

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI, JANUARY 26, 2004**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Branson, Missouri, met in the Public Comments session in the Council Chambers of the City Hall on January 26, 2004 at 8:15 p.m. with the following members present:

Mayor Schaefer presiding, with Dick Gass, Stan Barker, Beverly Martin, Ron Huff, David Edie, and Jack Purvis present.

Also in attendance were: Administrator Terry Dody, Assistant Administrator Kevin Faught, Assistant City Attorney Russ Dempsey, and City Clerk Sandra Williams.

Mayor Schaefer called the Public Comments meeting to order and stated the Board would hear citizens that signed up to speak in the order of the first person signing the sheet, and there was one person signed up to address the Board.

Chuck Pennell, 353 Quincy Road, Kirbyville, addressed the Board. Mr. Pennell said he appreciated the Board hearing him out one more time. He said he would like to challenge the Board once again to look at their position regarding the serving of alcohol in theaters, and the resolution he had proposed. I don't believe that we are stopping any of the tourists from coming here by saying that we don't want it served in the theaters, stated Mr. Pennell. He said he thought that if we expand the licenses where there are a number of theaters serving alcohol, it could possible deter the 7 million people that already are coming here because they like what Branson is. Mr. Pennel stated that he thinks a lot of them want it to stay that way. They want new shows, they want new rides added to theme parks and restaurants and different things. I'm not saying that we can just stay right where we are, but they want the family values. They want the clean entertainment. Mr. Pennel said that he would like to challenge the Board regarding the thinking he heard at the last meeting that it was superfluous to have a resolution. I don't understand that because you passed four or five on gambling. Well, gambling is not legal here. Why did you pass it if it is superfluous to pass a resolution? Why has the Board done that? I believe you've done it because it makes a statement. You used your position to say to this community, this is what we feel like Branson ought to be. It didn't stop the gambling from coming. It didn't run off people because you took a stand against gambling. Lots of folks like to gamble. Mr. Pennel said he thought the comment that was made that it is superfluous doesn't weigh out with what has been done in the past.

Again, I ask you to think about your stand, and see about changing it. I believe that taking a stand that has no legal binding like a resolution, would say to our community and say to our visitors that we want to keep it the way it is. We don't want liquor served every place you go.

Mayor Schaefer stated, you have used exactly ten minutes. That was well timed. Mayor Schaefer then stated, that concluded the Public Comments section and entertained a motion to adjourn to Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Alderman Huff moved to go into closed Executive Session pursuant to Section 610.021.1 RSMo for litigation, 610.021.2 for real estate and 610.021.3 for personnel. The motion was seconded by Alderman Purvis. Voting aye: Gass, Barker, Martin, Huff, Edie, and Purvis. Nays: none. Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Mayor Schaefer entertained a motion to adjourn. Alderman Barker made the motion, seconded by Alderman Purvis. Voting aye: Gass, Barker, Martin, Huff, Edie, and Purvis. Nays: none. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.