



**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
GLADSTONE, MISSOURI  
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012**

**ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION  
5:30 PM**

Mayor Carol Suter opened the City Council Meeting to adjourn to a Closed Executive Session on April 23, 2012, at 5:30 PM. Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore made a motion to adjourn to Closed Executive Session pursuant to Missouri Open Meeting Act Exemption 610.021(1) for Litigation and Confidential or Privileged Communications with Legal Counsel, and 610.021(2) for Real Estate Acquisition Discussion, and 610.021(3) for Personnel Discussion. Councilman Bill Garnos seconded.

Roll Call Vote: All “aye” – Councilman Bill Garnos, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore and Mayor Carol Suter. (3-0).

Councilman Barry McCullough and Councilman Brian Hill were also present at the Closed Executive Session.

Mayor Carol Suter adjourned the Closed Executive Session.

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
7:30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Carol Suter  
Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore  
Councilman Barry McCullough  
Councilman Brian Hill  
Councilman Bill Garnos

City Manager Kirk Davis  
Assistant City Manager Scott Wingerson  
City Clerk Cathy Swenson

**ABSENT:** City Counselor Randall Thompson

**Item 2. on the Agenda.**      **ROLL CALL.**

Mayor Carol Suter opened the Regular April 23, 2012, City Council Meeting at 7:30 PM in the Gladstone City Council Chambers, and noted that all Council members were present, and welcomed all the visitors this evening.

**Item 3. on the Agenda.**      **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Mayor Carol Suter led the Pledge of Allegiance, in which all joined.

**Item 4. on the Agenda.**      **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 4, 2012, CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES.**

Councilman Brian Hill moved to approve the **APRIL 4, 2012, CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES** as presented. Councilman Barry McCullough seconded.

The vote: "Aye" – Councilman Bill Garnos, Councilman Brian Hill, Councilman Barry McCullough, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

**Item 5. on the Agenda.**      **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 9, 2012, CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.**

Councilman Barry McCullough moved to approve the **APRIL 9, 2012, CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore seconded.

The vote: "Aye" – Councilman Bill Garnos, Councilman Brian Hill, Councilman Barry McCullough, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

**Item 6. on the Agenda.**      **PROCLAMATION:** recognizing May 2012, as **BUILDING SAFETY MONTH** in the City of Gladstone, Missouri.

Mayor Carol Suter read and presented the Proclamation to Building Official Alan Napoli, who thanked the Mayor and City Council.

Mayor Suter said the Council is so glad to have such a fine staff who keeps us safe here in Gladstone.

**Item 7. on the Agenda.**      **PROCLAMATION:** recognizing May 2012, as **OLDER AMERICANS MONTH** in the City of Gladstone, Missouri.

Mayor Suter invited Clay County Senior Services Board Chairman Donald Harper, who is also a member of the Gladstone Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, to join her, and she said that Mr. Harper represents one of the most important constituencies in our City.

Mr. Harper thanked Mayor Suter.

Mayor Suter read and presented the Proclamation to Mr. Harper.

Mr. Harper thanked the Mayor and City Council, and said the Commissioners in Liberty also presented a similar Proclamation to him today. Mr. Harper said he was certain everyone knew what the Gladstone population is, but asked how many knew the Senior population percentage, aged 65 and older?

Councilman Bill Garnos replied 17.6 percent.

Mr. Harper jokingly said that Councilman Garnos read the note he passed out earlier, and asked what that percentage equated to in our population. As no one replied, Mr. Harper said that equates to 4,472.16 Seniors in Gladstone, and we have a higher percentage of Seniors in Gladstone than in any other municipality, than the average in Clay County, and the average in the United States, according to the 2010 Census. We have challenges before us. This percentage will go up to at least 25 percent in future years. Mayor Suter has a lot of statistics on this from her work with Mid America Regional Council and other organizations. There are major problems coming to all the municipalities, and we have to look at transportation and Senior Centers. Mr. Harper continued by saying that Assistant City Manager Scott Wingerson has been working with him very diligently to look for a good location in the Gladstone area for a new Senior Center. Some might call it a Nutrition Center, but he likes to refer to it as a café concept, whereby Seniors may gather for social interactions, which is extremely important. Mr. Harper asked that the City Council please take these numbers into consideration. Mr. Harper said when he read the Council's goals, he did not see much about Seniors, and he would like to see more thinking in that area, and at budget time. Mr. Harper thanked the Mayor and Council for the Proclamation, and asked that the senior citizen population be kept in mind.

**Item 8. on the Agenda. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: BY THE GLADSTONE CITY COUNCIL TO CITY MANAGER KIRK DAVIS, 2012 RECIPIENT OF THE JAY T. BELL PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT AWARD.**

Mayor Suter invited the City Council to join her in front of the City Council dais, along with City Manager Kirk Davis, 2012 recipient of the Jay T. Bell Professional Management Award. Mayor Suter stated that City Manager Davis was recognized as the City Manager of the Year for the State of Missouri. Mayor Suter said we have always known he is the best, and we are glad to see others recognize that as well. Mayor Suter read and presented a Proclamation to City Manager Davis, which was followed by a standing ovation.

City Manager Davis said this Proclamation was a surprise, and he thanked the Mayor and City Council, and said he appreciated very much this recognition. City Manager Davis said the City employees had a reception for him today, and he would repeat what he said to them in that customer service and the service to our citizens by our City employees is the foundation of everything we do. When the employees provide good customer service, we build relationships in our community. Those relationships are what turned into election success; not only election success in electing great Councilmembers who support our City staff, but also election success with ballot issues. In 2009, in the middle of a recession, our City passed a tax increase. Everyone else struggled. We passed a tax increase with 78 percent voter approval. Two years before that, with the help of a strategic planning process and the involvement of citizens, our City passed the first property tax increase in the City's history – in over 50 years - with a 78 or

80 percent voter approval. This goes back to our foundation of customer service. All City employees do a good job in providing customer service at the basic level in the daily interactions with our citizens. That leads to credibility, trust, good elected officials, and financial stability. That is what we have seen. City Manager Davis said all the credit goes to those staff members who are plowing snow and catching that second flake that comes down, the people who are on patrol, the people who ride in the ambulances who provide great quality health care, and the people who are in Parks and Recreation who provide so many services to our citizens.

City Manager Davis said he could go on and on about each department, and we really owe a debt of thanks to them and the job they do. City Manager Davis said our City has great Directors, and leadership from those folks makes a huge difference, by buying into Council goals, and being aggressive in trying to figure out ways to achieve those goals. That is the leadership our City receives from our Directors. City Manager Davis said thank you to Scott Wingerson, who he knew oversaw this whole concoction of activities the last few days. City Manager Davis said Mr. Wingerson is a great assistant who does a great job, and he really does appreciate him. City Manager Davis jokingly said he does not know where Public Information Officer Richard King came up with all the information about him for the nomination, but we were recognized in Gladstone, and the list of people who have been recognized is pretty impressive and it covers the last 30 years, and he is proud to be on it. City Manager Davis thanked the Mayor and City Council.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### Item 9. on the Agenda.      COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE.

**Larry Larson, Western Commissioner of Clay County**, began by saying he and City Manager Davis have been friends for over 20 years, and Gladstone is indeed fortunate to have a City Manager of his caliber. The City Council and staff see it everyday, but the public does not see it everyday, but they see the results of it. Commissioner Larson congratulated City Manager Davis on his award. Commissioner Larson said it was about 15 years ago when his and City Manager Davis's sons were running up and down the soccer field at Happy Rock Park, and that is where they first met. The entire City is very proud of Mr. Davis, as is the County.

Commissioner Larson said the second subject he wished to address was that we now have an agreement between Clay County and the City. This is important and an example of governments working together, and arriving at intergovernmental agreements that make sense, and he presumes that both sides are winners in this. It will ultimately result in the payment of \$1.3 million from Clay County to the City of Gladstone. Commissioner Larson said he was proud to be a part of that; in fact, back six or seven years ago, there were two meetings in the Gladstone City Hall conference rooms, where all the lawyers were present, the Road District representatives, and cities - all of those against him and the County attorney. The objective was to set the stage for continuing discussions. Commissioner Larson congratulated the City Council for their thoughtful work on this issue, because the County also spent a great deal of time in getting this done, and the County is thrilled to get this done and to move along. Commissioner Larson thanked the Mayor and City Council for allowing him to stand on this side of the podium, which feels a little more uncomfortable than he was used to.

Mayor Suter thanked Commissioner Larson, and said our City is glad to have received the first check from the County.

**Tammy Witmer** said she was before the City Council on June 13, 2011, when she asked about the pet containment system to be considered by the City. Ms. Witmer said she knows it has been researched by the Police Department. It has been taken to City Counselor Thompson's desk, and was supposed to be on the agenda tonight, and she was wondering when it would come before the City Council. It is acknowledged by the surrounding cities. Each city that surrounds us does allow for this. Ms. Witmer asked if this is something Gladstone is going to look into for the residents, and for the upgrade in technology.

Mayor Suter replied this issue is scheduled for the May 14, 2012, Open Study Session. Items come up first for discussion and education in an Open Study Session, before they would appear on a City Council agenda.

**Item 10. on the Agenda. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL.**

**Councilman Bill Garnos** had no comments at this time.

**Councilman Brian Hill** stated an item he hears about every second or third day is that the trees are still standing along North Prospect, and he inquired into the status of the trees.

Assistant City Manager Scott Wingerson replied the property owner has agreed to cut down the trees, and the trees will be removed. The current discussion involves the property owner, the City, and the Homes Association about future ownership of this strip of land that borders single family homes. It seems like those people may want some control over their destiny, so this does not happen again. That is the status as of today, but it is expected that problem will be resolved in the next 30 to 45 days. The property owner has agreed to have the trees removed, which is a very positive step.

Councilman Hill said he wished to again congratulate City Manager Davis on his award.

**Councilman Barry McCullough** congratulated City Manager Davis, and said it was very well deserved, and he appreciates all his effort in keeping the City going in the right direction.

Councilman McCullough reported that John Garner phoned him Friday night about 10:30 to let him know that he was going to Omaha to receive a heart transplant. We will miss him in his absence, but we hope to have him back in a few weeks. Councilman McCullough said he visited with him today, and he seems to doing as well as anyone could after having a heart transplant, and is excited to be back with us as soon as possible. Councilman McCullough said he would keep everyone updated on John's status.

**Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore** congratulated City Manager Davis, and said it was a proud moment when everyone gathered at Crown Center and surprised him. It was great fun, and it is a great honor for him and for all of us who get to share just a little bit in that honor.

Mayor Pro Tem Moore said she wished to thank everyone who was involved in the Gladstone Home Show this past weekend. Public Information Officer Richard King said there were over 400 people in attendance, and she understands that some of the vendors were very successful in acquiring new clients and showing the services they could provide. That took a lot of effort on the part of a lot of people to make that happen.

**Mayor Carol Suter** introduced Major Rick Lockhart who was present with a group of students, and asked that he tell everyone about his group.

Mr. Lockhart thanked the Mayor and City Council for allowing them to attend this meeting, and also thanked City Manager Davis for setting everything up for them. Mr. Davis had handouts and various things prepared for them this evening. Mr. Lockhart said he had five students from Park University; four of who are Public Administration students. One of them is a Business major. The students introduced themselves as follows: Kevin Nelson; Jodi Johnson; Daniel Elsrode; Sarah Long; and Kristine Stowell. Mr. Lockhart said in their class they are studying politics and administration, and so what better way to see the two mixing together than coming to a City Council meeting. Mr. Lockhart thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing them to attend the meeting this evening.

Mayor Suter thanked the group for being here this evening.

Mayor Suter stated we have a crystal award in the City Hall lobby trophy case for commemoration of being a Tree City for ten years. Mayor Suter encouraged everyone to stop and take a look at the award.

Mayor Suter said she wished to offer kudos to Public Safety. She had a conversation with the new Manager of the Gladstone Hy-Vee, who was “over the moon” with the response times and the cooperativeness and support of the Public Safety Department for him as a business manager, with a large enterprise. The Manager said that from the time he picks up the phone to get to his ear, they are at the store. Mayor Suter said that is pretty good!

Mayor Suter said she received a letter by e-mail from the Shoalbrook 2 Housing Association, which represents houses just on the north side of Happy Rock West Park. They had recent dealings about a tree with our Parks Department. Mayor Suter said they sent a lovely letter to her and Kansas City Councilman Dick Davis, because they are Kansas City residents, not Gladstone residents. They were so impressed with the professionalism, cooperation, courtesy, knowledge, accountability, and accommodation. They were delighted to work with Gladstone, and they said that they were sure that anytime they had an issue, they knew they could count on us in the future. That was very nice.

Mayor Suter offered congratulations to the best City Manager in the State of Missouri, which we have known for a long time. We are privileged to get to work with City Manager Davis, and it shows.

**Item 11. on the Agenda. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER.**

City Manager Kirk Davis began by saying that he found out in the last few days that we can keep secrets in City Hall, and this is an award that means a lot to him, but it surely does reflect well on the rest of our staff and the Councils, past and present. City Manager Davis said his wife had left, but he was going to introduce her and his oldest son, who were present this evening for the Council's presentation.

City Manager Davis reported the clean up and beautification event would be this weekend, Friday through Sunday, at Happy Rock Park, and he encouraged everyone who wished to get rid of any unwanted items, to participate in this event.

City Manger Davis thanked all the City Council who attended the reception the other day, and all the folks who are in this room who attended. It surprised him, and he is not sure that he made any sense, but he appreciated the support and certainly the support from Scott Wingerson and the leadership team in making all of these things happen.

**Item 12. on the Agenda.** **RESOLUTION R-12-39**, authorizing acceptance of work under contract with Heartland Contractors, Incorporated, for the North Oak Enhancement – 69<sup>th</sup> Street to 71<sup>st</sup> Street; and authorizing final payment in the amount of \$13,863.20.

Councilman Barry McCullough moved to adopt **RESOLUTION R-12-39**, authorizing acceptance of work under contract with Heartland Contractors, Incorporated, for the North Oak Enhancement – 69<sup>th</sup> Street to 71<sup>st</sup> Street; and authorizing final payment in the amount of \$13,863.20. Councilman Brian Hill seconded. The vote: "Aye" – Councilman Bill Garnos, Councilman Brian Hill, Councilman Barry McCullough, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

**Item 13. on the Agenda.** **RESOLUTION R-12-40**, accepting Temporary Construction Easements in conjunction with the Northeast 69th Street Reconstruction Project.

Councilman Brian Hill moved to adopt **RESOLUTION R-12-40**, accepting Temporary Construction Easements in conjunction with the Northeast 69th Street Reconstruction Project. Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore seconded. The vote: "Aye" – Councilman Bill Garnos, Councilman Brian Hill, Councilman Barry McCullough, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

**Item 14. on the Agenda.** **APPROVAL OF A PACKAGE LIQUOR LICENSE WITH SUNDAY SALES** for XO Corporation dba Worlds Liquors, 6833 North Oak Trafficway. Managing Officer: Sheraz Choudry.

Councilman Barry McCullough moved to approve a **PACKAGE LIQUOR LICENSE WITH SUNDAY SALES** for **XO Corporation** dba Worlds Liquors, 6833 North Oak Trafficway. Managing Officer: Sheraz Choudry. Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore seconded. The vote: "Aye" – Councilman Bill Garnos, Councilman Brian Hill, Councilman Barry McCullough, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

**Item 15. on the Agenda.**      **APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 2012 FINANCIAL REPORT.**

Councilman Brian Hill moved to approve the **MARCH 2012 FINANCIAL REPORT**. Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore seconded. The vote: “Aye” – Councilman Bill Garnos, Councilman Brian Hill, Councilman Barry McCullough, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

**Item 16. on the Agenda.**      **OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no other business.

**Item 17. on the Agenda.**      **QUESTIONS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA.**

Kathy Edwards, reporter for the Gladstone Dispatch, inquired into the \$1.3 million settlement payment from the County, and asked if the money would be used for roadwork.

Mayor Suter replied the money would be used for roadwork, and staff would be happy to provide more specifics. As it is Road District money, it is specifically for roadwork.

**Item 18. on the Agenda.**      **ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further business to come before the April 23, 2012, Gladstone Regular City Council Meeting, Mayor Carol Suter adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

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Cathy Swenson, City Clerk

Approved as submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as corrected/amended: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mayor Carol Suter