

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRANSON AND
THE HOME TOWN MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION
BRANSON, MISSOURI, OCTOBER 31, 2003**

The City of Branson met in a public meeting with the Home Town Merchants' Association in the Administration Conference Room of the City Hall on October 31, 2003.

Administrator Terry Dody stated that this was the fourth meeting the City has had with the Home Town Merchants' Association. He reviewed some of the ideas from past meetings, which included the creation of the Transportation Committee and the concept of creating a committee to work directly with HCW. Administrator Dody reminded everybody that the HVS study would be presented on Monday, November 3. The study is available on the internet.

At this point Administrator Dody opened the meeting up for comments or concerns from those attending. Discussion was held regarding the creation of the Transportation Committee. This would need to go to Council in the near future. Items that could be discussed would be the colored routing system, street names, maintenance, comprehensive City master plan and other road issues.

The group discussed the marketing RFP, which needs to be reviewed and presented to the Council. A resolution has been passed by Council to create this committee, and the choosing of the committee members was discussed. The duty of this committee is for them to specifically review the three RFPs.

Discussion was held on the retail opt out sales tax (tax-free holiday), and when a decision will be made by Council if the City will or will not participate in this holiday. A list was created by legislation of what items would be able to be included in the tax-free holiday and a specific dollar amount was also listed.

The issue of continental breakfasts and requirements of the City's Health codes for grease traps was brought up. There is a meeting planned in November to discuss this issue and concerns of the businesses with the Health Department.

Also discussed was the Enhancement Tax for marketing for retail sales, which is to go on the ballot in the near future. The Enhancement Tax Board is working on educating the public on the idea of the marketing tax. Informational meetings are being held to listen to the public's concerns on the tax.

The City's Transportation Tax status was reviewed, which is due to be renewed prior to 2005. Discussion was held on other ballot issues and election timing for the placement of the tax on the ballot.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.