

BALLWIN

Bringing People Together

February - March 2008

2008 April Ballot

WARD 1

TIM POGUE
418 Bush Drive, 63021

WARD 2

JANE SUOZZI
164 Lucerne Place Drive, 63011

WARD 3

FRANK FLEMING
619 Spring Meadows, 63011

WARD 4

CHARLES GATTON
647 Lemonwood Drive, 63021

RICHARD J. BOERNER
726 Oak Meadows Ct., 63021

Ballot Issue

On January 14 the Board of Aldermen authorized, by unanimous vote, an initiative to place a 40 cent property tax on the ballot for April 8. If approved, this tax would generate approximately \$2.5 million in additional annual revenue. The Board has determined that 1/5 of this supplement would be applied to offset increased costs related to continuation of current operating programs and services. The bulk of the proceeds (approximately \$2 million) has been pledged for additional street improvements. Currently, only \$1 million per year is allotted for this purpose.

The City has had a zero property tax rate since 1987. Only 13 of the 91 municipalities in St. Louis County have no local property tax.

The estimated cost of this initiative for the owner of a home worth \$250,000 is approximately \$190 per year. This equates to less than \$4.00 per week.

Ballwin Days Planning Started – Be a Part of It!

Planning for the 31st annual Ballwin Days festival is already in full swing. Be sure to mark the dates of June 27 – 29 on your calendar so you won't miss all the fun and excitement being planned.

Making Ballwin Days a success each year is no accident. It is due to the hard work of many volunteers who pitch in throughout the year to ensure the festival is as fun as possible for everyone. We always have room, though, for more people who want to make a difference and assist in making Ballwin Days 2008 memorable. You can see first-hand what it takes to put Ballwin Days together by attending one of the planning committee meetings. These meetings will be held on February 20, March 19, April 16, May 21, and June 10. All meetings are held at the Ballwin Golf Club (333 Holloway) starting at 7:00 p.m.

In addition, the Ballwin Days Committee will host an open house at the Pointe at Ballwin Commons (#1 Ballwin Commons Circle) on Sunday, February 24, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The open house will be a great chance to see behind the scenes of the festival planning without all the business of a committee meeting. Light refreshments will be served, and all citizens and businesses are welcome to attend.

Another way for potential volunteers to see how they can be a part of the fun is to visit the Ballwin Days web site at <http://ballwin.mo.us/ballwindays>. Or, you can contact one of our Co-chairmen:

Tim at 636-207-2388 ext. 2 or ballwindays@sbcglobal.net or

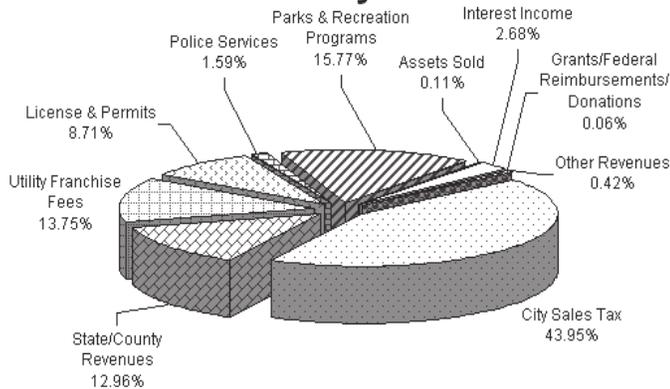
Pat at 636-207-2388 ext. 3 or pat_ballwindays@sbcglobal.net



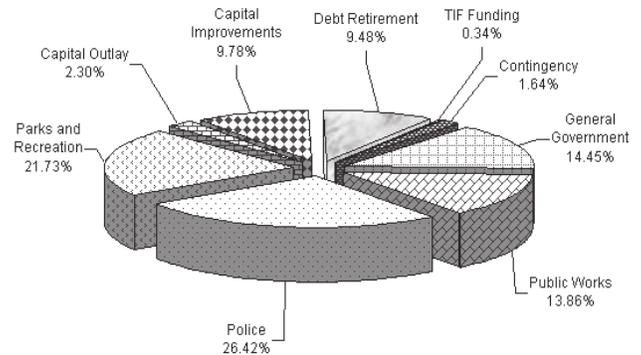
Ballwin Budgets

On December 10 the Board of Aldermen formally adopted the 2008 Operating and Capital Budgets. The combined budgets total \$18,687,772. The graphs below help illustrate revenues and expenditures, and detail capital improvements for the 2008 year.

Where The Money Comes From



Where The Money Goes



Source

Revenues

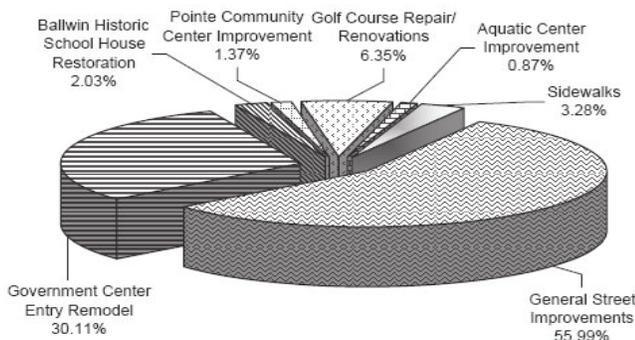
City Sales Tax	\$ 7,736,000
State/County Revenues	\$ 2,281,000
Utility Franchise Fees	\$ 2,421,250
Licenses & Permits	\$ 1,532,500
Police Services	\$ 279,263
Parks & Recreation Programs	\$ 2,775,425
Assets Sold	\$ 20,000
Interest Income	\$ 471,445
Grants/Federal Reimbursements/Donations	\$ 10,600
Other Revenues	\$ 75,000
Total:	\$ 17,602,483

Functions

Expenses

General Government	\$ 2,701,131
Public Works	\$ 2,591,006
Police	\$ 4,937,522
Parks and Recreation	\$ 4,060,972
Capital Outlay	\$ 430,365
Capital Improvements	\$ 1,826,662
Debt Retirement	\$ 1,770,716
TIF Funding	\$ 62,870
Contingency	\$ 306,528
Total:	\$ 18,687,772

Capital Improvements



Type of Improvement

Cost

Government Center Entry Remodel	\$ 550,000
Ballwin Historic School House Restoration	\$ 37,000
Pointe Community Center Improvements	\$ 25,000
Golf Course Repair/Renovations	\$ 116,000
Aquatic Center Improvement	\$ 16,000
Sidewalks	\$ 60,000
General Street Improvements	\$ 1,022,662
Total:	\$ 1,826,662

Great Streets Program

Manchester Road has always been a great street. Since WWII, this roadway, between its intersections with Barrett Station Road and Old State Road, served as the center of commercial activity in the west St. Louis county area. If you were a retailer, you probably had a store somewhere along this stretch of road. In recent years it has become apparent that Manchester Road may no longer be so great. It has been experiencing a gradual decline in the number, status and success of commercial retail tenants. There is a higher percentage of vacant units than has been common in recent years, and there has been a marked trend away from retail tenants. This traditionally strong retail corridor has been losing businesses to newer retail locations that have superior access to major intersections. This exodus is particularly apparent for regional retail stores that draw customers from relatively large market areas. Retailers that draw from smaller service areas such as grocery stores, home improvement stores and drug stores seem to be less impacted.

The East West Gateway Coordinating Council (EWGCC) monitors the economic vitality of the St. Louis metropolitan region. It has discovered that this trend is not unique to Manchester Road. Many similar commercial corridors in the region and throughout the country are experiencing similar trends. Aside from the vacancies making the corridor less attractive, cities like Ballwin receive a significant portion of their revenue from sales taxes. Vacant commercial properties and stores moving away result in lower revenues. This translates to a reduction in the extent and quality of the municipal services that can be provided.

In an effort to assist local governments in developing strategies to deal with the changing nature of retailing, the East West Gateway Coordinating Council has developed the Great Streets Initiative. A great street is one with an identity that is comfortable for both drivers and pedestrians. It has a sense of enclosure that includes not only the pavements, but the trees, the improvements and the adjoining buildings. It has definite beginning and ending points. The key is that great streets are places that people want to be and be seen and where pedestrians and vehicles coexist in harmony. The heart of this initiative has been the development of an interactive web page (www.greatstreetsstlouis.net) that allows individuals to understand what great streets are and how a place like Manchester Road can be transformed into one.

As a kickoff to this initiative, EWGCC offered to fund three demonstration studies in the metropolitan area of streets that had the potential to become great streets. The cities of Ballwin, Ellisville, Manchester, Wildwood and Winchester, in conjunction with the West County Chamber of Commerce, submitted the segment of Manchester Road between Enchanted Parkway and Highway 109 for consideration. The proposal was selected and a team of experts from across the country was chosen to review the situation and assist in the development of a planning approach to making Manchester Road back into a great street. A team representing the five municipalities met with the consultants in May of 2007 to survey the corridor and begin discussions about the options that were available for the study. It was evident that changing Manchester Road back into a great street is going to be a challenge. Success will only happen if the will and the skill of residents, property owners, business people, real estate professionals, elected officials and MoDOT can be combined into a unified approach that transcends municipal boundaries.

A meeting was held on December 12, 2007 to discuss the things that Manchester Road could be and what would need to be done to accomplish this goal. Those attending this meeting were commercial property owners, local businessmen, commercial real estate brokers, the Chamber of Commerce and government representatives from the five cities. Nationally known experts on retail development trends and planners with experience in similar situations presented their observations of the corridor and its potential. A change will not be easy. Manchester Road is anything but pedestrian friendly, the traffic volumes are substantial and the proximity of the built environment does not lend itself to being a desirable place with a special identity. One thing that was clear is that the prospects of success hinge on the sponsoring cities standing together, developing a unified approach to the roadway and throwing out the previous "go it alone" attitude. A report outlining the results of the December meeting will be released shortly. The report will describe the strengths of the corridor and suggest approaches to be taken to begin the transformation. The Ballwin Board of Aldermen and the Ellisville City Council recently met jointly to discuss areas of potential cooperation. These are some of the first steps necessary to make this dream a reality.

Chief Jim Biederman Retires

Chief James (Jim) Biederman retired from the Ballwin Police Department after 30 years of service. He has accepted a position as Security Manager – North America with the Monsanto Corporation.

Chief Biederman began his law enforcement career as an MP in the U.S. Army for three years. He joined the Ballwin Police Department in 1977. Chief Biederman rose quickly through the ranks being promoted to Sergeant in 1985, Lieutenant in 1987, and in 1989 he was appointed as a Bureau Commander for both Field Operations and Staff and Auxiliary Services. He served in this capacity until his appointment as Chief of Police in July 1996.

Captain Steve Schicker is serving as the Interim Chief of Police until a replacement is named.

Child Passenger Restraint Law

This act governs how motorists must restrain children in motor vehicles. The law requires children of certain ages, weights and heights to be restrained by either a child passenger restraint system, booster seat or safety belt.

AGE/WEIGHT/HEIGHT CLASSIFICATION

1. **LESS THAN 4 YEARS OLD** - This act requires children less than four years old, regardless of weight, to use an appropriate child passenger restraint system.
2. **LESS THAN 40 POUNDS** - The act requires children weighing less than 40 pounds, regardless of age, to be secured in a child passenger restraint system appropriate for the child.
3. **LESS THAN 8 YEARS OLD/80 POUNDS OR UNDER 4'9"** - Children (ages 4-7) and who weigh at least 40 pounds but less than 80 pounds, and are less than 4'9" tall must be secured in a child passenger restraint system or booster seat appropriate for that child.
4. **GREATER THAN 80 POUNDS OR TALLER THAN 4'9"** - Children who are at least 80 pounds or children taller than 4'9" shall be secured by a vehicle safety belt or booster seat appropriate for that child.

The law allows a child to be transported in the back seat without a booster seat if the child is secured with a lap belt if the vehicle is not equipped with combination lap and shoulder belt for booster seat installation.

The law also provides that when transporting children in the immediate family when there are more children than there are seating positions in the enclosed area of a motor vehicle, the children who are not able to be restrained by a child safety restraint device appropriate for the child shall sit in the area behind the front seat of the motor vehicle unless the motor vehicle is designed only for a front seat area. The driver transporting children under this scenario shall not be in violation of the child seat restriction law. The law does not apply to public carriers for hire or to students four years of age or older who are passengers on a school bus designed for carrying eleven passengers or more and which is manufactured or equipped pursuant to Missouri Minimum Standards for School Buses.

Police News

Internet Safety Seminar

Sponsored by the
Ballwin Police Department

February 27, 2008
7pm – 9pm

Ballwin Golf Club
333 Holloway Road

Topics Include:

Internet Predators
Cyber Bullying
Internet Chatting
Protecting Your Computer

Fair Housing Statement

The City of Ballwin is committed to fair housing for all citizens. It is unlawful to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, disability, familial status or national origin.

The City of Ballwin has enacted a fair housing ordinance that prohibits unlawful discrimination and spells out the process for filing a complaint.

If you believe that you or someone you know have been unlawfully discriminated against, call the City of Ballwin at 227-8580.

Hints of What to See at Ballwin Days 2008

The Ballwin Days festival is known for such fun events as the parade, beautiful arts and crafts, delicious fun, exciting entertainment, and sporting activities. How would you like a few advance peeks into what is planned for 2008?

On the main stage, a rumor has been heard that the Smash Band might return on Friday night. You remember them from 2007 as well as several other years in the past. You won't want to miss their exciting music.

If you attended Ballwin Days 2007 either Friday or Saturday night, you surely remember the beautiful fireworks displays. Believe it or not, you can count on fireworks to make a comeback both nights in 2008. Better plan to get to the park early and grab that perfect seat.

Do you like rides? Of course you do, and Ballwin Days will again offer exciting rides and other activities for festival guests of all ages.

Okay, we don't want to give away too much. To find out more, check out the Ballwin Days web site at <http://ballwin.mo.us/ballwindays>.

Brush Pick-up

The City of Ballwin's Parks & Recreation Department will have their annual Brush Pick-up Program the week of March 10th. The pick-up will be limited to tree limbs or brush with a diameter of less than 6 inches. (No flowers, root balls, fence posts, railroad ties, vines, grass, thorns or leaves). Limbs must be at least 4 feet long, no longer than 12 feet long and not bundled or put in containers, but simply stacked at the curb with the cut end pointing towards the street. If there is a sidewalk in the area, please stack the brush in your yard at the edge of the sidewalk. Please do not block the sidewalk. Piles of brush can be up to 15 feet long and no larger than four feet tall. Brush must be stacked in this manner or it will not be taken.

Each home may put out only one pile of brush.

This program is for single family units only. (No businesses, churches, schools or apartments.) Branches and limbs must be out by 7:00 A.M. on March 10th and no earlier than five days before the 10th (March 5). To put out brush any sooner would violate City ordinance.

City crews will pass through neighborhoods only **once**. This will be the only brush pick-up in 2008.

If you miss our pick-up, Allied Waste will pick up **bundled** piles of brush during their regular trash (yard waste) pick-up.

Ballwin Submits Grant Application for Recycling Carts

Ballwin has submitted a grant application in conjunction with Allied Waste for the acquisition of 95 gallon rollout carts to obtain more capacity for the "Single Stream Recycling Program." Allied will also offer the option of a 65 gallon container for residents who prefer a smaller container. The application was submitted to the St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District for their 2008 Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Program. If approved, the carts will be purchased and distributed to residents of the City in October and the existing recycling bins will be collected for recycling.



Holiday Closing

All City offices will be closed on Monday, February 18 in observance of President's Day. Offices will reopen on Tuesday, February 19 at 8 a.m.



CITY OF BALLWIN

14811 Manchester
Ballwin, Missouri 63011

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. LOUIS, MO
PERMIT NO. 495

MAYOR

Walt Young
227-2016 (office)
391-8259 (home)

WARD 1

Tim Pogue
207-2386 x3320
Jimmy Terbrock
207-2386 x3330

WARD 2

Kenneth Buermann
394-9105
Jane Suozzi
227-6260

WARD 3

James Robinson
207-2386 x3360
Frank Fleming
207-2386 x3370

WARD 4

Ray Lembke
207-2386 x3390
Ray L. Kerlagon
207-2386 x3380

NUMBERS YOU CAN USE

Government Center
227-8580

The Pointe at
Ballwin Commons
227-8950

Police Department
227-9636

Public Works
227-9000

Ballwin Golf Shop
227-1750

Zoning Hotline
207-2326

Permits/Inspections
227-2129

www.ballwin.mo.us

Ballwin Days Seeks Business Partners

Ballwin Days is an annual success thanks to the efforts the many local volunteers you see at the festival wearing royal blue shirts. Yet, the festival wouldn't be what it is today without many of the local businesses who have become partners with the festival.

The year 2008 is no different. Businesses have the opportunity to become a part of Ballwin Days and help sponsor some of the existing events of the weekend, including athletic activities, main stage entertainment, parade, and fireworks. But time is limited, as many of these exciting opportunities go fast.

You can obtain more information about becoming a business partner with Ballwin Days by visiting the festival's web site at <http://ballwin.mo.us/ballwindays>, e-mailing ballwindayssponsorship@yahoo.com, or calling 636-207-2388 ext. 4.

Ballwin Days Beautification– Nominations

Do you have a beautiful yard or subdivision entrance? Is there one business that you think is a cut above on their landscaping? If so, then you will want to place your nomination with the Beautification Committee at 14811 Manchester Road, Ballwin, MO 63011, Attn: Peggy Duenke.