

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 3, 2015
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met August 3, 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, Mike Leighty, David Martin, Marion Morgan, Alvin Patterson, W.E. Schaiff. Council members absent: Barbara Capron, Steve Dunlap, Drew Richards.

Alvin Patterson, council member led the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEETING MINUTES

Burton Jerri moved to approve Council Meeting minutes from July 20, 2015 as amended. Schaiff seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Abstain: Leighty. Motion carried 6-0-1.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 15-386

Leighty moved to approve Appropriation Ordinance 15-386 as presented. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 7-0.

VISITOR – TERRY SERCER

Terry Sercer representing Diehl, Banwart, Bolton accounting firm approached the council with findings from the 2014 City audit. Mr. Sercer informed the City received an unqualified opinion in accordance with regulatory basis of accounting which is an accounting that is designed to show compliance to Kansas Statutes. He also commented that Columbus is one of the best Cities his firm audits at developing and building up reserve funds. Sercer stated it is good to have at least a couple months' expenses in your balances. The City was not cited for any statutory violations.

VISITOR – JANET MILLER

Janet Miller representing the Cherokee County Economic Development Corporation brought an annual update to the council. One of the main focuses of the group is creating an environment where existing businesses can grow and thrive and people who wish to start a business can do so. Mrs. Miller made note of Cherokee County being designated an E community allowing a for business revolving loan fund to be gap financing for business owners. She reported results of the first annual Cherokee County Youth Entrepreneur Fair; 35 students from three area schools competed for cash prizes.

VISITOR – WAYNE DOBKINS

Wayne Dobkins reported to the council the building at 528 South Delaware slated for condemnation has been taken down and is "in the roll off", it is no longer a problem and he is happy to be rid of it. The council thanked him for the update.

ACCEPT DEMOLITION QUOTE

Burton Jerri moved to accept the \$1,600.00 quote from B-3 Construction for the demolition and removal of the maintenance/office building on the north side of the cemetery. Morgan seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 7-0.

VISITOR - SONJA LEDFORD

Sonja Ledford approached the council with concerns over lack of warning for violations of the health nuisance section of the City Code Book before citation is issued. Mrs. Ledford noted that areas of the City do need to be cleaned up however she would like to see warnings given with a chance to make remedy before being fined.

WARNING FOR NUISANCE VIOLATIONS

Burton Dale moved for police officers to give a five day warning for health nuisance violations before issuing a citation. Schaiff seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Leighty, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: Martin. Motion carried 6-1.

REEVES PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Morgan moved to allow City crews to make the following improvements at Reeves Park: remove dead trees/stumps, remove/repair of the horseshoe pits, remove volleyball court poles, remove climbing apparatus near volleyball court and remove teeter-totter pole. Leighty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 7-0.

ALLOW SOUTHEAST KANSAS INDEPENDENT LIVING SIGN

Patterson moved to allow SKIL to install sign on their North Kansas Street location as presented. Burton Jerri seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 7-0.

PAVE CITY STREETS

Patterson moved to approve 2015 street paving project as presented. Burton Dale seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 7-0.

BUDGET HEARING DATE

Leighty moved to publish the 2016 City budget as presented and set the budget hearing date for Monday, August 17, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. Burton Dale seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 7-0.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Leighty moved to promote Mike McCormick from Meter Reader to Animal Control/Code Enforcement Officer, Range 9 Step A per Appendix A, with training and transition to be worked out between the two departments. Motion failed for lack of a second.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Burton Dale moved to go into a ten minute executive session at 7:30 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to discuss the Animal Control/Code Enforcement Officer applicants with the Council, City Administrator, Mayor, City Clerk and City Superintendent in attendance. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Dale, Burton Jerri, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: Leighty. Motion carried: 6-1.

REGULAR SESSION: 7:40 P.M.

Burton Dale left the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

ORDINANCE 1355 – UTILITY TERRAIN VECHILE

Burton Jerri moved to approve Ordinance 1355 *An Ordinance to Establish Regulations for the Lawful Operation of Utility Terrain Vehicles on City Streets Amending the Code of the City of Columbus, Chapter XIV, Article 2* as amended. Morgan seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Jerri, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Burton Jerri moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton Jerri, Leighty, Martin, Morgan, Patterson, Schaiff. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 6-0.

Meetings:

None

Cherri Chancellor City Clerk