

CITY OF COLUMBUS
BUDGET HEARING
August 17 2015
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met August 17, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers presided over by Mayor Dexter Opela. Council members present: Dale Burton, Jerri Burton, Barbara Capron, Steve Dunlap, Mike Leighty, David Martin, Marion Morgan, Alvin Patterson, Drew Richards, W.E. Schaiff.

Council members absent: None.

Michael Roberts, Pastor of the Methodist Church, led the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Dexter Opela began the meeting by reading the Notice of Budget Hearing as publicized:

The governing body of City of Columbus, Kansas will meet on August 17, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Opela then opened the meeting to comments from the public or city council.

Robin Wells representing the Columbus Recreation Commission addressed the council with questions about the CRC budget not being fully funded. The Commission had submitted an \$18,000.00 budget and the City approved \$13,000.00. It was noted the City will work with the Commission and consider ideas if they present specific equipment or project requests. The City is trying to be judicial with their funds and do not feel it is proper to appropriate funds without specific projects in mind.

Schaiff asked the amount of a mill this year and about the City's indebtedness amount. He was informed the obligations are broken down on page 5 of the budget paperwork.

Schaiff brought up the idea of purchasing a police car every other year, asked about ad valorem tax and employees raises. Administrator Reams offered we did not dedicated a specific mill to employee wages; a contingency fund was developed to work toward this.

Mayor stated the budget committee worked hard to not raise the mill levy for the 2016 budget.

APPROVE 2016 BUDGET

Leighty moved to approve the 2016 City Budget as presented. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards. Voting nay: Schaiff. Motion carried 9-1.

CLOSE BUDGET HEARING

The Mayor closed the budget hearing and moved forward to the regular council meeting. 6:57 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Burton Jerri moved to approve Council Meeting minutes of August 3, 2015 as amended. Leighty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Abstain: Capron, Dunlap, Richards. Motion carried 7-0-3.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 15-387

Leighty moved to approve Appropriation Ordinance 15-387 as presented. Burton Dale seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

VISITORS – *Jason/Malinda Heflin*

Jason and Malinda Heflin approached the council stating they had requested and been granted approval for a mobile home placement at the July 20, 2015 council meeting. Mr. Heflin noted they have run into a few problems and wish to withdraw the request at this time, they are not confident they will be able to meet the 60 day completion requirement. They will come back to council if they decide to proceed.

VISITOR – *Debra Ball*

Debra Ball representing The American Legion Ladies Auxiliary approached the council for permission to hold the annual POW/MIA Watchfire at the VFW Duck Pond Friday September 18 and to waive the camping fees for the participants of the Watchfire Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

ALLOW POW/MIA WATCHFIRE

Burton Dale moved to allow the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary to hold their 3rd annual POW/MIA Watchfire at the VFW Duck Pond Friday September 18 and to waive the camping fees for the participants of the event for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

VISITOR – *Anita Davolt*

Anita Davolt approached the council with question regarding the Haunted House Ordinance. She was informed the Ordinance did not pertain to her lawn decorations.

ASPHALT BID OPENING

City Superintendent Jim Burton stated two asphalt bids had been received for the 2015 paving project. Bids received are with the county hauling the asphalt:

Tri-State Asphalt, Inc. \$57.29 per ton includes tack oil
Teeter's Paving LLC. \$75.00 per ton with tack oil @ \$3.30 per gallon sprayed.

ACCEPT ASPHALT BID

Burton Jerri moved to accept the bid from Tri-State Asphalt Inc. of Picher, Oklahoma, of \$57.29 per ton for asphalt. Leighty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

LIFE INSURANCE RENEWAL

City Clerk Chancellor informed the council a renewal summary for the employee life insurance coverage provided by the City has been received from Advance Insurance Company of Kansas. The City currently provides each full time employee \$20,000 of coverage. The premium increase will be .03 cents per thousand dollars of coverage per employee which will be less than a \$250.00 increase to the City.

ADVANCE LIFE INSURANCE RENEWAL

Burton Jerri moved to approve the renewal rates of Advance Life Insurance coverage for City employees as presented. Leighty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

STANDARD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE

Leighty moved to approve Ordinance #1357 – *An Ordinance regulating traffic within the corporate limits of the City of Columbus, Kansas; incorporating by reference the “Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities,” Edition of 2015; providing certain penalties and repealing Ordinance No. 1335.* Burton Jerri seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

UNIFORM PUBLIC OFFENSE CODE

Leighty moved to approve Ordinance # 1356 – *An Ordinance regulating public offenses within the corporate limits of the City of Columbus, Kansas; incorporating by reference the “Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities,” Edition of 2015; providing certain penalties and repealing Ordinance No. 1334.* Burton Jerri seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

BID PATROL VEHICLE

Burton Jerri moved to allow Police Chief Daniels to go out for bids on a new patrol vehicle. Leighty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

REDUCE SPEED LIMIT

Burton Dale moved to reduce the speed limit to 20 mph on West Oak Street from High School Street to Kansas Street. Schaiff seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Martin, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: Leighty, Morgan, Richards. Motion carried 7-3.

EMPLOYEE RAISE

Burton Dale moved to approve a \$1.00 per hour across the board raise for City employees. Schaiff seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Schaiff. Voting nay: Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards. Motion failed 2-8.

DOG POUND VOLUNTEER

Burton Dale moved to approve \$150.00 in Chamber Bucks for dog pound volunteer Vonda Meeks for mowing the dog pound to be paid out of Animal Control. Schaiff seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Schaiff. Voting nay: Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards. Motion failed 3-7.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dunlap called for a ten minute executive session at 8:40 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel, with the Council, City Administrator, and Mayor in attendance. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

Regular session: 8:50 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dunlap called for a ten minute executive session at 8:51 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel, with the Council, City Administrator, and Mayor in attendance. Schaiff seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Martin, Patterson, Richards, Schaiff. Voting nay: Leighty, Morgan. Motion carried 8-2.

Regular session: 9:01 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Burton Dale called for a five minute executive session at 9:02 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel, with the Council, City Administrator, and Mayor in attendance. Schaiff seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: Morgan, Richards. Motion carried 8-2.

Regular session: 9:07 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Leighty moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. Burton Jerri seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Capron, Dunlap, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Richards, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 10-0.

Meetings:

Police and Licensing

Monday August 24 @ 7:00 p.m.

Economic Development

Monday August 24 @ 7:30 p.m.

Personnel

Tuesday August 25 @ 6:00 p.m.

Cherri Chancellor City Clerk