



**MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
GLADSTONE, MISSOURI
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019**

PRESENT: Mayor Carol Suter
Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore
Councilman Bill Garnos
Councilman R.D. Mallams
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 Suter opened the Regular City Council Meeting Monday, December 9, 2019, at 7:30 pm in the Gladstone City Council Chambers.

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

All Councilmembers were present.

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

Mayor Suter 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 published.

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

Councilman Mallams moved to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2019, Closed City Council meeting as presented. **Mayor Pro Tem Moore** seconded. The Vote: "aye", Councilman Kyle Yarber, Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilman Bill Garnos, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

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

Mayor Pro Tem Moore moved to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2019, Regular City Council meeting as presented. **Councilman Mallams** seconded. The Vote: "aye", Councilman Kyle Yarber, Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilman Bill Garnos, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

REGULAR AGENDA.

Item No. 7. On the Agenda. Communications from the Audience.

There were none.

Item No. 8. On the Agenda. Communications from the City Council.

Councilman Yarber stated: *"Thank you. I attended the last two days of what they call Climate Change Academy, which was offered through the Association of Climate Change Officers in conjunction with the Mid America Regional Council. It could very easily turn into a long discussion if I tried to bring up everything; but one thing that did come up that was very interesting is that municipalities, when they are getting their financial ratings, the ratings for bonds and things like that, increasingly are asked about their climate change plans. Even municipalities in the area are already experiencing that; if you don't have a plan for climate change, you will find yourself getting lower ratings. It is being taken very seriously by financial institutions. Also, the season for the Atkins-Johnson Farm and Museum is quickly coming to an end, but they have two great events coming up this Saturday on the 14th. From noon to 3:00 they have cookies and photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus. This is a lot of fun every year. You can also get pictures. Saturday evening, from 7:00-9:00, they have family holiday night. They will have music, they will do a candlelight trail, they will have all kinds of fun activities going on and that will be the last activity taking place at the farm this year, until next spring."*

Councilman Mallams stated: *"Thank you, Mayor. I would just like to take this opportunity to personally thank our Board and Commission members."*

Councilman Garnos stated: *"Thank you, Mayor. I didn't have anything but I'm going to end up ditto-ing what Councilman Mallams said."*

Mayor Pro Tem Moore stated: *"Thank you. I would just like to pause for a moment to honor Marilyn Ahnefeld. Marilyn served this city admirably as City Clerk for 40 years and her death leaves a big gap in all of our hearts. She and her husband Bud have been fierce and loyal supporters of this city forever; whether it's Chamber events, Theater in the Park, all of our festivals; all city initiatives; they have been there and done the work and been supporters and been the biggest cheerleaders for Gladstone. Marilyn will be deeply missed."*

Mayor Suter stated: *"I'm privileged to live in the same neighborhood with Marilyn. She served as the city's Mrs. Santa Claus for a number of years and Bud shared a great story with her unpacking it this year knowing it was being passed on and she would never do it again. It was heart-wrenching."*

"I'd like to thank everyone who was involved and participated in the Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting. We had a great event. Staff did a great job. This year we had to be really flexible because our MC, Joe Lauria, did us live and did his weather report live from the podium so we had to be pretty flexible about how we managed that thing. It turned out really great. It was kind of a foggy night, but we got some great television coverage for that event and that is always good for the City of Gladstone. Saturday, the brand new Wendy's Restaurant that is on Antioch, North Prospect, had their grand opening. They had a wonderful event. It was my privilege to get to help them cut the ribbon. Like most of the new stores and refurbished stores in Gladstone, they already have been off to the best start. Better than they imagined they could at that location. Again, they were so complimentary of what a great staff we have and that this was the best deal they had worked on in years. The franchise company that owns that franchise has over 400 franchises across the country, so when they say that Gladstone was the best, most helpful city they ever worked with, that is really quite a compliment. Hear, hear, to our staff. Great job. I wanted to remind people that we have two new pedestrian crossings open in Gladstone. I know Councilman Yarber championed one at the corner of Broadway and 72nd Street, which took a bit to construct. It's done, it looks great. There is a new pedestrian crossing with a light at Happy Rock Park so you can cross from East to West that was just finished about a week ago, officially. That looks really great. This week is the Keystone Awards that the Clay County Economic Development Council awards and three projects in Gladstone are being awarded this year. This is for new construction projects that are particularly outstanding, both for the way they look and the way they serve their communities. The Mid Continent Library, its refurbished building is being honored. The iWerx Building, the shared works space, and Hobby Hill Park, of course, which is one of city's most fun and interesting projects, will be honored as well. Our law enforcement department, I want to make sure I get this right, for the 7th year; exciting things, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, CALEA, is the gold standard of accreditation for Public Safety Departments in the county and this is the 7th year that we have applied and achieved accreditation through them. Congratulations to our Public Safety Department. We always work hard at Gladstone to be the best we can be and to provide the best service we can to our community and this is good evidence that we are accomplishing that; not only in our own estimation, but in the eyes of the rest of the world as well. Congratulations Director Hasty to you and your folks. Of course, I would like to express Happy Holidays to everybody. We won't be meeting as City Council again until the New Year. This is our last opportunity to wish you all Happy Holidays."

Item No. 9. On the Agenda. Communications from the City Manager.

City Manager Scott Wingerson stated: *"Thank you, Mayor. I was listening to the Council talk about the things going on in the community and, I don't know if you realize it or not, but you complemented good news from each of the six operating departments and of course your comments today. Good job to all those involved. Well done, and thank you to the Council for recognizing some of those accomplishments over the year. As the Mayor said, this is the last*

scheduled public meeting of the year. We will be closed on the 24th and 25th of December for the Christmas holiday and January 1st for the New Year's holiday. We wish everybody a safe and happy time with their families. Thank you."

Item No. 10. On the Agenda. RECOGNIZE OUTGOING BOARDS AND COMMISSION MEMBERS.

Mayor Suter stated: *"We want to take a minute to recognize a couple of our outgoing Board and Commission members. For those of you who are coming in new, eventually there is a time your term ends. We have a couple of folks who served us for a long time and so I want to take this opportunity to recognize them. Joanne Bryant was not able to join us; I didn't see her come in. She has served for 15 years on the Parks and Recreation Board and so we will catch up with her later. Joe Coleman is here. I'm going to ask Joe to come up front."*

Mayor Suter presented a plaque to Mr. Coleman for his service on the Board of Zoning for eight years and stated: *"Joe is a great example of what makes Gladstone such a great place to live. We have the highest percentage of people over the age of 65 than any other city in the region. That is because Gladstone is a great place to age in place and people age in place here well because we have lots of great community activities and services. It's people like Joe who have a great attitude of continuing to be involved into his later years and that keeps people healthy and happy for a much longer time. We really appreciate your service, Joe."*

Item No. 11. On the Agenda. APPOINT BOARDS AND COMMISSION MEMBERS.

Mayor Suter read the re-appointments and new appointments (see attached) and thanked all the participants in the audience and online. The meet and greet for Boards and Commissions is January 23 at Summit Grill.

Item No. 12. On the Agenda. APPROVE BUILDING PERMIT: Little Caesars 6700 North Oak Trafficway.

City Manager Wingerson stated: *"There is a packet at your place that has updated renderings. That was substituted late. It's the old Verizon building on North Oak and staff is recommending approval."*

Mayor Suter stated: *"Can you point out what's different? It didn't immediately strike me as to what is different."*

Alan Napoli approached Council and stated: *"The look is not different. If you take a look at the upper left drawing, you will see a four foot overhang. In the new drawing, that is gone. Basically, they are bringing it back so you won't have that four foot overhang. That is all they are doing, they are going to match what is existing there now. That is the only difference; they are taking that back two foot. The structure and look stays the same."*

Mayor Pro Tem Moore moved to approve the Building Permit for Little Caesars, 6700 North Oak Trafficway. **Councilman Yarber** seconded. The Vote: "aye", Councilman Kyle Yarber,

Councilman R.D. Mallams, Councilman Bill Garnos, Mayor Pro Tem Jean Moore, and Mayor Carol Suter. (5-0)

Mayor Suter stated: *"Thank you. The Building Permit is approved. We look forward to Little Caesar's new digs. They aren't new to Gladstone, they closed their previous store, but this is the reuse of an existing empty building. We appreciate that."*

Item No. 13. On the Agenda. Other Business.

There was no other business to come before the Council.

Item No. 14. On the Agenda. Adjournment.

Mayor Suter adjourned the December 9, 2019, Regular City Council meeting at 7:48 pm and reconvened the Closed Session.

Respectfully submitted:

Ruth E. Bocchino

Ruth E. Bocchino, City Clerk

Approved as presented: ✓

Approved as modified:

Carol J. Suter
Mayor Carol J. Suter