



**MINUTES  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
GLADSTONE, MISSOURI  
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bill Garnos  
Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter  
Councilmember Jean Moore  
Councilman R.D. Mallams

**ABSENT:** Councilman Kyle Yarber  
  
City Manager Scott Wingerson  
Assistant City Manager Bob Baer  
City Clerk Ruth Bocchino  
Attorney Chris Williams

**Item No. 1. On the Agenda.** Meeting Called to Order.

**Mayor Garnos** opened the Regular City Council Meeting Monday, April 8, 2019, at 7:30 pm in the Gladstone City Council Chambers.

**Item No. 2. On the Agenda.** ROLL CALL.

All Councilmembers were present with the exception of Councilman Kyle Yarber.

**Item No. 3. On the Agenda.** PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

**Mayor Garnos** asked all to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**Item No. 4. On the Agenda.** Approval of Agenda.

The agenda was approved as presented.

**Item No. 5. On the Agenda.** Approval of the March 25, 2019, Closed City Council Meeting Minutes.

**Councilman Mallams** moved to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2019, Closed City Council meeting as presented. **Councilmember Moore** seconded. The Vote: "aye", Councilman

R.D. Mallams, Councilmember Jean Moore, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter, and Mayor Bill Garnos. (4-0)

**Item No. 6. On the Agenda.** Approval of the March 25, 2019, Regular City Council Meeting Minutes.

**Councilmember Moore** moved to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2019, Regular City Council meeting as presented. **Councilman Mallams** seconded. The Vote: "aye", Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilmember Jean Moore, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter, and Mayor Bill Garnos. (4-0)

**Item No. 7. On the Agenda.** INTRODUCTION OF PAST MAYORS AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS.

**Mayor Garnos** stated: *"It is my honor to recognize the past Mayors and City Council members that are in our audience this evening. Former Mayor Barry McCullough, former Mayor Les Smith, OG of the Council mustache is here with us this evening, and former Mayor Rick Moore. Thank you for being here this evening."*

**Item No. 8. On the Agenda.** MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS.

**Mayor Garnos** stated: *"Each year the Clay County Economic Development Council holds a State of the Cities luncheon. The Mayor from each city gets up and brags about the economic development that has occurred in their city during the past year. Last month it was my pleasure to highlight some of our successes from the past year and mention some of the exciting things we've got coming up. The most exciting thing that has happened in Gladstone this year has been the opening of Summit Grill. It has turned out really well. We brought 110 new jobs to Gladstone. The owners of Summit Grill have opened seven restaurants and the one here is their largest and has had the strongest opening of them all so they are very happy to be in Gladstone. I think Summit Grill was a huge victory not just for Gladstone but for all the Northland. This is something that we all wanted and needed. I think it's turned out great and I think years from now when we look back we are going to see this as the tipping point in the development of that part of Gladstone. We also had the privilege of opening a large new park this year. (Hobby Hill). The park provides a nice walking trail, shelter and restrooms, a multi-generational play area with separate playground areas and equipment appropriate for little kids, for big kids, and for adults and seniors. We are very fortunate to be aided in this effort by contributions from AARP and by the JJK Memorial Foundation for which a special reflection area was created. In developing the park, I believe we were respectful to the land and respectful to the surrounding neighborhood and I'm also excited to see what Mother Nature has in store for the park over the next few years as things start to grow out and other parts of the park get utilized. I think in the years to come this park is only going to get better and better. One of the other exciting things going on is iWerx building on their success in North Kansas City. iWerx is in the final stages of converting a 32,000 square foot building across the street from Summit Grill into a business incubator or entrepreneurial development center which provides private offices and collaborative co-working spaces for startup companies, small businesses, and independent workers. It's also the new home for the Clay County EDC. iWerx is also converting the old Fins & Foliage building to serve as*

an arts incubator called Designwerx. I've been going to these State of the Cities luncheons for several years now and it is always one of my favorite events of the year. One of the points I tried to make this year is that sometimes I feel like we define the state of our cities by our economic development successes. Those of us in this room know that what really defines the state of our city, and why we call Gladstone our home, goes well beyond just economic development wins and losses. Part of what makes the City of Gladstone a great place to live is our many festivals and parks, Bluesfest, our Independence Day concert at Oak Grove Park, Gladfest, and Theatre in the Park productions are all continuing to get better year after year. Our amphitheater at Linden Square continues to provide bands and concerts on weekends throughout the summer. We just finished the schedule for our summer program called Sounds on the Square with lots of great cover bands and tribute bands that play Fleetwood Mac, Queen, the Eagles, and other music from the 1980's, back when music was good. There are lots of opportunities for free and family oriented entertainment. Our Community Center continues to be the crown jewel in our city facilities with two full size basketball courts, a terrific fitness center, banquet and meeting rooms, and a successful partnership with the North Kansas City School District so that our natatorium can continue to provide indoor recreation for our members and a great place for conducting swim meets. One of the other things that define our community is our strong commitment and support for Public Safety, and we plow snow really well. We have had plenty of opportunities to excel at that through the winter. This past year we saw the completion of the Pleasant Valley Road realignment. This project was a successful partnership with Kansas City with about 70% federal funding, it provides better access on the east side of Gladstone, it realigned and replaced a very dangerous road with one that now provides bike lanes, sidewalks, trails, and LED streetlights. The project was started way back in 2004 and took two years of construction, but it's done. Looking ahead, we are finally going to get Old Pike Road fixed this next year. We are going to put in curbs, gutters, bike lanes and sidewalks and fix some traffic safety problems. Again, something we have been working toward for several years now. As you know, we have some terrific trails in and around Gladstone. We have trails running from Maple Woods Community College on Barry Road down to Happy Rock Park and from there down to the fire station. This year we have two significant trail extensions planned. One is, again, a partnership with Kansas City, and will run from Happy Rock Park over to North Brighton, and will add over a mile to our existing trail system which will be even more exciting if Kansas City can figure out how to finish North Brighton. The other extension will connect our Rock Creek trail with our other existing trails that run all the way up to Happy Rock Park, so with the Shoal Creek Greenway project and the Rock Creek Trail project, we are going to connect and extend our trail systems to create a larger and contiguous trail system which has always been the goal with the trails. As I mentioned, we opened Hobby Hill Park this year. We have an 18 hole Disc Golf Course laid out and cleared around the park. This year we are going to continue to groom the course, put in the t-boxes and baskets, and open up even more of the park for people to enjoy. Finally, I wanted to mention the one-half cent sales tax we approved last week. As you know, in Gladstone, everything we do is citizen led and citizen based. Several years ago we had a citizen based strategic plan called Gladstone on the Move. As a result of that, we made a number of major city improvements including construction of our Community Center. Over the past two or three years, we have had another citizen based and citizen led strategic planning initiative going on called Shaping Our Future. This group ultimately made a number of recommendations to our City Council, including the need to expand one of our fire stations, build a police station, and provide a competitive pay structure to enhance recruitment and retention of city staff. These are

*all very important, but obviously go beyond the city's ability to provide without additional revenue. This was a very important election for us so that we can continue to provide high quality fire, police, and EMS services. Last Tuesday, 80.2% of the voters in Gladstone agreed. I'm proud of the work that so many people contributed to Shaping Our Future; I'm proud of how we carefully and specifically defined our needs, and how we put the information out there for voter approval. I'm proud that the people of Gladstone supported this and that they trust we will be good stewards of the taxpayers money. I also want to thank the people outside Gladstone who pay about 38% of our sales taxes and who will also be helping us to pay for our city's facility improvements. Let me be clear: When I talk about the good things that really define our city, we couldn't do any of these things without economic development. By the same token, we can't have economic development without first making sure that Gladstone is a great place to live and a great place to do business. For the State of the City, let me just say that in Gladstone, everything is awesome."*

## **REGULAR AGENDA.**

**Item No. 9. On the Agenda. FIRST READING BILL NO. 19-16** An Ordinance declaring the results of the Gladstone General Municipal Election held on Tuesday, April 2, 2019, as certified by the Clay County Board of Election Commissioners; declaring that candidate Bill Garnos has been elected to a three year term on the Gladstone City Council and declaring that the imposition of the City Sales Tax of one half of one percent has been approved by the voters of the City of Gladstone, Missouri.

**Mayor Pro Tem Suter** moved Bill No. 19-16 be placed on its First Reading. **Councilmember Moore** seconded. The Vote: "aye", Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilmember Jean Moore, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter, and Mayor Bill Garnos. (4-0). The Clerk read the Bill.

**Mayor Pro Tem Suter** moved to accept the First Reading of Bill No. 19-16, waive the rule, and place the Bill on its Second and Final Reading. **Councilmember Moore** seconded. The Vote: "aye", Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilmember Jean Moore, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter, and Mayor Bill Garnos. (4-0). The Clerk read the Bill.

**Mayor Pro Tem Suter** moved to accept the Second and Final Reading of Bill No. 19-16, and enact the Bill as **Ordinance 4.467**. **Councilmember Moore** seconded.

**Councilman Mallams** stated: *"I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to our Mayor for his exceptional service to our community while serving as the Mayor for the great City of Gladstone. Bill, even though at times not all of the Councilmembers were always in agreement, you respected each of our feelings and beliefs, and you kept us focused on the task at hand. Finally, you represented our city at many local and regional commitments. You demonstrated professionalism and upon your return from these events you kept us informed and up to date on the current issues in Kansas City, and I'm sure you shared your humor with everybody that you have met. Bill, thank you for doing an exceptional job."*

**Councilmember Moore** stated: *"I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to Mayor Garnos for ushering this Council through the past year. We are fortunate in Gladstone to have a*

*lot of exciting opportunities and challenges before us, and you have guided us through this year with great skill and dedication. I know very well how many extra demands fall upon the shoulders of the Mayor, and you have always handled the job with professionalism and the amazing humor only you have the ability to pull off. I'm going to take the liberty of quoting one of Dr. Seuss's lines that I've heard you mention often: 'Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better; it's not.' Mayor Garnos, you have cared a whole awful lot for this City this past year and you continue to do so and I want to express my most sincere thanks for a job well done."*

**Mayor Pro Tem Suter** stated: *"Echoing, echoing, thank you for your service to the community this year. It is a special extra effort to be the Mayor. It takes a lot of extra time. I also wanted to, as we are certifying the results of this election, thank the community for the overwhelming support for the future of Gladstone and meeting our needs around Public Safety and other municipal services needed for the next 20-30 years. I'm delighted to support this Bill."*

The Vote: "aye", Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilmember Jean Moore, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter, and Mayor Bill Garnos. (4-0)

**Item No. 10. On the Agenda. CITY COUNCIL OATH OF OFFICE: BILL GARNOS**

City Clerk Ruth Bocchino administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Elect Bill Garnos, for the position of Councilman, effective April 8, 2019. This was followed by applause from the audience.

**Item No. 11. On the Agenda. ELECTION OF MAYOR AND OATH OF OFFICE.**

**Mayor Garnos** presided and opened nominations for the office of Mayor of the City of Gladstone.

**Councilman Mallams** stated: *"It is my honor to nominate Councilmember Carol Suter to serve as our Mayor for the City of Gladstone for this upcoming year. Councilmember Moore* seconded.

As there were no further nominations for the office of Mayor to come before the City Council, **Mayor Garnos** called for a vote. The Vote: "aye", Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilmember Jean Moore, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter, and Mayor Bill Garnos. (4-0)

Following applause from the audience, City Clerk Ruth Bocchino administered the Oath of Office for the position of Mayor of the City of Gladstone, Missouri, to **Mayor Pro Tem Carol Suter**. The audience applauded the newly elected Mayor.

**Mayor Suter** stated: *"First let me thank my colleagues. I am deeply honored to serve as Mayor again. This is a great city and it really is a pleasure to be the spokesperson as so often a Mayor is called to be. I appreciate you giving me this opportunity again. I'm looking forward to a great year. After hearing the past year, I always enjoy the Mayor's State of the City address, what we*

*often know up here is that there is lots of good stuff coming so it's going to be another great year and I'm delighted to serve as we move forward."*

**Item No. 12. On the Agenda. ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM.**

**Mayor Suter** presided and opened nominations for the office of Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Gladstone.

**Councilman Garnos** stated: *"I would like to nominate Jean Moore to serve as our next Mayor Pro Tem."* **Councilman Mallams** seconded.

As there were no further nominations for the office of Mayor Pro Tem to come before the City Council, **Mayor Suter** called for a vote. The Vote: "aye", Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilman Bill Garnos, Councilmember Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (4-0)

**Mayor Suter** announced that **Councilmember Moore** had been elected as Mayor Pro Tem and stated: *"You will have the opportunity, the first person, to serve as Mayor three times probably in history. We have kind of been on a roll with people staying a little longer than average, I think, in office, which actually is a good thing, I think, as we go through so many huge changes in development and big opportunities that can take years to plan. I think it is really helpful when we have stability. We had a few years there where we had a lot of turnover and that was kind of a challenge. Glad to be serving with this group again. Now we move our attention to Item No. 13."*

**Item No. 13. On the Agenda. Communications from the Audience.**

There were no communications from the audience.

**Item No. 14. On the Agenda. Communications from the City Council.**

**Councilman Garnos** stated: *"You've heard enough from me, but I do have a few thank you's I have to give out. I wanted to thank the members of City Council. It's been an honor for me to serve as Mayor and I couldn't have done it without your guidance and support. I want to thank city staff for all of their hard work for which I received all the credit. I want to specifically thank the department heads, particularly Justin, Tim, and Mike. Thank you for your prompt response to problems that I dumped on you so that I didn't have to deal with them. I want to thank Ruth and Becky for their many, many reminders of what I should be doing. A special thank you to Scott and the rest of our Leadership Team. I had a good analogy here about how the City Manager was sort of like a border collie herding sheep all towards one destination and every once in a while, one would break off and would have to be rounded up and not let any of the others stray too far, but my wife wasn't here to edit my comments so I'm not going to be able to use that one this evening. Thank you for being our border collie and for running the city. I want to thank the voter's for their confidence in keeping me on Council for another term and then finally, of course, I want to thank my wife Lori who is unable to be here tonight. She is on the road for work, but none of this would be possible without her support and encouragement. Thank you everyone and hopefully you will be hearing a lot less from me."*

**Mayor Pro Tem Moore** stated: *"I just wanted to follow up on the comments from our successful campaign last week. I wanted to really call out the names of the people who served on that committee. Certainly their efforts led the charge here. Tina Spallo was the head of our campaign committee, Jenny McGee, Eugene Suter, Travis McKee, Les Smith, Bev Johnson, Kristin Tartar and Barry McCullough. With over 80% of the vote, obviously it took a lot of effort from a lot of people and it's really a testimony to those who worked so hard to make this happen. I wanted to thank all the residents who believed in our message and who believed in the importance of supporting our fire, police, and EMS. All the people who wrote the grass roots letters, planted yard signs, picked them up, and voted especially, it's a victory for all the residents of this city and it will give us the opportunity to do great things ahead. Thank you to everyone who supported this issue."*

**Mayor Suter** stated: *"Thank you. Lots of accolades from here. I get asked often how we do it in Gladstone. How do we get so many good things to happen in the last decade or so. The answer always is citizen engagement. It's because the city listens to its residents and when you listen, and then you give people what they ask for, that's a pretty good formula for success. That is very gratifying to be part of a Leadership Team that has that kind of confidence from its residents. It helps us as we move forward. Sometimes we have to take risks that the public doesn't even know about, behind the scenes in order to make some things happen. It is really gratifying to know that we listen appropriately, what we think we hear is, in fact, what you are saying, and we do try to move forward in a unified vision for the future. There are a lot of great opportunities coming for this city and I think we have really been on a great track of revitalization for the past decade and it's just really getting going. There is a lot more to come. Having said that, thanks to everybody who participated in that campaign. I hope that the City Manager will now update us on all the things that are coming up that none of us mentioned here now."*

**Item No. 15. On the Agenda. Communications from the City Manager.**

City Manager Wingerson stated: *"Well, I don't know if I'm prepared to do that tonight but I am prepared to offer congratulations to this Council here tonight. Special congratulations to Mayor Suter. I'd like to start by saying our thoughts are with Councilman Yarber who couldn't be here tonight tending to a health issue on the other side of the state for a family member so we are thinking of him. Congratulations and thank you to all of the people who were involved in or helped on the sales tax election. Mayor Pro Tem Moore was a little bit modest and didn't mention her name as well as some of the other City Council members who supported and really worked on the election, so thank you for that. Thank you to former Mayor, now former Mayor Bill Garnos. I can't do justice to what your term has meant to me personally. What people don't see are the phone calls after hours, late at night, early in the morning, dinner time, where the City Manager just needs to vent. The Mayor is the scapegoat for those ventings about what is going on in the city. I appreciate you listening, guiding, and talking me off the ledge more than once over the last year; always done with a sense of humor which I appreciate. Mayor Pro Tem Moore, congratulations and we look forward to working with you in a familiar role, but a little bit different than the last year, again congratulations to Mayor Suter. I look forward to working with you for at new role for you and I. I'm really excited to explore that and move us all forward as a community. Thank you all very much for what you do. We should say it more often than on a night like tonight but it seems appropriate just to tell you thank you, so thank you."*

**Mayor Suter** stated: *"We will direct all the people to the website to see what is happening at the farm, the Farm Museum is opening, we have all kinds of things going on around the city as it is springtime. All the parks are busy and that's a really great sign that there are all kinds of events going, etc."*

**Item No. 16. On the Agenda.** Other Business.

There was no other business to come before the Council.

**Item No. 17. On the Agenda.** Adjournment.

**Mayor Suter** adjourned the April 8, 2019, Regular City Council meeting at 7:56 pm and stated: *"All are welcome to join us for some goodies in the conference room."*

Respectfully submitted:

*Ruth E. Bocchino*  
Ruth E. Bocchino, City Clerk

Approved as presented: ✓

Approved as modified: \_\_\_\_\_

*Carol J. Suter*  
Mayor Carol J. Suter