



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

WORK SESSION MINUTES

A work session of the Kirkwood City Council was held on August 13, 2015, at 7:00 a.m. Present were Mayor McDonnell, Council Members Biedenstein, Griffin, Jaksetic, Luetzow, Sears, and Ward. Also in attendance were Chief Administrative Officer Russell Hawes, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Georgia Ragland, City Clerk Betty Montañó, City Attorney John Hessel and Public Information Officer Beth von Behren.

APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION MINUTES

Motion was made by Council Member Jaksetic and seconded by Council Member Griffin to approve the meeting minutes of August 6, 2015. The motion was unanimously approved.

LAGERS PENSION PRESENTATION

Jeff Kempker from LAGERS was in attendance to present and discuss the LAGERS Pension Plan. Handouts were passed out. Some of the issues discussed are as follows:

- LAGERS is a pension system for government employees, which is modeled after the Moser system.
- LAGERS currently has 669 employers over the State of Missouri and in those there are 270 cities. An employer must be a political subdivision in order to join LAGERS.
- In order to receive a benefit an employee must become vested and reach a retirement age.
- LAGERS also provides disability benefits.
- LAGERS' benefits are permanent, protected, and guaranteed for the lifetime of every LAGERS member. Once a member is vested they are guaranteed a benefit regardless of whether or not they continue work with their current employer until retirement age.
- Under the LAGERS plan employees could contribute 4%, the employer would contribute 35% and 65% would be investment returns. The average for employee contribution is either 0% or 4%.
- An employee must work 1500 hours per year in order to be eligible for LAGERS.
- State of Missouri law caps rate increases at 1% per year.
- The State of Missouri requires that every employer contribute their full contribution amount every month.
- An employer does not have the ability to completely terminate coverage for an employee. However, they do have the ability to reduce coverage.
- Question was raised regarding what are the comparable employers in LAGER to the City of Kirkwood. Jeff Kempker will get the council the exact number.
- LAGERS gives employees credit for vesting. Once employees are vested they will have the option to purchase years of service.
- Employee contributions to the current pension plan will remain. However, if the City of Kirkwood proceeds with LAGERS the City will not continue to contribute to the old plan.
- City Attorney John Hessel briefed the council on the procedure for if the City decides to proceed with LAGERS. The Charter Amendment would need to be rescinded through a public vote process before commencing participation in LAGERS to expressly provide that the City is authorized to participate in LAGERS with respect to police and fire employees.
- Question was raised regarding if the 45-day public notice period has begun. Nothing has been formally started yet until direction from the Council.
- This topic will be placed on a future work session agenda for further discussion.



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING

Motion was made by Council Member Sears and seconded by Council Member Griffin to close the meeting pursuant to RSMo Chapter 610.021 (2) Real Estate.

Roll Call Vote as Follows:

Council Member Biedenstein	“Yes”
Council Member Griffin	“Yes”
Council Member Jaksetic	“Yes”
Council Member Luetzow	“Yes”
Mayor McDonnell	“Yes”
Council Member Sears	“Yes”
Council Member Ward	“Yes”

The meeting was closed.

MOTION TO OPEN THE MEETING

Motion was made by Council Member Jaksetic and seconded by Council Member Biedenstein to open the meeting.

Roll Call Vote as Follows:

Council Member Biedenstein	“Yes”
Council Member Griffin	“Yes”
Council Member Jaksetic	“Yes”
Council Member Luetzow	“Yes”
Mayor McDonnell	“Yes”
Council Member Sears	“Yes”
Council Member Ward	“Yes”

The meeting was opened.

There being no further issues to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned.

Betty Montañó, MMC/MPCC
City Clerk