



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
GLADSTONE, MISSOURI
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2011**

**ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION
7:00 PM**

Mayor Les Smith opened the City Council Meeting to adjourn to a Closed Executive Session on April 11, 2011, at 7:00 PM. Councilman Carol Rudi 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. Councilmember Carol Suter seconded.

Roll Call Vote: All “aye” – Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilmember Carol Suter, Councilman Carol Rudi, Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough, and Mayor Les Smith. (5-0).

Mayor Les Smith adjourned the Closed Executive Session.

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

PRESENT: Mayor Les Smith
Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough
Councilman Carol Rudi
Councilmember Carol Suter
Councilmember Jean Moore

City Manager Kirk Davis
Assistant City Manager Scott Wingerson
City Counselor Randall Thompson
City Clerk Cathy Swenson

Item 2. on the Agenda. ROLL CALL.

Mayor Les Smith opened the Regular April 11, 2011, City Council Meeting at 7:30 PM in the Gladstone City Council Chambers, and noted that all Council members were present.

Item 3. on the Agenda. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Les Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance, in which all joined.

Item 4. on the Agenda. APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MARCH 28, 2011, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES.

Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough moved to approve the **REGULAR MARCH 28, 2011, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES** as presented. Councilman Carol Rudi seconded. The vote: “Aye” – Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilman Carol Rudi, Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough and Mayor Les Smith. “Abstain” – Councilmember Carol Suter. (4-0-1).

Note: Councilmember Carol Suter was absent from the March 28, 2011, Regular City Council meeting, so, therefore, abstained from the vote on the Minutes of that meeting.

Item 5. on the Agenda. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 6, 2011, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES CONVENING A CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Councilman Carol Rudi moved to approve the **APRIL 6, 2011, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES CONVENING A CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough seconded. The vote: “Aye” – Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilman Carol Rudi, Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough and Mayor Les Smith. “Abstain” – Councilmember Carol Suter. (4-0-1).

Note: Councilmember Carol Suter was absent from the April 6, 2011, Regular City Council meeting, so, therefore, abstained from the vote on the Minutes of that meeting.

Item 6. on the Agenda. PROCLAMATION: designating April 2011 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and encouraging programs that promote awareness and prevention of this crime that affects our entire community.

Mayor Smith read and presented the Proclamation to the Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault Coordinator of Advocacy Services, Jessie Funk, who thanked the Mayor and City Council members.

Ms. Funk stated that the MOCSA (Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault) organization is a not for profit organization that serves both adults and children who are survivors of sexual assault. Ms. Funk said they could not do what they do without the support of the community, so receiving this Proclamation is very important for her organization and the survivors of sexual violence.

Item 7. on the Agenda. PROCLAMATION: recognizing Meals on Wheels and Mayors for Meals and their generous work on behalf of our senior citizens.

Mayor Smith read and presented the Proclamation to Patte Bahl, of Northland Meals on Wheels, who thanked the Mayor and City Council members.

Ms. Bahle said Northland Meals on Wheels has been in business for 38 years, and volunteers deliver all their meals, and the volunteers often say they get more out of delivering the meals than the recipients of the meals. Ms. Bahle said she had been delivering meals for sixteen years, and if she did not like it, she would not do it. Ms. Bahle invited everyone to volunteer; it only takes about an hour, and she guaranteed folks would find it rewarding.

Mayor Smith said volunteering is very gratifying, and it is amazing how many people you run into who you know. Most importantly, the people embrace you. As you drive down the street, they are looking out the window, waiting for you to get there, and it is sometimes one of the few forms of contact that people receive, and they seem to enjoy the visit as much as the meal. Mayor Smith said he appreciated the opportunity to volunteer this year. Mayor Smith said one of the gentlemen to whom he delivers meals has a tree in his front yard, and it is half in the right-of-way and half within his property, and every year he lobbies to have the tree removed by the City.

Mayor Smith stated that the Council also has a Proclamation for KFKF 94.1 Radio Station in Kansas City, honoring them for their commitment to raising funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital; unfortunately Dale Carter, who is also a Councilmember in Blue Springs, could not be present this evening. Mayor Smith said do not feel sorry for him, as he is on a plane to Hawaii. Mayor Smith jokingly said they must get paid more than our City Council!

Mayor Smith asked how many in the audience had the opportunity to see the KCPT Imagine KC piece that featured, in part, Gladstone. Mayor Smith noted that just a couple of people raised their hands. Mayor Smith announced that piece would be presented at this City Council meeting, and said it is part of an ongoing series of eleven episodes, ours is the third, produced by KCPT, focusing on various communities in the region. The Imagine KC piece was shown to the audience.

Following the viewing, Mayor Smith stated that as can be seen, he feels this feature put our community in a good light. There have been a lot of comments from around the region. Mayor Smith encouraged everyone to go on line and find the schedule of cities that will be presented in the near future. It is a very fascinating piece.

Item 8. on the Agenda. **MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS.**

Note: Mayor Smith's State of the City Address was accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Smith stated he would like to offer a few words this evening about our community, and said in a word, the State of our City is SOUND.

Following is Mayor Smith's State of the City Address:

We have many challenges ahead of us, but we have also put many challenges behind us. The recurring theme around city hall the last couple of years has been "Taking Care of Business", and that is exactly what has been done, and thanks to everyone in this organization, and the many dedicated citizens who participate in the process, we continue to take care of business and provide the services that they need.

Most importantly, by all accounts, we have weathered the economic storm. A recent survey of Missouri cities concluded that 75 percent of all cities with a sales tax reported that their revenues were less than expected; and 45 percent reported a shortfall in anticipated property tax revenues. Although we're beginning to see a slight increase in sales tax collections, Gladstone has not been immune to the declines experienced by others.

More than 37 percent of cities indicated having to increase the use of reserve funds to meet their needs, while 17 percent reported having to reduce the city workforce. Thanks to sound financial planning, increased efficiencies and operations, and good old fashioned hard work by our municipal employees, we have had to do neither. Lastly, nearly 60 percent of all cities in Missouri feel their city will be less able to meet its fiscal responsibilities than it was the previous year. Again, this is not the case for Gladstone.

The council realizes that protecting the health, safety and welfare of our community is by far our single greatest responsibility, with infrastructure investments a close second. Last summer we sought additional resources to protect those services. Upon deciding to place the Public Safety Sales Tax on the ballot – yes, a sales tax increase in the middle of a recession – a group of volunteers jumped on board and began spreading the word in Gladstone on behalf of better public safety. The Kansas City Star wrote in an endorsement of the sales tax issue; "This kind of grassroots involvement has helped the City make notable progress in recent years, including construction of a first-rate community center as well as road, fire and stormwater improvements."

Many of these same folks then joined with some others and did the same thing in support of bond issues to enhance our road, water, and sewer program. Mayor Smith said his point is that he believes it's fair to say that since this town's inception, it has been proven time and time again that human capital is our greatest asset.

Ten years ago this summer, three people sat down with Derick Okubo, of the National Civic League, and planted the first seed for Gladstone On the Move, which was a new generation of citizen engagement. City Manager Davis, you were at that table. Laura (Smith), as the Assistant City Manager at the time, you were at that table, too. The significance is that, in one way or another, the plan adopted by Gladstone on the Move continues to be the cornerstone for every Council goal-setting session, and thus the basis for every budget we adopt. Suffice it to say that Gladstone has thrived for nearly 60 years in large part because we enjoy an engaged citizenry, proving beyond a doubt that engaged citizens produce sustainable results. That being said, while we sit here tonight and talk about what we're doing in 2011, we need to look around the room and take notice of the

men and women who have invested their heart and soul into our community for many, many years. Their work was just as important and equally as exciting.

Many of you have heard me use the quote attributed to Bob Kendrick, of the Negro League Baseball Museum, when speaking about the late Buck O'Neil, "In crossing the bridge, we must not forget those who built the bridge." We cannot forget, nor ever fail to appreciate all of you in this room, who have served our community over the years, for the leadership that built the bridge and laid the foundation for everything we enjoy today.

Unfortunately, we lost one of those leaders in January, and we lost a friend. Mark Revenaugh enjoyed his time as Councilman and Mayor, and we miss him. I miss him, even though right now he would be sitting in Jean's seat, just out of the line of sight for all of the audience, either rolling his eyes at me or trying to figure out some other way to throw me off track. He was a good man and he cared deeply about our community. Please do not every allow yourself to forget Mark and his contribution to Gladstone.

Mayor Smith said, in closing, he would like to provide a brief update on a few City initiatives. We will leave the challenges for this community for another day; perhaps we will turn it over to the next regime.

Mayor Smith stated that due in part to the hard work of Officer Elaine Kross, we are experiencing fascinating results from the additional manpower provided by passage of the Public Safety Sales Tax, especially as it pertains to our crime-free community effort; and as we speak, our new radio system is being built as promised.

We currently have more than \$25 million in capital improvement projects on the drawing board. Perhaps the most noticeable to most of you are the trails that you have seen. One along M-1 Highway, another called the Happy Rock Trail, for which we had a bridge ribbon cutting last June. Both of these will connect to the Metro-Green trail system that leads from the north of our City into Kansas City. These additions also fit in well with the Council's goal of developing a Community Health Program.

We have worked diligently at retaining and attracting businesses for our community. Of major consequence is the remodeling of WalMart, which held its grand re-opening last October. Save-A-Lot grocery store recently opened in the Gladstone Plaza, which you may have noticed looks much better than it has in many years, and Wheel Cyclery recently relocated from Kansas City to the Prospect Plaza. We were quite nervous about WalMart. We had heard all the rumors that perhaps they were looking to leave our community. As it turned out, they were just rumors. They have been committed to our community all along, because of the support they enjoy from our community.

The Friends of the Atkins Johnson Farm continue to impress everyone with their hard work in support of the project, and we soon hope to add better street access, a parking lot, and restrooms so we can open the facility to the public. It was quite fascinating to visit the Farm during the restoration and see an honest to goodness log cabin, circa 1823, standing in Gladstone. The group provided an evening of "Christmas at the Farm"; and we are

very appreciative of the acknowledgments from the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), including a marker we dedicated in October.

We are also very excited about the Arts Program in Gladstone. We have a group of dedicated folks committed to public art, and we look forward to what they have to bring to us in the very near future.

We continue to make great strides in organizing neighborhoods and establishing a better sense of community with the neighborhood groups, and we will continue to focus on neighborhood preservation and revitalization efforts. We were in large part awarded the All America City designation in 2008 based on our work in our neighborhoods. We have also found that many of the leaders in our community have come out of neighborhood organization efforts.

The broad issue of sustainability continues to be center stage in our City's planning. A major initiative that you will soon be hearing a lot about is single-source trash hauling. The intent is to provide a single full-service provider at an attractive price for all residents. In most communities, these things do not always go smoothly. There is a lot of discussion that needs to be had, and at some point during this process there will be a need for difficult decisions to be made by all involved, staff and Council alike, and I am confident that our staff and Council will be up to the task.

Lastly, on behalf of the Council and our community, I'd like to thank City Manager Kirk Davis and the entire staff for their continued hard work, dedication and support. You have each made personal sacrifices as we have worked through this period of uncertain financial times. Many may not know that municipal employees went without raises for three of the last four years, and you may not know it, because you have not missed anything in the delivery of services. Because of the efforts of these folks, we have been able to continue to deliver the quality of services that our residents have come to expect and that they deserve. Job well done.

Thank you very much for being here this evening. I appreciate you listening to some of the efforts that we have going on in the community. Gladstone is still a great place to live and work, and for those who have participated in the process, and for those who have served in an elected capacity, thank you for what you have done to make our home town the best home town.

Item 9. on the Agenda. **FIRST READING BILL 11-14**, declaring the results of the Tuesday, April 5, 2011, Gladstone General Election as certified by the Clay County Board of Election Commissioners that City Council Candidates J. Brian Hill and Carol J. Suter have been elected to Three Year Terms on the Gladstone City Council.

Councilman Carol Rudi moved to place **Bill 11-14** on its First Reading. Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough seconded. The vote: All “aye” – Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilmember Carol Suter, Councilman Carol Rudi, Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough and Mayor Les Smith. (5-0). The Clerk read the Bill.

Councilman Carol Rudi moved to accept the First Reading of **Bill 11-14**, Waive the Rule and place the Bill on its Second and Final Reading. Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough seconded. The vote: All “aye” – Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilmember Carol Suter, Councilman Carol Rudi, Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough and Mayor Les Smith. (5-0). The Clerk read the Bill.

Councilman Carol Rudi moved to accept the Second and Final Reading of **Bill 11-14** and to enact the Bill as **Ordinance 4.186**. Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough seconded.

Roll call vote: All “aye” – Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilmember Carol Suter, Councilman Carol Rudi, Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough and Mayor Les Smith. (5-0)

Item 10. on the Agenda. **SPECIAL PRESENTATION** to outgoing **Councilman Carol Rudi** recognizing her service as Councilman and Mayor.

Mayor Smith stated that as the presentation is made to Councilman Rudi, past and present pictures of her and her service to the community would be shown on a PowerPoint presentation. Mayor Smith said that Councilman Rudi is a 44 year resident of Gladstone, and was first elected to the City Council in 2002. She served our City twice as Mayor. Before being elected to the City Council, she served on the following Boards and Commissions: Planning Commission; Capital Improvements Committee; Neighborhood Preservation Task Force; Recycling and Solid Waste Committee; Beautification Week Committee; Council liaison to the Planning Commission; Industrial Development Authority; Art Commission; and the Friends of the Atkins Johnson Farm. She has served as the Chair of the West Gate Division of the Missouri Municipal League, and is currently the Co-Chair of the Mid-America Regional Council First Suburb Coalition, in which she has done a fine job of representing the Missouri side community.

Mayor Smith said Councilman Rudi’s keen interests, in addition to budgetary items, have always been the Atkins Johnson Farm restoration and the Arts Council. Mayor Smith invited Councilman Rudi to join him in front of the Council dais, where he read and presented a framed Gladstone flag that flew over our City during Councilman Rudi’s tenure on the City Council, and a framed Key to the City, which he said is not given out freely by the City Council.

The presentations were followed by a standing ovation by the City Council and the audience.

Councilman Rudi jokingly said that Mayor Smith had been trying to make her cry for years, and she does not do it easily, but she is just flabbergasted! Councilman Rudi said she knew she would have to say something, so she worked on a speech, and for the first time, did not ask for Richard’s (Public Information Officer Richard King) help in preparing the speech!

Councilman Rudi said thank you for an amazing 9 years, and said she has learned so much and gained a great appreciation for a well-run local government. She has met fantastic people and made many friends. Councilman Rudi said she would like to talk a little bit about what she has learned:

Fun things –

- *Meeting other city officials and finding out how great we have it here.*
- *Working with enthusiastic citizens like our Board and Commission members.*
- *Watching programs start and problems being resolved.*
- *Exposure to metro wide issues – transportation, art, and the issues in our schools.*
- *Working with the First Suburbs and MARC (Mid-America Regional Council), MML (Missouri Municipal League), and Metro Area Mayors. This has been inspirational to her. Great people trying to do the best for everyone.*

Boring things – No offense to anyone intended!

- *Learning about radio communication systems.*
- *Intergovernmental agreements.*
- *Methods of development assistance like CID (Community Improvement District), NID (Neighborhood Improvement District), and TIF (Tax Increment Financing), that we have not used.*
- *Hours and hours of budgeting, and that is nothing compared to what staff spends working on our budget.*
- *Road repair methods and materials – I now look for pervious concrete everywhere I go.*
- *Water systems.*
- *Sewers.*
- *Trash, because we went through this ten years ago, and now, trash again.*

Motivating things –

- *Staff & Council – proactive not just reactive, which is unusual in government, and this is so important and we are so lucky in Gladstone to have this.*
- *Gladstone is a role model for many other cities – especially for citizen involvement, like Gladstone on the Move, and for our 20 percent fund reserves. No one has an amount like this. The National Civic League has commended us for this.*
- *Government works best on the local level especially in Gladstone – citizens can talk to their elected officials and City employees and be involved in the future of their City.*
- *“Shop local” – we need to keep our tax dollars in Gladstone. It may be hard to buy everything we need here, but please try, because, if those dollars go somewhere else, so do our services.*
- *Start small. Everything you do has an effect somewhere. Start with your family - support them. Know your neighbors, help them out. Take their paper up to their front porch, and make tire tracks in their driveway if they are out of town and it snows. Keep your eyes open for what happens in your neighborhood. If something strange is going on, call Public Safety, because we do not want anything strange, unusual, or illegal going on in our City. Help in the community. Youth Friends is a wonderful*

opportunity to get involved in our schools. Give back for what you got when you were there. We need to keep our schools in top shape to attract younger families and businesses and to keep our City strong. You can also be involved in Boards and Commissions, and do things like Meals on Wheels. There are so many places where one can work in the community and give back, and it doesn't have to be a lot – just a little.

Scary things –

- *2 tornadoes.*
- *Tanking economy.*
- *Loss of past leaders, most recently Mark.*
- *Not knowing what is going on is a scary thing after leaving the City Council, because by being a member of the City Council, you learn so much, and you have a constant flow of information, and when you are not on the Council any more, that stops suddenly.*
- *Being able to say no to people who think I will have time on my hands.*

Not scary –

- *Having 20-30 hours of “free” time each week.*
- *Reading only what I want to read. Not reading about sewer and trash anymore, and I know more about that than any person should have to!*
- *I am not scared about leaving this position in good hands*

Councilman Rudi concluded by thanking everyone for her nine years, and said she wanted to thank her family, because she has not seen them as much as she would prefer, but she probably won't see them much more anyway, because she does not say “no” very well. Councilman Rudi introduced her family, and began by saying her other half, Greg was in the audience, as were the rest of her family as follows: grandchildren, Jonah and Ansley Mueller; daughter, Stephanie and her husband, Mike Mueller; daughter, Allison and her future granddaughter who will be born in August, and her husband, James Ross. Councilman Rudi introduced her mother, Bonnie Belknap, who has always been her biggest supporter and ally. Councilman Rudi said she loved them all, which was followed with applause from the audience.

Councilman Rudi left her seat at the dais to join her family in the audience.

Mayor Smith said that Carol has done a fabulous job of representing everyone during her tenure on the City Council. Mayor Smith said he has been serving on the City Council off and on since 1984, and he has seen a lot of different Council members pass through, and everyone brings their own special interest and style, and their own concerns to the Council. There is a place on every Council for a person like Carol Rudi - a person who cares deeply for her community, and a person who studies the issues and keeps everything on file. She is a very good thinker, and most importantly she represents, on a daily basis in everything she does, each and every person in the community. Mayor Smith said he believes we saw some raw emotion from Carol, because we do not always stop to think if people appreciate

what we do, and he hopes we were able to show tonight how much she is appreciated. Mayor Smith said it is also a family affair, which is why he believes her daughters and her mother and the rest of the family are so very proud of her, and they should be proud of her. Mayor Smith said that Carol has been a great representative of our community, and we thank her very much for her service.

Item 11. on the Agenda. **CITY COUNCIL OATH OF OFFICE: J. Brian Hill and Carol J. Suter.**

City Clerk Cathy Swenson administered the oath of office to J. Brian Hill and Carol J. Suter for three-year terms on the Gladstone City Council. The audience applauded the newly elected City Council members.

Mayor Smith welcomed back Councilmember Suter and welcomed newly elected Councilman Brian Hill to the City Council.

Item 12. on the Agenda. **ELECTION OF MAYOR AND OATH OF OFFICE.**

Mayor Les Smith presided and opened nominations for the office of Mayor of the City of Gladstone.

Councilmember Carol Suter said she took great pride in nominating **Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough** for the role of Mayor of Gladstone for 2011. Councilman Brian Hill seconded. The vote: All “aye” – Councilman Brian Hill, Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilmember Carol Suter, Mayor Pro Tem Barry McCullough and Mayor Les Smith. (5-0).

Item 13. on the Agenda. **ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEM.**

Mayor Barry McCullough presided and opened nominations for the office of Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Gladstone. Councilman Les Smith said it was with great honor that he nominated **Councilmember Carol Suter** as Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Gladstone, Missouri. Councilmember Jean Moore seconded the motion.

The vote: All “aye” – Councilman Brian Hill, Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilmember Carol Suter, Councilman Les Smith and Mayor Barry McCullough. (5-0).

Mayor McCullough congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter, which was followed with applause from the audience.

CONSENT AGENDA

Following the Clerk’s reading, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Les Smith seconded. The vote: All “aye” – Councilman Brian Hill, Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilman Les Smith, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter and Mayor Barry McCullough. (5-0).

Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter moved to adopt **RESOLUTION R-11-26**, authorizing acceptance of work under contract with Playworld Systems, Incorporated, for the Happy Rock Park East Playground Replacement Project; and authorizing final payment in the amount of \$135,000.00. Councilman Les Smith seconded. The vote: All “aye” – Councilman Brian Hill, Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilman Les Smith, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter and Mayor Barry McCullough. (5-0).

Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter moved to adopt **RESOLUTION R-11-27**, accepting Quit-Claim Deeds, Permanent Drainage Easements and Temporary Construction Easements from certain property owners in conjunction with the North Broadway Avenue Street Reconstruction Project. Councilman Les Smith seconded. The vote: All “aye” – Councilman Brian Hill, Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilman Les Smith, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter and Mayor Barry McCullough. (5-0).

Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter moved to adopt **RESOLUTION R-11-28**, authorizing execution of a contract with Empire Electric Services and Technologies, LLC, in the total amount not to exceed \$541,313.00 for the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition and High Service Pump Improvements Project. Councilman Les Smith seconded. The vote: All “aye” – Councilman Brian Hill, Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilman Les Smith, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter and Mayor Barry McCullough. (5-0).

Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter moved to approve a **TEMPORARY LIQUOR BY THE DRINK LICENSE** for St. Charles Borromeo Church for a fundraising function to be held on May 21, 2011, from 6:00 PM to 11:30 PM. Managing Officer: Lori Creek. Councilman Les Smith seconded. The vote: All “aye” – Councilman Brian Hill, Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilman Les Smith, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter and Mayor Barry McCullough. (5-0).

Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter moved to approve the **FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT**. Councilman Les Smith seconded. The vote: All “aye” – Councilman Brian Hill, Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilman Les Smith, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter and Mayor Barry McCullough. (5-0).

REGULAR AGENDA.

Item 14. on the Agenda. Communications from the Audience.

There were no communications from the audience.

Item 15. on the Agenda. Communications from the City Council.

Councilman Brian Hill stated he looked forward to working with City staff and the City Council members during his term, and he hoped it would be fruitful.

Councilmember Jean Moore welcomed Councilman Hill and said she looks forward to working with him on the City Council.

Councilman Les Smith offered congratulations to Mayor McCullough on his election as Mayor of our City, and said he has not been on board that long, but he has done a fabulous job of acclimating himself to the City, and he is a good thinker. Councilman Smith said that Mayor McCullough has done a fabulous job in his short tenure on the City Council, and he is confident he will do equally as well as Mayor. Councilman Smith congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Suter.

Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter welcomed Councilman Hill, and said she was glad to have him with the City Council, and said she looks forward to working with Mayor McCullough, and she said she seconded Councilman Smith's comments about his demonstrated leadership so far. Mayor Pro Tem Suter said she was not at the last City Council meeting, because she and her husband went with the Chamber of Commerce on a tour of China. The Northland Chamber and the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce team up to do this from time to time. Mayor Pro Tem Suter encouraged everyone if they ever have the opportunity to go on one of these trips, to go. It was a fabulous experience.

Mayor Pro Tem Suter said the most inspiring thing for her was to see how absolutely stunning the re-invention of China has been in such a short amount of time, especially cities like Shanghai, that have been completely torn down and rebuilt in twenty years. Twenty-five years ago, there were only five buildings in Shanghai that were 25 stories or taller. Today there are over 5,000 buildings that are over 25 stories high in Shanghai alone. How they accomplished it really does "blow one's mind", but for her, the inspiration was that it really reminds her again that when people are motivated, great things can be done. Mayor Pro Tem Suter said it makes her even more excited about the possibilities for us to get our village center developed and in place, and to turn the community into that kind of revitalized community center that we are all aiming for and wanting, and said she was committed to that, going forward.

Mayor Barry McCullough offered his thanks to the City Council for putting him in the Mayor's seat, and he welcomed Councilman Hill, and said it was great to have him with the Council and he looks forward to working with him.

Item 16. on the Agenda. Introduction of the Past Mayors and City Council Members.

Mayor McCullough said tonight was an opportunity to honor our City's past Mayors and City Council members, and he asked each of them to stand as he called their name: former Mayor Anita Newsom; former Mayor Wayne Beer; Mary Cross, widow of former Mayor Bill Cross; Carmelina Smith, widow of former Mayor Everett Smith; former Mayor Dick Davis; former Mayor Paul Degenhardt; and former Councilman Shirley Smith. Mayor McCullough invited the audience to welcome them and thank them for their service, which

was followed by applause from the audience. Mayor McCullough thanked all the former Mayors and Council members for being present this evening.

Item 17. on the Agenda. Communications from the City Manager.

City Manager Kirk Davis stated, on behalf of the staff, he would like to welcome aboard Councilman Hill, and said “enjoy the ride”! City Manager Davis congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Suter, and said hopefully, we can continue some of the progress we have made, and he is looking forward to the next year working with this Council. City Manager Davis said he would reserve a couple of comments for former Mayor Smith for when they are in private, and said he could not say enough about the job he has done this past year, and he thanked him for his comments about staff in his State of the City report. City Manager Davis said he and staff would miss Councilman Rudi. In her nine years, she went through two tornadoes, an ice storm, a downturn in the economy, and a lot of things happened in those years, but she was always steadfast in what she believed was the right thing to do for this City, and we will miss that leadership, and certainly have appreciated it.

City Manager Davis said the Home Show was a great success, and double the number of people attended this year. There were over 30 vendors, and hopefully, we will continue to build on that.

Mayor Pro Tem Suter said she had her solar fan spec'd today and it will be installed next week. She and her husband found a product they were impressed with at the Home Show.

Item 18. on the Agenda. **APPROVAL OF PARK FESTIVAL USE PERMITS** for the 15th Annual Gladstone Summertime Bluesfest in Oak Grove Park, 76th & North Troost, Friday and Saturday, June 10-11, 2011, including approval of designated smoking areas; and the 32nd Annual Gladfest Celebration on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 30, October 1 & 2, 2011, in the Gladstone Central Park area, near 69th & N. Holmes, under the sponsorship of the Gladstone Area Chamber of Commerce and the City of Gladstone.

Councilman Les Smith moved to approve **PARK FESTIVAL USE PERMITS** for the 15th Annual Gladstone Summertime Bluesfest in Oak Grove Park, 76th & North Troost, Friday and Saturday, June 10-11, 2011, including approval of designated smoking areas; and the 32nd Annual Gladfest Celebration on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 30, October 1 & 2, 2011, in the Gladstone Central Park area, near 69th & N. Holmes, under the sponsorship of the Gladstone Area Chamber of Commerce and the City of Gladstone. Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter seconded. The vote: All “aye” – Councilman Brian Hill, Councilmember Jean Moore, Councilman Les Smith, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter and Mayor Barry McCullough. (5-0).

Item 19. on the Agenda. **Other Business.**

Councilman Smith stated he was remiss in not welcoming Councilman Hill. It was not intentional, and said he was focused on the Mayor, and he apologized. Councilman Smith said he has known Councilman Hill for a long time, and knows he will make an outstanding Councilman.

Councilman Hill thanked Councilman Smith.

Item 20. on the Agenda. Questions from the News Media.

There were no News Media present.

Item 21. on the Agenda. Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the April 11, 2011, Gladstone Regular City Council Meeting, Mayor Barry McCullough adjourned the meeting, and invited everyone to stay for a reception honoring past and present City Council members. The reception would be held in the north and south conference rooms.

Respectfully submitted:

Cathy Swenson, City Clerk

Approved as submitted: ____
Approved as corrected/amended: ____

Mayor Barry McCullough