

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AND THE TANEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI, MAY 5, 2005**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Branson, Missouri met in a special public session at the Tri-Lakes Center, 2527 Highway 248, Branson, Missouri with the Taney County Commissioners on May 5, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

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

Also in attendance from the City were: City Administrator Terry Dody, Assistant Administrator Frank Schoneboom, City Attorney Dan Wichmer, City Clerk Lisa Westfall, Director of Public Works Larry VanGilder, Director of Engineering David Miller, Director of Finance Deanna Schlegel and Director of Communications Jerry Adams.

In attendance from the Taney County Commissioners were: Presiding Commissioner Chuck Pennel, Danny Strahan and at 6:45 Ron Herschend joined the meeting.

In attendance from the Taney County Regional Sewer Board were: William Cummings, Larry VanGilder, Jasper Reynolds and Roy Combs.

Presiding Commissioner Chuck Pennel called the meeting to order. Mayor Schaefer called for a motion for the Branson Board of Aldermen to go into open session. Alderman Gass made the motion, seconded by Alderman Barker. Voting aye: Gass, Barker, Martin, Huff, and Edie. Nays: none. Absent: Purvis.

Commissioner Pennel reviewed the agenda for the evening. He asked the Branson Board of Aldermen if they would amend the Sewer Services and Exclusive Territorial Agreement so there would be no requirement for citizens in the county installing a septic system to have to seek permission from the City of Branson and that they not be required to pay a higher cost for connecting to the Branson system. Alderman Huff responded that the Board had already agreed to amend the agreement by removing the annexation requirement. Nothing more needs to be amended and the project needs to move forward.

Commissioner Pennel proceeded to discuss the sewer issue of the three developers: L&J Plumbing, Loyd's Electric and Meeks, who are building along Highway 65. His concern was the extra expense that the businesses will have by being required to hook up to Branson's sewer system, which is required in the Territorial Agreement. He discussed their option of boring under Highway 65 and hooking up to the Bull Creek sewer system. The Branson Board of Alderman responded by stating that it would be better for them to connect to the Branson sewer line leading to the Branson High School. There was additional discussion concerning the sewer issues of the three businesses and the City of Branson and the negotiation process that has taken place.

The sewer service application process for new businesses coming into the area affected by the Territorial Agreement was discussed. The process includes the plans being reviewed by the City of Branson; if Branson has no concerns then they are reviewed by Taney County. Taney County would then issue the permits. It was stated that this is just a review process for the city since it was in the city's future growth area.

Presiding Commissioner Pennel stated that if the city would not amend the contract then they would take it to court and let a judge make the decision. City Attorney Wichmer stated that if the Territorial Agreement were amended again the agreement would be gone. There would be nothing left of the agreement.

At this time the public was allowed to ask questions and make comments. They were assured that the Bee Creek project was going to proceed and the contract was being signed. It was also emphasized by the city that they would not be required to annex into the city once they connect to city sewer. Citizens commented on the need for the sewer for the protection of the environment and asked questions concerning the location of the sewer lines.

The various engineering and construction documents for the Bee Creek project were discussed along with the process of obtaining the needed easements for the project. Also discussed were DNR requirements that had been addressed during the engineering phase of the project.

Presiding Commissioner Pennel concluded the meeting. Alderman Barker made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderwoman Martin. Voting aye: Gass, Barker, Martin, Huff, and Edie. Nays: none. Absent: Purvis. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.