

**CITY OF FENTON, MISSOURI  
625 NEW SMIZER MILL ROAD  
FENTON, MO 63026  
MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019  
6:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Bob Brasses called the Special Meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Fenton, St. Louis County, Missouri to order at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at City Hall.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Brasses stated that there were a lot of residents of other municipalities who lost their lives over the last couple of days due to the tornadoes and severe weather. Mayor Brasses asked for a moment of silence.

**ROLL CALL**

City Clerk Morgan Kuepfert called the roll:

|                   |                |                  |                |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Alderman Seemayer | <i>Present</i> | Alderman Clauss  | <i>Absent</i>  |
| Alderman Sobey    | <i>Present</i> | Alderman Patton  | <i>Present</i> |
| Alderman Wisbrock | <i>Present</i> | Alderman Jokerst | <i>Present</i> |
| Alderman Maurath  | <i>Present</i> |                  |                |

Six Alderman were present at the opening of the meeting.

**CITY OFFICIALS:**

Mayor Bob Brasses  
City Attorney Erin P. Seele, Esq.  
City Administrator Lisa Peck  
City Clerk Morgan Kuepfert  
Community Development Director Nikki Finkbiner  
Public Works Director Matthew Budd  
Captain Norman Mann

Mayor Brasses stated that he would like to thank the staff at City Hall and RiverChase for their hard work on the new pool contract and attending the emergency meeting on Saturday.

**This Special Meeting is being called for:**

- **MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF A WARD 3 ALDERMAN TO FILL AN UNEXPIRED TERM EXPIRING APRIL 2020.**

Alderman Maurath made a motion to allow for Public Comments at this time. The motion was seconded by Alderman Patton. Upon a vote being taken, the motion passed.

Vera Glick, 1290 Horan Drive, spoke regarding the Ward 3 vacancy. Ms. Glick's comments are attached to the Minutes for the record.

Audrey Wattler, 1723 Stemwood Way, stated that she has been a resident of Fenton for 43 years and is familiar with the politics as she spent 8 years on the Park Board. Ms. Wattler stated that Ms. Glick covered everything she was thinking and agrees that no one should be pushed to approve the Mayor's recommendation. She stated that his recommendation was defeated in the election and the position should be filled with a Special Election.

Ginny Gode stated that she has been a resident of Fenton for 84 years and has seen a lot of people come and go. Ms. Gode stated that she is not happy with how much Fenton has been in the media lately. She stated that she does not know why the vacancy is being handled this way, and she believes it is because certain people want things done their way. Ms. Gode further exclaimed she believes that some Board members are not thinking about the community and only thinking about themselves. She stated she has worked on many boards and has never seen anything like this. Additionally, Ms. Gode stated she does not believe that the four aldermen who voted no should apologize as she feels those four brought Fenton up.

Alderman Jokerst read a letter from Ed Gapsch. A copy of the letter is attached to the Minutes for the record.

Scott Masarang, 1620 Uthoff Drive, stated that it has been one month since the swearing in and the vacancy is still not filled and believes the Alderman are not fulfilling the will of the people. Mr. Masarang feels some Aldermen are grasping at power.

Darlys Preslar, 1654 Sommerset Ridge, spoke regarding the Ward 3 vacancy. Ms. Preslar's comments are attached to the Minutes for the record.

Dr. John Glasgow, 947 Woodway Circle, stated he is a Vietnam Veteran and he wears his hat and dog tags because he is proud. He stated that there are people in the City of Fenton who are fighting a war and running smear campaigns. Dr. Glasgow stated he wants Alderman Maurath to become the President of the Board as he believes Alderman Maurath is the only Alderman to care for all four wards. Dr. Glasgow further stated that there are some Aldermen he considers his friends but that they are not playing fair. He questioned what the President of the Board and Committee chairmen do and stated that he believes they do not hold any value. Dr. Glasgow further spoke regarding his belief of corruption in the City and referenced a time when he felt assaulted by the St. Louis County Police Department and believes that someone paid them to harass him. Additionally, Dr. Glasgow stated that over 100 residents have signed a petition urging the Board to fill the Ward 3 vacancy. He further stated he wants to see the Board proceed with the residents wish.

Mayor Brasses explained that he wants to begin to conduct business as normal but plans to operate as one committee until the vacancy is filled. He stated there is a person who wants the position and is qualified. Mayor Brasses made a recommendation to appoint Robin Huels to fill the Ward 3 vacancy.

Alderman Maurath questioned if the vote should carry tonight with the absence of an Aldermen leaving only six members. Alderman Patton stated that there is a quorum present and the Board is entitled to continue business. Alderman Maurath stated that he has no problem waiting on this vote until all elected officials are present as he believes it is not in the best interest to vote. He further stated that the petition speaks clearly to the residents wishes.

Following discussion, Alderman Jokerst made a motion to approve the Mayor's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Alderman Wisbrock.

Alderman Patton questioned why the residents feel filling the vacancy is the most important issue, so much so that all other City business is being held up. He explained the process for dealing with disagreements between Board members and noted that there is always a way to set a policy or procedure. Alderman Patton stated that State Statute says if a vacancy occurs in any elective office that the Mayor shall cause a Special Meeting where a successor to the vacant office shall be selected by appointment of the Mayor with advice and consent of a majority of the remaining Board members. He noted that the statute does not speak to timing, does not require the Board to approve the Mayor's recommendation, and does not say that the Board cannot do business while a vacancy exists. Alderman Patton noted that 11 out of the 32 regular meeting in the previous term were conducted with fewer than eight Aldermen present. Furthermore, Alderman Patton stated he believes there are more than 2 sides to this issue that are not political. He said in an appropriate setting, the Board could hash through the issue at hand and find a resolution. This would happen on a regular agenda. Alderman Patton feels due process is not happening at this time, and believes they are having to vote on a proxy issue, filling the vacancy, that presupposes the outcome of the underlying issue, when the vacancy should be filled. Alderman Patton read an excerpt from The Salem News from December of 2018 that spoke about their Mayor cancelling meetings. Additionally, he questioned if the feeling on the Board would be the same if the same situation was present with different people. Alderman Patton stated he believes at this moment that Fenton is unable to govern itself and the Board cannot operate their City government. He stated he is not criticizing the three aldermen on the other side of this issue and they have every right to vote how they feel, but that the biggest issue is that the Board is not being allowed to function. Alderman Patton feels Fenton's reputation is being tarnished, and residents and businesses are not being given the confidence to live or do business in the City, as well as a negative work environment for the employees.

Alderman Jokerst noted, for the record, that no matter what proof or arguments are presented tonight, the Board is at an impasse. She believes the vacancy needs to be filled first as this is week 3 of ignoring the residents wishes. Alderman Jokerst stated the residents put their faith in their elected officials to represent them and as it stands, ward 3 is not represented. She believes at this point it is no longer about what the Aldermen think, but what the residents want. She stated she has

not heard one resident who agreed with the blocking and that the Board needs to listen to the collective majority.

Alderman Seemayer stated that he has heard a lot of talk of a “collective majority” and stated that the people he speaks to agree with him, and that there is no collective majority. He stated that the Board is voting on what they strongly believe in and noted that out of the Public Comments there were 4 who were spoke on what he believed in and only 3 who spoke in opposition. Alderman Seemayer also noted that he expressed to the Mayor that there was an underlying problem that was not related to representation, and the Mayor’s response was “I don’t care”. He further explained that he wishes the Board could work together and that he is more than willing but will not compromise his values for political gain, as he feels the Board would lose its accreditation.

Alderman Maurath stated that he hears that no one has an issue with the Mayor’s recommendation and asked the City Attorney if there is any legal precedent to appoint any other positions prior to the appointment. City Attorney Erin Seele stated there is no adopted policy by the City on how to vill vacancies. Alderman Maurath stated he feels the last two administrations were not good for the City and the difference from 1993 to now is that the person who was being recommended was out of town. He stated that the way business is conducted has changed since then and is not a part of any policy or procedure and the Board should listen to what the Community is saying. Alderman Maurath stated he is disappointed with Alderman Seemayer’s comments. Furthermore, Alderman Maurath stated that he has heard some people believe the Mayor plans to step down and hand his position over to the President of the Board and assured everyone that that was not true. Mayor Brasses also stated that is not his intention, and he fully intends to serve his entire term.

Following discussion, upon the roll being called, the Board of Aldermen voted as follows:

|                   |         |                  |         |
|-------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| Alderman Seemayer | Abstain | Alderman Clauss  | Absent  |
| Alderman Sobey    | Abstain | Alderman Patton  | Abstain |
| Alderman Wisbrock | Aye     | Alderman Jokerst | Aye     |
| Alderman Maurath  | Aye     |                  |         |

It was announced that the motion failed.

- **DISCUSSION OF 353 PROCEDURAL ORDINANCE**

Mark Murray, Armstrong Teasedale, stated that their client is the new owner of the old Stratford Inn. They are requesting that the Board of Aldermen consider a procedural ordinance for 353 Tax Abatement. Mr. Murray stated that a 353 would allow taxes to be abated if blighted, however what is in front of them tonight is not an abatement, and simply the procedure for how to send notices, who to send them to, review of the re-development plan, etc., which is necessary for the City to even consider any 353 request. City Attorney Erin Seele stated that this Ordinance was drafted by Mr. Murray but that she reviewed it and is comfortable with how it is written. Erin further noted that this Ordinance would have to be adopted if anyone in the City of Fenton would consider a 353 tax abatement and does not mandate any approvals. Mr. Murray gave a few examples of when a 353 procedure was used and noted a large development in Maplewood.

## BILL 19-45

### **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FENTON, MISSOURI ADOPTING A PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING REDEVELOPMENT PLANS AND TAX ABATEMENT OR EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 353 OF THE REVISED STATUTES OF MISSOURI**

There was no objection from the Board to allow Alderman Seemayer to sponsor Bill 19-45.

Alderman Seemayer desired one reading of Bill No. 19-45. City Attorney Erin Seele read the bill one time by title only.

Alderman Seemayer stated that he would feel more comfortable waiting until next month for the second reading of Bill 19-45. He stated that he has done some research but is not 100% comfortable with the Bill at this time.

- **FENTON DAYS REQUEST**

Theresa Sparks, Fenton Days Committee, was present to address the Board regarding the Fenton Day's event for 2019. Theresa stated that the event will be held on the Fenton Athletic Association property, but she is requesting that the Board allow the utilization for parking at Fenton City Park. Ms. Sparks stated that she does not want to impact City events, nor cause the City any revenue loss, so their committee plans to rent out the pavilions at Fenton City Park on the day of the event. Discussion ensued to the procedures for renting the pavilions, and Ms. Sparks stated that she wanted to address the Board first to be sure there were not any additional concerns or questions, and she would contact the Parks Department to procure the pavilion rentals.

- **AMUSEMENT LICENSE RENEWALS**

City Clerk Morgan Kuepfert stated that per the Board's policy, she is required to bring companies with a certain number of Amusement Licenses to the Board for approval. Morgan stated that Swing Around has completed the needed paperwork and all is accurate. Alderman Seemayer made a motion to approve the Amusement License renewals. The motion was seconded by Alderman Sobey. Upon a vote being taken, the motion passed.

- **REQUEST TO APPROVE BID FOR A 2 ½ TON DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW AND SPREADER**

Staff has been seeking bids for the replacement of Unit 227, a 1999 International 4900 2 ½ ton dump truck. The State Cooperative Purchasing process was used to secure a bid for the truck. Several independent companies were invited to bid but did not. The co-op bid price is \$149,485.00 and is within the budget. Staff is requesting approval through International/Viking using the MoDOT Cooperative Purchasing Program.

**BILL 19-46**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2019 INTERNATIONAL 4900, 2 ½ TON DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW AND SPREADER THROUGH THE STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING CONTRACT.**

There was no objection from the Board to allow Alderman Wisbrock to sponsor Bill 19-46.

Alderman Wisbrock desired one reading of Bill No. 19-46. City Attorney Erin Seele read the bill one time by title only.

Alderman Wisbrock made a motion to seek a waiver of the rules for a second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderman Seemayer. Upon a vote being taken, it was announced that the motion was passed unanimously by the Board of Aldermen. City Attorney Erin Seele read Bill No. 19-46 for a second time by title only. Alderman Wisbrock made a motion that Bill No. 19-46 be enacted as an Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Alderman Maurath. Upon the roll being called, the Board of Aldermen voted as follows:

|                   |     |                  |        |
|-------------------|-----|------------------|--------|
| Alderman Seemayer | Aye | Alderman Clauss  | Absent |
| Alderman Sobey    | Aye | Alderman Patton  | Aye    |
| Alderman Wisbrock | Aye | Alderman Jokerst | Aye    |
| Alderman Maurath  | Aye |                  |        |

It was announced that Bill No. 19-46 was passed by the Board of Alderman and would become Ordinance No. 3932 when and if signed by the Mayor.

• **PROJECTION/VIDEO SYSTEM**

On Monday, April 22, the bid opening was held for the Projector/Video System Equipment bid. One bid was received from Tech Electronics for \$20,775 with an alternate for a Laser Projector (as opposed to a typical lamp-based projector) for an additional \$2,160. ENT has reviewed the proposal and it meets the specifications required. Mayor Brasses asked if this included live streaming capabilities, and City Clerk Morgan Kuepfert noted that this was only the equipment, but that additional software for live streaming would be compatible.

**BILL 19-47**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE FURNISHING, DELIVERY, AND INSTALLATION OF AN UPGRADED PROJECTION AND VIDEO SYSTEM FOR CITY OF FENTON BOARD ROOM WITH TECH ELECTRONICS, INC.**

There was no objection from the Board to allow Alderman Jokerst to sponsor Bill 19-47.

Alderman Jokerst desired one reading of Bill No. 19-47. City Attorney Erin Seele read the bill one time by title only.

Alderman Jokerst made a motion to seek a waiver of the rules for a second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderman Patton. Upon a vote being taken, it was announced that the motion was passed unanimously by the Board of Aldermen. City Attorney Erin Seele read Bill No. 19-47 for a second time by title only. Alderman made a motion that Bill No. 19-47 be enacted as an Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Alderman Sobey. Upon the roll being called, the Board of Aldermen voted as follows:

|                   |     |                  |        |
|-------------------|-----|------------------|--------|
| Alderman Seemayer | Aye | Alderman Clauss  | Absent |
| Alderman Sobey    | Aye | Alderman Patton  | Aye    |
| Alderman Wisbrock | Aye | Alderman Jokerst | Aye    |
| Alderman Maurath  | Aye |                  |        |

It was announced that Bill No. 19-47 was passed by the Board of Alderman and would become Ordinance No. 3933 when and if signed by the Mayor.

- **MOCCFOA EASTERN DIVISION LUNCHEON**

Staff is seeking Board approval to host the October 17, 2019 MoCCFOA Eastern Division Luncheon. Staff is proposing to utilize a meeting room at RiverChase that would accommodate up to 55 people. Staff would be responsible for obtaining a caterer for the event, and the Division would cover the cost. The City will incur no cost for hosting this event, aside from the donation of the room at RiverChase. City Clerk Morgan Kuepfert stated that all elected officials are welcome but would have to pay their own way. Alderman Maurath made a motion to approve hosting the MOCCFOA Eastern Division Luncheon. The motion was seconded by Alderman Seemayer. Upon a vote being taken, the motion passed.

- **RIGHT OF WAY AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT ACQUISITION OLD GRAVOIS ROAD PHASE II STP-5543(604)**

**BILL 19-48**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR AND ACCEPTING RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENTS FROM CERTAIN PROPERTY OWNERS ON GRAVOIS ROAD RELATED TO THE OLD GRAVOIS ROAD PHASE II PROJECT AND GRANTING FURTHER AUTHORITY.**

There was no objection from the Board to allow Alderman Maurath to sponsor Bill 19-48.

Alderman Maurath desired one reading of Bill No. 19-48. City Attorney Erin Seele read the bill one time by title only.

Alderman Maurath made a motion to seek a waiver of the rules for a second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderman Sobey. Upon a vote being taken, it was announced that the motion was passed unanimously by the Board of Aldermen. City Attorney Erin Seele read Bill No. 19-48 for a second time by title only. Alderman made a motion that Bill No. 19-48 be enacted as an Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Alderman Seemayer. Upon the roll being called, the Board of Aldermen voted as follows:

|                   |     |                  |        |
|-------------------|-----|------------------|--------|
| Alderman Seemayer | Aye | Alderman Clauss  | Absent |
| Alderman Sobey    | Aye | Alderman Patton  | Aye    |
| Alderman Wisbrock | Aye | Alderman Jokerst | Aye    |
| Alderman Maurath  | Aye |                  |        |

It was announced that Bill No. 19-48 was passed by the Board of Alderman and would become Ordinance No. 3934 when and if signed by the Mayor.

- **AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 605 OF THE CITY OF FENTON MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO FOOD TRUCKS**

Staff is requesting to amend Chapter 605 of the Municipal Code relating to food trucks to allow exemptions to trucks that are requesting to park at the Fenton Farmer and Community Market. The Farmers Market application required Missouri Sales Tax License, Vehicle Liability Insurance, County Health Permits, and General/Liability Insurance and to comply with all operational rules of the Farmers Market. Food trucks that are permitted at the Farmers Market will NOT be permitted to continue business on any other City property unless a separate permit is obtained. Discussion ensued relating to limiting the number of trucks at the Market. City Clerk Morgan Kuepfert stated that all Farmers Market Applications must be approved through Kate Buemi, Recreation Supervisor, and it is her discretion as to how many will be allowed.

**BILL 19-49**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 605 RELATING TO FOOD TRUCKS OPERATING AT THE FENTON COMMUNITY AND FARMERS' MARKET.**

There was no objection from the Board to allow Alderman Sobey to sponsor Bill 19-49.

Alderman Sobey desired one reading of Bill No. 19-49. City Attorney Erin Seele read the bill one time by title only.

Alderman Sobey made a motion to seek a waiver of the rules for a second reading. The motion was seconded by Alderman Maurath. Upon a vote being taken, it was announced that the motion was passed unanimously by the Board of Aldermen. City Attorney Erin



Seele read Bill No. 19-49 for a second time by title only. Alderman Sobey made a motion that Bill No. 19-49 be enacted as an Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Alderman Seemayer. Upon the roll being called, the Board of Aldermen voted as follows:

|                   |     |                  |        |
|-------------------|-----|------------------|--------|
| Alderman Seemayer | Aye | Alderman Clauss  | Absent |
| Alderman Sobey    | Aye | Alderman Patton  | Aye    |
| Alderman Wisbrock | Aye | Alderman Jokerst | Aye    |
| Alderman Maurath  | Aye |                  |        |

It was announced that Bill No. 19-49 was passed by the Board of Alderman and would become Ordinance No. 3935 when and if signed by the Mayor.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:32 p.m., Alderman Sobey made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Alderman Patton. Upon a vote being taken, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Morgan Kuepfert  
City Clerk  
City of Fenton

May 23, 2019

My name is Vera Glick and I live at 1290 Horan Drive.

In 1993 when Alderman Maurath's seat was vacated due to his election as mayor, the first item of business announced by Mayor Maurath was the election of a President of the Board followed by the election of Liaisons to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Park Board. Mayor Maurath then announced that a special meeting would be held to appoint an individual to fill the vacant seat in Ward 2.

In 1995 when Alderman Ruzicka was elected mayor and his Ward 1 seat became vacant, the same procedure was followed. Unfortunately, his first nomination failed, but at a subsequent meeting his second recommendation passed. Both transitions were very smooth and professional and there were no complaints about unfairness.

Fast forward to 2019. This transition is anything but smooth and professional. In addition to the above mentioned positions not being filled, membership on the committees have not been approved and chairmen of these committees have not been chosen. The business of the City of Fenton is just barely squeaking by.

The actions of Mayor Brasses are affecting the work of the Board, but just as important, if not more so, it's affecting the efficient operation of all city departments.

Mayor Brasses believes that because the procedure in place for 1993 and 1995 was not formally adopted by the city by way of an ordinance, it should be ignored. From my research it has been learned that as a Fourth Class City, an ordinance is not necessary. We do, however, have precedence. Even courts recognize the importance of precedence when making rulings.

Using the County Council as an example, there are now two vacant councilman seats in our St. Louis County government that won't be filled until the August election. Business will now be conducted by five instead of seven members of the council. Even with this imbalance they were able to elect their chairman of the council that is similar to our president of the board with no outcry of unfairness from anyone in the County much less from Fenton.

Earlier this week I watched Frontline on Channel 9 about the nomination of Robert Bork in 1987 for the Supreme Court. Ultimately, his nomination failed 9 to 5. Was his name brought before the Senate Judiciary Committee again and again? **No it wasn't.**

On multiple occasions Mayor Brasses has brought forward his nomination to fill the Ward 3 seat. Each time the vote is 4 to 3 against.

As dysfunctional as Congress is, they realize a no vote is a no vote and they move on. It seems to me Fenton could take a hint from Washington this time, return to the procedure established in 1993 and move on.

Please make these comments a part of this evening's minutes.

Thank you,

Vera Glick

PUBLIC COMMENTS  
5/23/19

Mayor Brasses, for the sixth time there is an item on an agenda for a motion to fill the vacant ward 3 aldermanic seat. When you took your oath of office you swore to support the Constitutions of the U.S. and the State of Mo, the statutes affecting fourth class cities and the ordinances of the City of Fenton. I'm sure that somewhere in all of that, is a rule that a majority vote takes precedence. Yet you ignored the results of the first vote, and continue to bring this issue to the board only to get the same vote each time.

As a result, much division has been created in our city. We've made the front page of our local newspaper. Some agree with your position, some don't. It begs the question of why, in our democracy, the first vote of 7 elected aldermen was disregarded. To make matters worse, since you didn't get your way, you have refused to convene regularly scheduled meetings. Except for emergencies, four weeks of city business has been ignored.

You say it is the fair thing to do to fill this seat first, but ward 3 has great representation from longtime Alderman Clauss. Your unwillingness to accept the results of each motion and get on with city business, speaks loudly that something else is going on. I believe that something else is the hope of getting four votes who agree with you, the authority to break a tie, and being able to place your biggest supporter in the position of President of the Board and Liaison to Planning & Zoning. Positions that person has held for 16 of the last 18 years.

Let's just be honest about what really is going on here, and it isn't about fairness to ward 3. It's about shuffling the deck in your favor. The outcome of which so far has been to pit neighbor against neighbor, and bring getting regular city business done to a screeching halt.

Please put my comments into this evening's minutes.

Thank you,  
Darlys Preslar

5/24/19

Mayor Brasses, Members of the Board of Alderman:

My name is Edward Gapsch. I live at 1405 Uthoff Farm Trail and have been a member of the City of Fenton for nearly 20 years. I apologize for not being at this meeting in person and appreciate the opportunity to address you.

My concern is with the unfilled aldermanic position. I believe in fair and complete representation and believe the position needs to be filled immediately before any more work is done by this Board. The state of Missouri allows the unfilled position to be filled by the newly elected mayor immediately upon the mayor taking his position. Why hasn't it been filled? I have spoken to both of the Aldermen in my Ward. Newly elected Alderman Jokerst believes in fair and complete representation for all of the Wards. Alderman Patton doesn't – at least not on the complete representation part. Alderman Patton, along with three other aldermen, prefers to say that precedent set two other times in the history of Fenton allows the Board to nominate and elect the Board President and the liaisons to P & Z and to the Parks Department prior to filling the unfilled aldermanic position. I don't believe following precedent for the sake of precedent necessarily makes it right.

It seems to me the underlying concern is whether these four aldermen have control of the Board or not. Without adding the 8th alderman, these four aldermen control the Board's decisions on the three important nominations I just mentioned. So I ask - what are you four alderman afraid of? Are you afraid that if the aldermanic position is filled before the nominations, you won't personally get nominated to one of those positions? If you want the nomination, shouldn't you be qualified enough to get nominated and elected from the complete Board of eight members?

Alderman Patton, if you continue with your way of voting on this issue, know that you are not representing the voice of the people who elected you. Maybe the right thing to do would be to reclude yourself from accepting one of these three positions – otherwise your vote on this issue seems to smell with self serving intentions.

Thank you for your time.

Edward Gapsch