CITY OF WEBSTER GROVES
August 4, 2020

The City Council met this date in a regular session, via Zoom, which was available to the public via teleconference, at 7:57 pm.

Present at Roll Call: Mayor Gerry Welch
Councilmember Laura Arnold
Councilmember Pam Bliss
Councilmember David Franklin
Councilmember Emerson Smith
Councilmember Karen D. Alexander
Councilmember Sarah Richardson

A quorum was present.

Also present: Ms. Joan Jadali, Interim City Manager
Mr. Neil Bruntrager, City Attorney
Ms. Katie Nakazono, City Clerk

REMARKS OF VISITORS
Jennifer Conrad, Deputy City Clerk, read submitted Remarks of Visitors into the record. Submissions were received from:
- Jim Wienstroer– (Exhibit A) – Request for stop signs on Lockwood at Gray.
- Dave Buck - (Exhibit B) – Comments on celebrations of Council.

NEW BUSINESS – MAYOR, COUNCILMEMBERS, CITY ATTORNEY, CITY MANAGER
Mayor Welch stated that the August 18 meeting was canceled. The next meeting of City Council will be September 1.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
BILL #9126 – THIRD READING
On motion of Councilmember Franklin, seconded by Councilmember Bliss, BILL #9126 – ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING THE SUBDIVISION OF CERTAIN PROPERTY AT 116 SUMMIT PLACE AND 120 SUMMIT PLACE IN THE “A3” TEN THOUSAND SQUARE FOOT RESIDENCE DISTRICT, having been introduced and read twice on July 21, 2020, was taken up its title read a third time and placed upon its passage to become Ordinance #9126.

Mayor Welch called for the vote on Bill #9126.

MEMBERS VOTING:
AYES: ARNOLD, BLISS, FRANKLIN, SMITH, ALEXANDER, RICHARDSON, WELCH
NOES: NONE

Mayor Welch stated that Bill #9126 was approved.
CONSENT AGENDA
A motion was made by Councilmember Bliss, seconded by Councilmember Arnold, to approve the Consent Agenda.
Mayor Welch called for the vote on the Consent Agenda.
MEMBERS VOTING:
AYES: BLISS, FRANKLIN, SMITH, ALEXANDER, RICHARDSON, WELCH, ARNOLD
NOES: NONE
Mayor Welch stated that the Consent Agenda was approved.
The following consent agenda was approved:
- Approval of Minutes – July 21, 2020

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
- Tracy Collins and Carol Duenke were reappointed to the Architectural Review Board.
- Christine Luebbert and John Berendzen were reappointed to the Sustainability Commission.
- Cindy Neu was appointed to the Police Community Engagement Board. Angela Brooks will be appointed as an Alternate Member to the Police Community Engagement Board following approval of an ordinance adding the Alternate Member position.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION
No Executive (Closed) Session.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. on motion of the Mayor, duly seconded.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 15th day of September 2020.

[Signatures]
MAYOR
CITY CLERK
Exhibit A

From: Jim Wienstroer <jimwienst@sbcglobal.net>
To: <citycouncil@webstergroves.org>
Date: 7/22/2020 12:31 PM
Subject: Remarks of Visitors - City Council Meeting of 7/22/2020-Meeting closed to the public due to Covid epidemic

Hello,

I would like to request your consideration of installing stop signs in both directions of Lockwood at the Gray Ave intersection.

I have lived in the 100 block of Gray Ave for over 40 years. The business area on Lockwood has changed enormously over the years. My concern is the growing safety concern at the intersection of Gray and Lockwood. Motorists wishing to turn west on Lockwood from Gray cannot see traffic going eastbound on Lockwood. There are many close calls due to line of sight issues:

- The no parking sign posted at the front entrance of the old Auto Beauty driveway (now a restaurant/bar) is being ignored by patrons and often utilized by food/beverage delivery trucks. The unloading and delivery of these products takes some time to complete. The posted sign clearly states no parking from the sign to Gray Ave. A mailbox is included in this area and along with trees, make it impossible to make a safe left turn.

- Additionally, many motorists are driving too fast and often unfortunately on cell phones as they pass by Robust, Straubs, PNC Bank on the north side and four restaurants on the south side. Many are going to or from the many bar/restaurants serving adult beverages.

- The safety issue of increased bike traffic also contributes to the problem. When you throw in the pedestrian traffic of school children from Bristol and Ambrose, and patrons of the shops and offices using the crosswalk you have in my opinion an unsafe setting.

There already is a stop signs at Lockwood-Rock Hill and at Lockwood -Gore. One more stopping point would provide a safer setting for all involved. The time it takes to slow to a stop and then proceed would add maybe ten seconds or so.

There was a request and installation of stop signs several years ago at the intersection of Jefferson and West Jackson due to line of sight issues. There is much more intense traffic usage at Gray/Lockwood than the one on West Jackson.

Kindly give this matter your consideration,

Thank You,

Jim Wienstroer
137 Gray Ave
Webster Groves MO 63119
Tel-314-378-7324
Over the years, I am batting zero when it comes to my ideas about how to improve the agenda for regular City Council meetings, like adding the 15 second "Pledge of Allegiance". But NEVER SAY NEVER! This shares another such idea.

In last week’s Community Conversations meeting, David Franklin said that he wished Webster Groves could become the most culturally and racially diverse city in St. Louis County, if not the nation. What I like about David’s idea is that he is thinking about a future vision for our city which has not existed in the 20 years I have lived here.

My own vision for Webster Groves is to be the most hopeful, peaceful and positive community on earth. By positive, I mean that people see the glass as half-full instead of half-empty and always look for the good, the hope and the positive in people and ideas.

So here is the idea that is not my own but is borrowed from the Webster Groves School Board Meetings. Early in each Council meeting, there would be an agenda item titled "Celebrations of Council." Each Council member, one by one, singles out and shares a celebration of praise of a person, event, organization, contribution, etc. See how simple this this!!! It would start every meeting on a positive note about our community.

For example, Sarah Richardson made a great Facebook post today celebrating Election Day and how much she loved how everyone, regardless of their politics, got along and helped each other in the spirit of community. I saw it, too. That’s something positive and that’s something to celebrate!

Such praise and positivity raises spirits and simply makes people feel good. To me, that’s part of Council’s job description. Do you agree??? Do you see what I see???

PEACE.

Dave