

**CITY OF FULTON COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025**

The Council of the City of Fulton, Missouri, met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 18 E. 4th Street.

Present and presiding were: Steve F. Myers, Mayor; Courtney L. Doyle, Director of Administration; Kathie Ratliff, City Clerk; and William Ladwig, Police Chief. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Myers at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was noted by the City Clerk, and members of the Council present were: Alan Combs, Bill Hinchie, Lauren Nelson, Mary Rehkla, and Jeff Stone. Brad Leather, Bob Washington, and Mike West were absent.

Also present were: Kyle Bruemmer, City Engineer; Dustin Dougherty, Chief Financial Officer; Darrell Dunlap, Superintendent of Utilities; Sharlene McArtor, Parks & Recreation Superintendent; Sam Shults, Assistant Director of Administration; Russ Sing, Fire Chief; and Jordan Lewis, Audio/Video. Also present were Fulton Sun Editor Emily O'Leary, Josephine Garner, Ryan Delashmutt, Lance Campbell, Nicole Myers, and other guests.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rev. Williamson.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS.

Nicole Myers, owner of Myers Aviation, expressed concerns about the impact of delayed winter weather responses on her business and the broader challenges it created for airport operations. She pointed to a lack of communication between city administration and airport tenants and limited opportunities for productive discussions about operational needs. Myers suggested reinstating the Airport Advisory Board to improve collaboration and address issues such as snow removal, hangar rent, and land leases, ultimately supporting the airport's growth.

Ryan DeLashmutt, an airport tenant, shared his concerns about the airport's closure after a recent winter storm, which disrupted schedules and caused financial challenges for businesses relying on the airport. He noted that the city's snow removal efforts fell short of expectations and emphasized the value of airport management training to enhance operations. DeLashmutt also encouraged reinstating the Airport Advisory Board to provide a platform for addressing concerns and fostering collaboration.

Lance Campbell, of 4601 Nathaniel Drive, Columbia, briefly summarized the collective intent of attendees as wanting to make the airport a better resource for the community. He emphasized that their feedback should be viewed positively and welcomed opportunities to contribute to improvements.

CONSENT AGENDA.

- a. SERVE, INC: Sharing the Love - Fundraiser

Director Doyle explained that SERVE, INC had requested a fee waiver for renting the banquet room at the Legends Rec-Plex. However, with only five council members present and Councilman Hinchie needing to recuse himself due to his position on SERVE's board, there were not enough members to vote on the matter. Doyle noted that the request falls under the purview of Parks and Recreation, and a formal policy for fee waivers is currently being developed. This policy will be reviewed by the Park Board later in the week. Council members were encouraged to review the application and share their input with the mayor. Due to the lack of quorum, the issue was deferred for future discussion.

NEW BUSINESS.

There was none.

COUNCIL CONCERNS:

Councilman Hinchie expressed gratitude to city workers for their dedication during the recent winter weather challenges, commending their efforts to maintain safe and reliable public services despite difficult conditions.

Councilwoman Rehkla inquired about a solid waste management grant, clarifying that it is for new recycling containers.

Councilman Stone highlighted a photo contest recognition received by the Historical Preservation Commission, ongoing strategic planning efforts for Historic Preservation Month in May, and upcoming budget-related items. He praised city workers for maintaining utility services during severe weather and supported the SERVE fee waiver request.

Councilman Combs noted that the Planning and Zoning Commission would meet later in the month. He echoed concerns about snowy sidewalks forcing pedestrians into roads, particularly where businesses have blocked sidewalks with snow piles. He recommended ongoing safety training for trash crews after observing a worker handling a heavy bin safely but with difficulty. Additionally, he suggested council collaboration on a strategic plan for 2025 and more proactive city involvement in marketing efforts to attract businesses.

Councilwoman Nelson announced the first Utility Board meeting of the year and praised and thanked the crews for their work on the Field of Joy and during the snowstorm. She emphasized the importance of communication and collaboration, expressing optimism about the city's progress in the coming year.

Mayor Myers addressed concerns about snow removal, highlighting challenges such as icy conditions and resource limitations. He emphasized the efforts of city crews and the importance of planning for future improvements.

Director of Administration Doyle acknowledged the difficulties posed by recent winter storms and expressed appreciation for the collaborative efforts of city staff. She also recognized Michelle Kidwell of Callaway County Emergency Management for her role in keeping the community informed and emphasized ongoing efforts to enhance preparedness while thanking the community for their understanding.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 3568: Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program

A Resolution of the City of Fulton, Missouri, authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fulton, Missouri, to sign all necessary documents in relation to the Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program provided by the E.P.A. and Cultivating Healthy Environments, and establishing an effective date.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Nelson and Seconded by Councilman Hinchie to pass Resolution 3568 at tonight's council meeting. Motion carried with five members of the Council voting in favor, three absent (Leuther, Washington, West).

Resolution 3569: Local Records Disposition

A Resolution authorizing the destruction of city records that have met retention requirements in accordance with RSMO Chapter 109 and applicable state retention schedules.

Motion was made by Councilman Combs and Seconded by Councilwoman Nelson to adopt Resolution 3569 at tonight's council meeting. Motion carried with five members of the Council voting in favor, three absent (Leuther, Washington, West).

ORDINANCES PRESENTED FOR SECOND READING:

No. 1738: Animal Shelter Service Agreement

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Fulton, Missouri, to enter into an agreement with the City of Holts Summit for Animal Shelter Services provided by the City of Fulton Grabb Animal Shelter, and establishing an effective date.

Motion was made by Councilman Hinchie and Seconded by Councilwoman Nelson to place Bill No. 1738 for Third Reading at this council meeting. Motion carried with five members of the Council voting in favor, three absent (Leuther, Washington, West).

Motion was made by Councilman Hinchie and Seconded by Councilwoman Nelson to place Bill No. 1738 for Final Passage at this council meeting. Motion carried with five members of the Council voting in favor, three absent (Leuther, Washington, West).

Roll call vote of the members of the Council was as follows:

Councilman Combs – Yes
Councilman Hinchie – **Yes**
Councilman Leather – Absent
Councilwoman Nelson – Yes

Councilwoman Rehkla – Yes
Councilman Stone – Yes
Councilman Washington – Absent
Councilman West – Absent

Bill No. 1738 having received the affirmative vote of five members of the Council was declared passed by the President of the Council.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

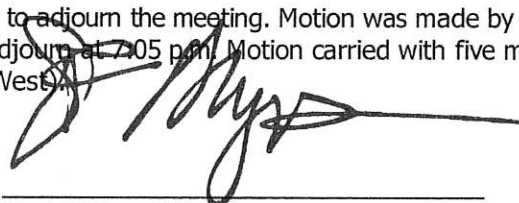
The next City Council meeting will be held Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Mayor Myers called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Councilwoman Nelson and Seconded by Councilman Hinchie to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried with five members of the Council voting in favor, three absent (Leuther, Washington, West).



Steve F. Myers, Mayor



Kathie Ratliff, City Clerk