



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

**City Council Meeting Minutes
Kirkwood City Hall
Thursday, September 7, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

Pursuant to notice of meeting duly given by the Mayor, the City Council convened on Thursday, September 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Kirkwood City Hall, 139 South Kirkwood Road, Kirkwood, Missouri. Present were: Present were Mayor Griffin, Council Members, Duwe, Gibbons, Luetzow, Sears, Wurtz, and Zimmer. Also in attendance were Chief Administrative Officer Russ Hawes, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer David Weidler, City Clerk Laurie Asche, Deputy City Clerk Bridget Waters, and Assistant City Attorney Sarah White.

**INTRODUCTIONS AND RECOGNITIONS
NONE**

PRESENTATIONS

The Greentree Festival Committee presented information regarding the 2023 Greentree Festival. The theme will be "Celebration of Transportation". The festival will take place from Friday, September 15th through Sunday, September 17th. The parade will take place on Saturday, September 16th starting at 10:00 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing #1

Mayor Griffin recessed the meeting for the purpose of conducting a public hearing establishing the Property Tax Rates for the City of Kirkwood. Assistant City Attorney Sarah White entered the following exhibits into record: an Affidavit of Publication in the St. Louis Countian on August 11, 2023, as Exhibit 1; an Affidavit of Publication in the Webster-Kirkwood Times on August 11, 2023 as Exhibit 2; and the Kirkwood Code of Ordinances, as Exhibit 3.

Assistant Director of Finance Jennifer Forgy presented the matter to the Council:

- Residential assessments increased by 14%. Residential assessed value is 19% of the appraised value.
- Commercial assessments increased by 20%. Commercial assessed value is 32% of the appraised value.
- The process of calculating the proposed property tax rates allow the taxing authority to capture revenue at the same level as the previous year, plus an increase for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This year CPI was 6.5%.
- All proposed property tax rates are calculated and reviewed by the Missouri State Auditor's office.
- The City levies property taxes for the Police & Fire Pension, Parks, and general government services that include public safety.
- The residential proposed rate is 45 per 100 of assessed value. The City of Kirkwood property tax levy historically averages 7% of a resident's total tax bill.
- The commercial proposed rate is 52.5 per 100 of assessed value.
- Personal property proposed rate is 72 per 100 of assessed value.



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

- The Special Business District's (SBD) commercial assessments increased by 19% with a proposed rate of 34.3 per 100 of assessed value.

This item is under New Business as item #2, Bill 10998.

Public Hearing #2

Mayor Griffin recessed the meeting for the purpose of conducting a public hearing establishing the Property Tax Rates for the Kirkwood Municipal Library. Assistant City Attorney Sarah White entered the following exhibits into record: an Affidavit of Publication in the St. Louis Countian on August 11, 2023, as Exhibit 1; an Affidavit of Publication in the Webster-Kirkwood Times on August 11, 2023 as Exhibit 2; and the Kirkwood Code of Ordinances, as Exhibit 3.

Assistant Director of Finance Jennifer Forgy presented the matter to the Council:

- Residential assessments increased by 14%.
- Commercial assessments increased by 21%.
- The Library taxing district boundaries are not the same as the City of Kirkwood, which explains the difference in the assessed values and percentages.
- The residential proposed rate is 21.2 per 100 of assessed value.
- The commercial proposed rate is 24.9 per 100 of assessed value.
- The personal property proposed rate is 35.5 per 100 of assessed value.
- The Kirkwood Library property tax levy historically averages 3% of a resident's total tax bill.
- The property tax levy funds the operations of the Kirkwood Public Library.

This item is under New Business as item #3, Bill 10999.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Council Member Zimmer and seconded by Council Member Gibbons to approve the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

- a) Approval of the August 17, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes
- b) Resolution 100-2023, appointing Melissa Range to the Aquatics Advisory Council for a term to June 2026
- c) Resolution 101-2023, appointing Tim Cox to the Urban Forestry Commission for a term to June 2026

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill 10996, vacating a 10' wide easement as recorded in Deed Book 12599, Page 1967 of the St. Louis County Records, to be vacated, being located in Lot 2 of Walther Subdivision, a subdivision according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 206, Pages 53 and 54 located in Section 12, Township 44 North, Range 5 East of the Fifth



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET™

Principal Meridian located in the City of Kirkwood, St. Louis County, Missouri, is more particularly described on exhibits A and B was brought before the City Council.

Roll Call:

Mayor Griffin	"Yes"
Council Member Sears	"Yes"
Council Member Wurtz	"Yes"
Council Member Zimmer	"Yes"
Council Member Duwe	"Yes"
Council Member Gibbons	"Yes"
Council Member Luetzow	"Yes"

The bill, having received majority approval of the Council, was adopted and became Ordinance 10824.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill 10997, amending Chapter 24 "Tree Code" by deleting it in its entirety and inserting a new Chapter 24 "Tree Code" was brought before the City Council. Motion was made by Council Member Luetzow and seconded by Council Member Wurtz to accept the Bill as read. A discussion took place.

The bill received first reading approval and was held over.

Bill 10998, fixing and establishing the rate of taxation to be levied upon all real estate and certain tangible personal property in the City of Kirkwood, County of St. Louis, State of Missouri, for the year 2023, for the maintenance of the Kirkwood public parks; for the Police and Firemen's Pension Fund; for general government services and for businesses in the Special Business District was brought before the City Council. Motion was made by Council Member Duwe and seconded by Council Member Zimmer to accept the Resolution as read. A discussion took place.

The bill received first reading approval and was held over.

Bill 10999, fixing and establishing the rate of taxation to be levied upon all real estate and certain tangible personal property in the City of Kirkwood, County of St. Louis, State of Missouri, for the year 2023, for the operation and maintenance of the Municipal Library District of Kirkwood was brought before the City Council. Motion was made by Council Member Luetzow and seconded by Council Member Zimmer to accept the Resolution as read.

The bill received first reading approval and was held over.

Bill 11000, amending Chapter 14, Article I, Section 14-1 and Article VII, Section 14-385, and deleting Section 14-386 of the Kirkwood Code of Ordinances was brought



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET™

before the City Council. Motion was made by Council Member Luetzow and seconded by Council Member Wurtz to accept the Resolution as read. A discussion took place.

The bill received first reading approval and was held over.

Resolution 102-2023, accepting the bid of Contemporary Landscape in the amount of \$103,241.75 for Kirkwood City Property Grounds Maintenance for the Forestry Division for an initial term of 12 months with the option to renew for up to four additional terms and authorizing and directing the Mayor to enter into a contract was brought before the City Council. Motion was made by Council Member Duwe and seconded by Council Member Luetzow to accept the Resolution as read. A discussion took place.

Roll Call:

Mayor Griffin	“Yes”
Council Member Sears	“Yes”
Council Member Wurtz	“Yes”
Council Member Zimmer	“Yes”
Council Member Duwe	“Yes”
Council Member Gibbons	“Yes”
Council Member Luetzow	“Yes”

Resolution 103-2023, authorizing and directing the Mayor to enter into a First Amendment to the Agreement for Police, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and Fire Dispatching Services, and Ambulance Services with the City of Glendale was brought before the City Council. Motion was made by Council Member Zimmer and seconded by Council Member Wurtz to accept the Resolution as read. A discussion took place.

Roll Call:

Mayor Griffin	“Yes”
Council Member Sears	“Yes”
Council Member Wurtz	“Yes”
Council Member Zimmer	“Yes”
Council Member Duwe	“Yes”
Council Member Gibbons	“Yes”
Council Member Luetzow	“Yes”

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

NONE

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

Council Member Gibbons reminded everyone that the Greentree Festival kicks off with Party in the Park on Saturday, September 9, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Kirkwood Park.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

Mr. Hawes had nothing to report.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Ms. White had nothing to report.

CITY CLERK REPORT

Ms. Asche read the report of the August 23, 2023 Planning & Zoning Commission meeting. The following action took place:

1. By a vote of 1-4 the Commission failed to recommend approval of a Special Use Permit for a Tobacco & Vapor Products Store at 10424 Manchester Road.

Ms. Asche reported that the item from the August 23, 2023 Planning & Zoning Commission was scheduled for a public hearing on September 21, 2023. However, the City Clerk's Office received notice that the applicant has withdrawn their request. The September 21, 2023 public hearing has been cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the formal meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Kirkwood City Council will take place at 7:00 p.m. on September 21, 2023.

Laurie Asche
City Clerk

Approved: