after the census. Mr. McDaniel agreed that the city needs to be paying attention.

Citizens Comments:

Mr. Engelmeyer asked about soliciting bids from minorities. He also asked about the pre-bid meeting location. He is also concerned about the trash containers at the bus stops. Pension plan is falling short and needs to be addressed. He said that the city needs to decrease spending or raise revenue.

Ben Hammond asked about the Grass cutting contract, is it an annual contract? Councilman Lee explained the process.

Kevin O'Donnell stated that White Castle has no outside trash receptacle? Commercial properties should be required to have trash receptacles on their parking lots as a part of their construction plans.

There being no further business to discuss, Councilman Jones motioned to adjourn, seconded by Pagano. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Karen Goodwin
City Clerk