

**JANUARY 05, 2009**

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

The St. James City Council met at City Hall on Monday January 05, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Dennis Wilson presided.

Councilmen Don Moore, David Watkins, Jim White, Danielle Verkamp, Richard Woolsey, David Watkins and Rodney Edwards were present for the meeting. John Edgar, Mike Licklider, Kevin Friend, Maxine Johnson, Sheran Ashby, Mark Macey and Leader Journal editor Kathleen Meyer were also present for the meeting.

**ITEM # 2** - Mayor Wilson led in The Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM # 3** - The December 08, 2008 regular and Public Hearing meeting minutes, given to each council member prior to the meeting, on a motion by David Watkins and a second by Don Moore were approved as written. The vote is as follows: Don Moore-aye, Margaret Roberts-absent, David Watkins-aye, Jim White-aye, Rodney Edwards-aye, Aaron Hunter – aye, Danielle Verkamp- aye, Richard Woolsey - aye.

**ITEM # 4** - On a motion by Jim White, finance chairman, and a second by Don Moore it was unanimously approved to pay the bills. The vote is as follows: Don Moore-aye, Margaret Roberts-absent, David Watkins-aye, Jim White-aye, Rodney Edwards-aye, Aaron Hunter – aye, Danielle Verkamp- aye, Richard Woolsey - aye.

**ITEM # 5 – Citizen Input:** None

**ITEM # 6** – Mayor Wilson presented Maxine Johnson with a certificate of appreciation and bouquet of flowers in recognition of her goodwill and generosity to city council and various city departments providing deserts in support of city operations.

**ITEM # 7** – Sheran Ashby reported on city employee health insurance, to expire February 01, 2009, stating the current plan has increased 23%. She has received several quotes from other companies. A quote, not yet confirmed, from Anthem Blue Cross and Shield looks exceptionally good. A firm quote should be here this week.

On a motion by Aaron Hunter and a second by David Watkins it was unanimously approved for the Insurance Committee to decide which health insurance to go with when firm quotes are received. The vote is as follows: Don Moore-aye, Margaret Roberts-absent, David Watkins-aye, Jim White-aye, Rodney Edwards-aye, Aaron Hunter – aye, Danielle Verkamp- aye, Richard Woolsey - aye.

(Note: Sheran Ashby received the final rates from Anthem Blue Cross and Shield on Tuesday January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009. I, the City Clerk, at the request of Councilman Woolsey, the Insurance Committee Chairman, called each Insurance Committee member and gave them the information over the phone and they all agreed to go with Anthem Blue Cross and Shield. Mayor Wilson signed the agreement. The phone vote is as follows: Margaret Roberts-aye, Rodney Edwards-aye, Danielle Verkamp- aye, Richard Woolsey - aye. The monthly premium will be \$1,231.39 less than our current rate and \$4,660.67 less than our renewal rate with UHC. The coverage will be -0-deductible, \$15 Dr. Co-pay, \$1,000 Co-Insurance, two per family, and 10/35/75 pharmacy).

**ITEM # 8 – Proposed Resolution # 2009-157 regarding utility rates to be review semi annually** was posted 24 hours in advance, given to each council member prior to the council meeting and read once by title at the council meeting. On a motion by Jim White and a second by Rodney Edwards it passed. The vote is as follows: Don Moore-aye, Margaret Roberts-absent, David Watkins-aye, Jim White-aye, Rodney Edwards-aye, Aaron Hunter – aye, Danielle Verkamp- aye, Richard Woolsey - aye.

**ITEM# 9** – In the absence of Candace Connell Mayor Wilson presented the Comprehensive Plan update and listed various meeting dates for January and February.

**ITEM # 10** – No report from Larry Wycoff.

Cont.

**ITEM # 11 - Committee Reports:**

Councilman Hunter reported a different location for citizens to dump limbs, leaves and gumballs is being sought.

Councilman Watkins reported the sanitation department is using a rental truck while its truck is being repaired. He also reported several citizens have complained to him regarding leaf and gumball debris causing flooding after the last rain.

After much discussion it was suggested that the Street commissioner devise a plan to help the leaf and gumball situation.

Councilman Moore shared his interest in purchasing a flat screen TV with cable and a scanner for access to weather and road conditions for travelers.

Councilman White brought to the council's attention an employee who has been working part time in two different departments an average of 32 hours a week. He asked the council to think about if the employee should be considered full time and offered benefits. The council expressed their opinion seemingly for the employee to be offered benefits but no action was taken. He voiced other concerns including getting a six month progress report from the Community Development department, how to stimulate city businesses and how to get the overpass named in honor of our city veterans.

Councilman Woolsey reported the City's Workers Compensation Experience Modification factor is .90 which means we have earned a 10 percent credit on our base premium.

All other departments are reportedly doing well.

Mayor Wilson reported:

- Econo Lodge has sold and the new owners plan to extensively renovate the building.
- Golf carts will not be endorsed as a means of transportation on city streets.
- Our police officers will no longer unlock vehicles but will offer the names of lock smiths and towing companies to those who call for that assistance.
- A letter will be sent to utility customers regarding utility rate increases.
- The possession of a retail sales license and a statement from the department of revenue that the licensee owes not tax due shall be a prerequisite to the issuance or renewal of any city occupation license conducting any business where goods are sold at retail. Effective 01-01-09.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on a motion by Don Moore and a second by Danielle Verkamp.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

DECEMBER 2008 BILLS AND SALARIES		DEPOSITED IN GENERAL FUND	
GENERAL	\$ 9,633.95	RE TAX/BLDG	
POLICE	\$ 33,669.86	PERMIT/MISC	\$ 26,543.57
COMMUNITY DEV.	\$ 3,942.28	CABLE TV FRANCHISE	\$ -
		SALES TAX	\$ 42,630.25
		INTEREST	\$ 180.94
MUNICIPAL COURT	\$ 3,308.03	MUNICIPAL COURT	\$ 8,586.00
SANITATION	\$ 30,095.17	SANITATION	\$ 34,245.45
STREET	\$ 18,064.46	GAS TAX/PERMITS	\$ 11,381.41
TRANS. SALES TAX	\$ -	TRANS. SALES TAX	\$ 21,315.12
TIC	\$ 3,301.96	TIC	\$ 1,251.02
PARK	\$ 649.26	PARKS	\$ 4,410.17
SUMMER SPORTS	\$ 7,754.72	SUMMER SPORTS	\$ 86.10
UT TO REIMB	\$ (6,289.07)	UT PILOT	\$ 33,333.33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 104,130.62</b>		<b>\$ 183,963.36</b>

Cc: Mayor Wilson – White – Moore – Edwards – Watkins – Roberts – Hunter – Woolsey -  
Verkamp