

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI, OCTOBER 11, 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 October 11, 2004 at 9:45 p.m. with the following members present:

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

Also in attendance from the City were: Administrator Terry Dody, 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 were three people signed up to address the Board.

John Logan, 2277 Lake Shore Drive, Branson addressed the Council by commenting on the fact that the Council as elected officials should know as much about the TIF and Branson Landing as the staff does. He also questioned if the bids for the demolition of the buildings on Sycamore Street had been approved and has the convention center been approved? Mr. Logan also asked if the bids have been made to upgrade Business Highway 65 to make way for Box Car Willie or the northern roundabout. Alderman Edie answered that there will be no additional property needed for the widening regarding the right-of-way on Business 65. Rick Huffman responded to the demolition question. He stated that four bids were received and Tom Boyce Excavation was the low bidder. Alderman Huff responded that what was demolished were properties of the city. Mr. Logan inquired what would happen if the convention center did not happen. The city wouldn't have any use for those homes? Alderman Huff stated that the city was very certain that the convention center is going to happen or we wouldn't have committed the money to purchase the land. The buildings were demolished to keep things moving as much as possible. Mr. Logan again questioned why the Council did not know all the facts about the Branson Hills TIF. Mr. Dody responded that council members could not be held to confidentiality, because they are elected officials and developers understand that. Unfortunately, developers will often in the negotiation process for a contract won't meet immediately with elected officials.

Gary Groman, 232 River Point Road, Hollister, spoke of the last meeting when Mr. Dody referenced a letter that Don Stephens had sent out to Jimmy Jet's restaurant. Mr. Groman questioned the Council on how many of them had seen the letter before Mr. Dody made his comments last meeting. Alderman Huff stated he hadn't seen the letter but was aware of the contents. Alderman Gass stated he was aware of the contents. Mr. Groman then passed out copies of the letter to the Council and spoke to the Council about its

contents. He stated that he felt the letter was not an acceptable level of service to provide to the people, and the Council needs to think about that.

Ron Herschend, County Commissioner, asked how he could get a copy of the FEMA document that shows they have approved the fill on the lakefront. Mr. Dody responded that the approval process all went through the 404, which covers all federal and state agencies' requirements. The final report on the 404 is at the Corps of Engineers. Mr. Herschend asked for copies of the information relative to the 404, and Mr. Dody responded that he would have to look into how to obtain that information. Rick Huffman responded that he had that data. Secondly, Mr. Herschend read an excerpt from the paper concerning the county making Fall Creek Road safer. He asked if the City was participating financially in the project. Mr. Dody replied that the City was not and that those were direct quotes of the Presiding Commissioner addressing the City Council. Mr. Herschend then requested that next time there is a news release involving the western roads that he would be able to review the release. He then updated the Council on the timeframe and construction details of Fall Creek Road.

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 Alderwoman Martin. Voting aye: Gass, Martin, Huff, Edie, and Purvis. Nays: none. Barker absent. Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Mayor Schaefer entertained a motion to adjourn. Alderman Purvis moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderwoman Martin. Voting aye: Gass, Martin, Huff, Edie, and Purvis. Nays: none. Barker absent. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:06 p.m.