

**O'FALLON CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
January 18, 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Mayor Gary Graham, who then led "The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag."

Philip Goodwin, City Clerk, called the roll: David Horton, present; Nila Grogan, present; Ed True, excused; Becky Henry, present; Rick Reckamp, present; Jerry Mouser, present; Tom Bequette, present; Allen Medford, present; Michael Bennett, present; Dennis Renner, present; Jason Boone, present; Ned Drolet, excused; John West, present; Jerry Albrecht, present. A quorum was declared present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by R. Reckamp and seconded by J. Abrecht to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2005, meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Annexation Agreement for approximately .6 acres located at 101, 103, 107 Behrens Avenue and 662 East State Street. Opened to public at 7:04 p.m. Mayor Graham called three times for public input, but no one came forward. Closed to public at 7:05 p.m.

RESIDENTS:

Mayor Graham invited any residents of O'Fallon who would like to speak to the Council to step to the microphone.

Dennis Cowden came forward and read a lengthy statement expressing his frustration with his storage building project being removed from the agenda for 2nd Reading. He explained his plans since early October of 2004, to construct a building to store and protect his personal equipment and vehicles. He stated he has complied with all known City laws, rules, regulations, ordinances and policies throughout this process.

The project was advanced to the City Council floor for its 1st Reading two weeks ago and was scheduled for its 2nd Reading tonight. Mr. Cowden indicated that Alderman Renner objected to his project two weeks ago on the grounds of safety issues, and it was returned to Committee with the understanding that any issues Alderman Renner felt needed to be addressed would be resolved in time for the 2nd Reading scheduled for tonight. Mr. Cowden said he met with Aldermen Renner and Bennett to discuss the project at length. He stated that, during the meeting, no objections were voiced and there was no motion to further delay the project. He expected his project to be on the agenda for 2nd Reading tonight, but it was removed without his knowledge and without the consensus of the Community Development Committee.

REPORTS:

Clerk's Report: None.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Graham asked Fire Chief Brent Saunders to come forward to introduce some very important people with outstanding records in service to the City of O'Fallon. Chief Saunders recognized nine men as the top responders for the Fire Department during 2004:

Asst. Chief Craig Schmidt, Capt. Brian Bailey, Joe Rushing, John Sissom, Brian Butler, Lt. Frank Shewmaker, Brent Saunders, Safety Off. Rod Hamilton, Capt. Kevin Bachesta, Dep. Chief Jerry Brewer.

The Fire Department responded to 840 calls during 2004, and each of the men being recognized had unselfishly responded to over 500 calls on their own time. Chief Saunders thanked and congratulated the men, and he expressed his appreciation for his entire volunteer staff of 42 individuals. The fire officers received a standing ovation from the audience.

Mayor Graham invited anyone who wanted to attend the Southwestern Illinois Council of Mayors meeting in Highland next Thursday, January 27, to RSVP to Jamie no later than January 24.

RESOLUTIONS:

ITEM 1 – Resolution Approving and Accepting a Road Dedication and Easement Plat for the Extension of Regency Park Drive

Motion was made by D. Renner and seconded by J. Mouser to approve Resolution Item 1.

ROLL CALL: N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, aye; T. Bequette, aye; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, aye; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

ITEM 2 – Resolution Approving and Accepting a Subdivision of Land to be known as the Minor Subdivision of O'Fallon Professional Park, Lot 2

Motion was made by D. Renner and seconded by E. True to approve Resolution Item 2.

ROLL CALL: B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, aye; T. Bequette, aye; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, aye; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, aye; N. Grogan, aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES:

1st Readings

Motion was made by J. Mouser and seconded by J. West to place on 1st Reading Ordinance Item 3.

ITEM 3 – Ordinance Approving the Final Plat of the Thornbury Hill – 9th Addition

R. Reckamp pointed out that the maps included in their packets were not discernable, and he could not see where the access to the 9th Addition to Thornbury Hill was located.

ROLL CALL: R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, aye; T. Bequette, aye; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, aye; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, aye; N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by J. Mouser and seconded by B. Henry to place on 1st Reading Ordinance Item 4.

ITEM 4 – Ordinance Approving the Final Plat of the Shoppes at Green Mount

ROLL CALL: J. Mouser, aye; T. Bequette, aye; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, aye; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, aye; N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

2nd Readings

Motion was made by J. Mouser and seconded by J. Albrecht to pass 2nd Reading Ordinance Item 5.

ITEM 5 – Ordinance Amending Ordinance 623, Zoning, Planned Use Development known as “O’Fallon Professional Park, Lot 2”

ROLL CALL: T. Bequette, aye; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, aye; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, aye; N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by J. Mouser and seconded by D. Renner to pass 2nd Reading Ordinance Item 6.

ITEM 6 – Ordinance Amending Chapter 72, Section 72.10, (A)(2)(d), Regarding Stopping, Standing, or Parking Prohibited in Specified Places

ROLL CALL: A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, aye; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, aye; N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, aye; T. Bequette, aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by J. Albrecht and seconded by N. Grogan to pass 2nd Reading Ordinance Item 7.

ITEM 7 – Ordinance Amending Chapter 72, Section 72.21 (B) Regarding Parking Prohibitions

D. Renner asked when citizens have guests coming into town and need a place to park their recreational vehicle, would the City have a designated place for them to do so. Police Chief Betten stated if someone has relatives in town for a short stay, there would be some level of discretion they would try to use in these situations. This ordinance is aimed at long-term parking of motor homes in residential areas and not short-term visitors. Chief Betten stated his department does not ordinarily seek out enforcement of these types of issues but instead respond to complaints from other residents. D. Horton suggested residents could call and notify the Police Department in advance if they planned to have a motor home parked in front of their house.

ROLL CALL: M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, nay; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, aye; N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, nay; T. Bequette, aye; A. Medford, aye. Ayes-10; Nays-2. Motion carried.

Motion was made by J. Boone and seconded by J. Albrecht to amend the Agenda to include Ordinance Item 8 for 2nd Reading.

ITEM 8 – Ordinance Amending Ordinance 623, Zoning, Planned Use Development known as Cowden Storage Building

J. Mouser asked to clarify why Item 8 was placed on hold. He said there was no Committee meeting on December 27; therefore, when Item 8 came before the Council for 1st Reading, it had never come before the Community Development Committee. After Committee meeting last week, there were still some site drainage issues that needed to be addressed. He felt the staff would want to put it on hold until they received some answers regarding these site drainage issues, then they would have the opportunity at the next Committee meeting to be sure everything was completed before placing it on 2nd Reading.

J. Boone said he was also at the meeting and heard the discussions among D. Renner, M. Bennett and Mr. Cowden. He felt Mr. Cowden answered all the questions to the best of his knowledge and ability and to the satisfaction of most people in attendance. He stated Mr. Cowden gave additional information so they could visit the site. J. Boone said he visited the site and agreed with several other people that Mr. Cowden's project would be a considerable improvement to the area. He said if the Committee had acted upon it and placed it on hold, he would have supported that action. However, since this was not a Committee decision, he felt it should move forward.

J. West asked if it was necessary to have a site plan for drainage for this project. T. Shekell said the drainage is a small issue; however, accommodations for the drainage would have to be made before the permit would be issued.

D. Renner said he thought it was established during the Community Development Committee meeting that Mr. Cowden's project was a business and not just a storage building. T. Shekell said that since this will be in a commercial district, Mr. Cowden would be authorized to use it for personal use or for a commercial enterprise. For this to be a business, Mr. Cowden would have to add water, sewer, electric, and restroom facilities to the building. T. Shekell said it was the City's understanding the building would be used strictly for storage and not for a business.

ROLL CALL: D. Renner, nay; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, nay; N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, nay; T. Bequette, nay; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, nay. Ayes-7; Nays-5. Motion carried.

Motion was made by J. Boone and seconded by J. Albrecht to pass 2nd Reading Ordinance Item 8.

ROLL CALL: J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, nay; N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, nay; T. Bequette, nay; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, nay; D. Renner, nay. Ayes-7; Nays-5.

City Attorney Dale Funk stated a majority of the votes of the corporate body were needed to pass an Ordinance, regardless of whether or not all members were in attendance. Therefore, eight (8) votes were needed to pass the Ordinance. However, he added that Mayor Graham could cast a vote. M. Graham, aye. Ayes-8; Nays 5. Motion carried.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Community Development: J. Mouser stated they met on January 10, 2005; and he noted there were no minutes included in the packets. Their next meeting will be January 24, 2005, at 6:30 p.m.

Public Works: A. Medford indicated they have not met since the last City Council meeting. However, there was one motion that came out of the Engineering Department. A motion was made by A. Medford and seconded by J. Albrecht to approve the 2005 Striping Program bid with Park Mark for \$11,266.00.

ROLL CALL: J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, aye; N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, aye; T. Bequette, aye; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, aye; J. Boone, aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

Their next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2005, at 7:30 p.m.

Public Safety: Mayor Graham indicated the minutes from their January 10, 2005, meeting were attached. Their next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2005.

M. Bennett brought up the issue of false alarms brought on by security systems of residents throughout the City. He stated it is his understanding these calls require two officers to respond, and residents are allowed three false alarms each month. He asked Chief Betten if the City should establish stricter standards to encourage more responsibility by the residents in the use of their alarm systems. Chief Betten said they are tracking it to the best of their ability, and it does continue to be a problem. However, he didn't feel the officers are repeatedly responding to the same residents.

Finance/Administration: J. West stated they met before the City Council meeting to discuss Warrant 80. A motion was made by J. West and seconded by R. Reckamp to approve Warrant 80 in the amount of \$402,743.25.

ROLL CALL: J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, aye; N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, aye; T. Bequette, aye; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, aye; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

J. West said the next meeting of the Finance/Administration Committee would be January 24, at 5:30 p.m.

Parks/Environment: J. Albrecht stated the minutes from their January 10, 2005, meeting were attached. A motion was made by J. Albrecht and seconded by N. Grogan to approve the low bid from Jack Schmitt for a one-ton dump truck in the amount of \$27,518.00.

ROLL CALL: D. Horton, aye; N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, aye; T. Bequette, aye; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, aye; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

J. Albrecht said their next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2005.

Executive Session: At 7:47 a motion was made by A. Medford and seconded by J. Albrecht for the City Council members to go into Executive Session to discuss a union negotiation and acquisition of property.

ROLL CALL: N. Grogan, aye; B. Henry, aye; R. Reckamp, aye; J. Mouser, aye; T. Bequette, aye; A. Medford, aye; M. Bennett, aye; D. Renner, aye; J. Boone, aye; J. West, aye; J. Albrecht, aye; D. Horton, aye. All ayes. Motion carried.

At 7:59 p.m. City Council members returned from Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by D. Renner and seconded by D. Horton to adjourn. All ayes.
Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Philip A. Goodwin, City Clerk

*Minutes taken by
Sharon L. Wisely, Transcriptionist*