

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**MINUTES**

**June 27, 2005**

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee of the City of O'Fallon, held in the Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall, 255 S. Lincoln, O'Fallon, Illinois on June 27, 2005. CALL TO ORDER: Time: 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: MEMBERS Medford - X Reckamp - X  
West - X Drolet -  
Grogan - X

STAFF LIAISON: Dean Rich, Walter Denton, Aldermen True & Albrecht

Approval of the minutes from May 23, 2005

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**Item 1 SSA for Drury.** Drury has notified the city that the test core drillings were successful and they hope to fill the mine shaft within the next 45 days. Kent Newbold is planning to purchase additional property on the east side of Central Park Plaza Drive and the city will rework his original SSA to include this additional parking for the Toyota Dealership as well as the BMW expansion. We anticipate having an initial vote on both SSA's in August.

**Item 2 Census Update.** The city is taking applications for enumerators and need 350 by early August. O'Fallon residents will be given first priority and the testing scheduling is based on the date of application. Anyone wanting a part time job in September and October that could pay up to \$2,000 should apply now. The actual start date is set for mid-September and will take approximately 6 weeks. After reviewing all available city and commercial property available during this time period the staff recommends using the new Rotary Nature Center in Rock Springs Park for the Census Headquarters. No other city building comes close to meeting Census requirements and commercial property runs into the thousands of dollars for the time needed. We are having telephone lines installed in the Nature Center and in lieu of rent will purchase tables and chairs which the park will use for functions once the center opens for public use in November. Staff is identifying as much joint use furniture and equipment as possible and will rent any additional equipment requirements. There is an article in the current City Quarterly if residents have questions.

**Item 3 Water Billing, Update, Summer Sewer Rate.** Director of Finance presented the new monthly bills that will go out in late July. The new bill is a printed 8 x 10 sheet with a tear off return at the bottom. The new bills also come with a new blue return envelope with a separate Zip plus 4 address. The bills will be sorted by the post office for entering into the new billing system. The projected 75 to 80% of the bills that include the correct amount on a check will be electronically scanned by the system and entered onto a bank deposit, non-matching payments

will be sorted for manual processing. The Summer Sewer Rate will be addressed by the Public Works Committee.

**Item 4 Review of Telecommunications Tax.** In 1997, when the city converted the telephone line tax to the new telecommunications tax, the 1% rate that had been in place since the 1930's was left in place. A current review of other cities in St. Clair County and major cities in the area indicated that the vast majority have their tax set at 5%. For example, Belleville receives \$1.8 million a year compared to O'Fallon's \$140 thousand. After discussion and a split vote, the staff and chairman recommend this issue be brought back to committee on July 25<sup>th</sup> for additional discussion.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:25 p.m. PREPARED BY: Dean Rich  
(time)