



Mark Hardy/Index

Members of the Kirksville City Council (from left, Tom Mayer, Mayor Martha Rowe, Mayor Pro-Tem Jill McCord and Aaron Rodgerson) attend a meeting Wednesday. The city's budget for the 2008 fiscal year was approved in December.

Council adjusts for new year

BY JULIA HANSEN
Staff Reporter

Kirksville is going through a City Council shake-up.

The Council lost another member, Mayor Martha Rowe will run again in April City Council elections, and the assistant city manager position has been vacated.

Future councilmembers will also receive a \$100 a month pay raise.

Council pay jumps

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, councilmembers voted and passed a pay raise from \$100 a year to \$100 a month for each newly-elected Councilmember starting after April 8 Council elections. Councilmembers Aaron Rodgerson and Jill McCord will not benefit from the pay raise until their next re-election. The pay raise was debated within the Council, so the vote's outcome was not unanimous. Three councilmembers voted for the pay raise, and one opposed it. Mayor Pro Tem Jill McCord was the only councilmember who voted against the pay raise.

"I am opposed not because of how [the Council] amended it, but I am opposed to accepting the salary," McCord said.

The amendment came after

City Manager Mari Macomber initially outlined the rules of the pay raise in the City Council agenda as "... a salary for the City Councilmember of \$100 per month for each month a councilmember attends all City Council meetings." At the meeting, both Macomber and councilmembers discussed and amended the original idea, instead ruling that a councilmember could not miss more than one regularly scheduled city meeting or special meeting.

"My intent was if you miss one meeting because you're on vacation, OK, but if you missed the whole month, you obviously did not represent the citizens for that month," Macomber said.

The councilmember pay raise was figured into the annual 2008 budget and will commence with newly-elected councilmembers after the April 8 elections.

Newton resigns

At the Dec. 18 meeting, the Council lost another valuable councilmember and former mayor.

Jeff Newton sent a letter to the Council ending his term as a councilmember immediately. Newton said he resigned from the Council because he habitually had been out of town and had not been able to attend Council meetings.

Just one day after his resignation from the Council, Newton

opened another Il Spazio Restaurant in Macomb, Ill. The restaurant's opening was the reason Newton frequently was out of town, Newton said.

"[Il Spazio] is going well, and we're looking at opening more restaurants a few years down the road," Newton said.

Newton said that even though he would like to be on the Council again, he foresees his future schedule getting too busy to commit to the Council.

Rowe enters race

Rowe's plans have changed as well.

According to the Nov. 29, 2007 issue of the Index, Rowe said she would not run for re-election and that she would let her term expire in April.

But on Monday afternoon, Rowe went to City Hall and filed to run again for City Council, Macomber said. Other applicants include Kevin Alm, Gail E. Brown, Todd Kuhns, Terry Flanagan, Joe Conway and Charles Cannaday.

McKim returns to Truman

Another recent loss for the City of Kirksville was Assistant City Manager Kris McKim. After four years working for the City of Kirksville, McKim moved down Franklin Street on Monday to the

University as a Grants and Compliance Specialist. Before working for the city, McKim worked for the University in the Office of Advancement for nine years. McKim said she is excited to be back at the University will miss her old job.

"Working with the city I got to meet lots of people in the community," McKim said. "I will miss Mari [Macomber]. She was a great boss, but I have missed the [Truman] environment."

McKim said she always enjoyed writing grants for the city as assistant city manager, so when the announcement for a grant-writing position opened at the University, she decided to apply.

"I was not looking for a new job, but when I read about the job at Truman, I thought, 'Wow, that sounds exactly like me,'" McKim said.

McKim will write grants and review grants written by faculty members. She also will be involved in writing reports after the grants are received and approaching grant funders.

McKim's former position currently is vacant and the city is accepting applicants, with the first review of applicants Feb. 21, according to the City of Kirksville Web site.

City of Kirksville 2008 budget highlights

Beginning fund balances

General Fund	\$1,841,277
Special Revenue Fund	\$2,343,634
Capitol Improvement Fund	\$771,850
Enterprise Fund	\$18,121,193
Non-Expendable	
Fiduciary/Agency Fund	\$530,618
Internal Service Fund	\$568,425
Total	\$24,176,997

Expenditures

Council	\$1,942,834*
Economic development	\$350,789
Finance	\$289,489
Police	\$1,737,591
Fire	\$1,324,396
Public works and streets	\$1,797,752
Airport	\$856,948**
Total	\$25,018,422

* Majority of funds from non-expendable fiduciary/agency fund

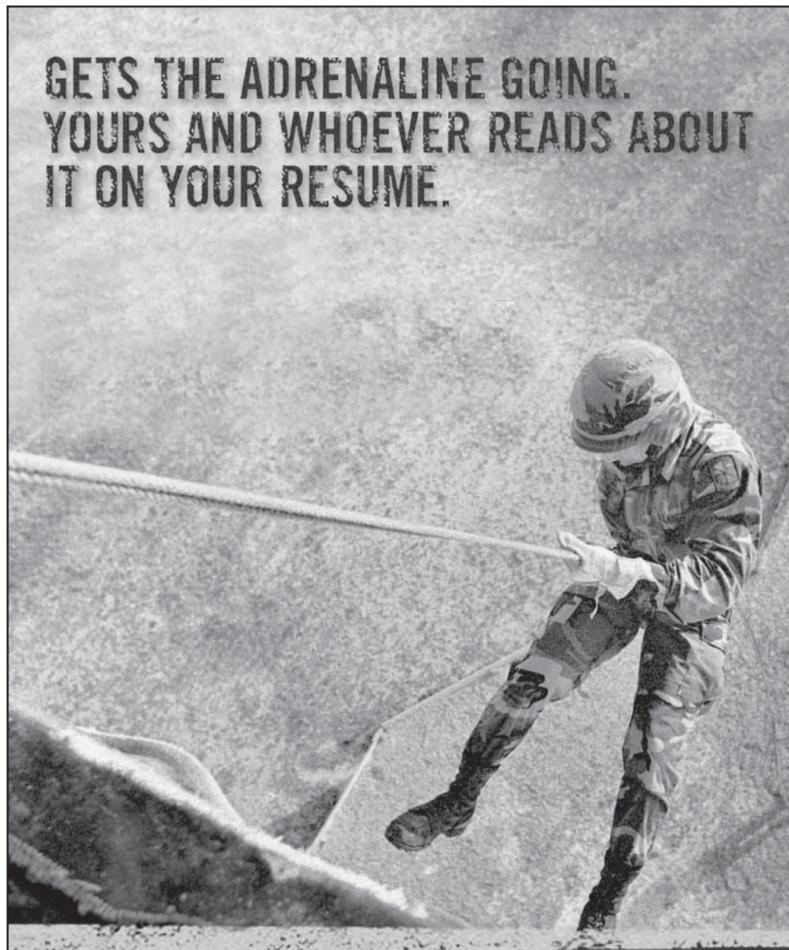
** All funds from special revenue fund

Source: City Manager Mari Macomber

Capital project highlights

- **Fourteen** general fund capital items totaling \$446,330, including a \$125,000 **street sweeper**.
- **Twelve** special revenue capital items totaling \$1,137,936, including \$556,500 for **the downtown TIF projects**.
- **Fifteen** capital improvement fund items totaling \$1,868,168, including \$100,000 **fire truck lease** and \$500,000 for improvements to **Jefferson Street**.
- **Twenty-four** utility fund items totaling \$4,791,000, including \$1,730,000 in **water plant improvements**.

Source: City Manager Mari Macomber



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