

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
BUDGET HEARING  
August 6, 2018  
6:30 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE**

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met August 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Connie Bennett, Jerri Burton, Steve Dunlap, Ron Johnson, James Lucian, Sammye Opela, John Paradee, Alvin Patterson, Tom Pryor, Drew Richards. Council member absent: None.

Pastor Randy Arnold of Victory Life Church provided the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Spieth opened the 2019 budget hearing by reading the Notice of Budget Hearing published in the Columbus News-Report stating the governing body of the City of Columbus will meet on August 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 300 East Maple, Columbus, Kansas 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.

Spieth asked for public comment. Hearing none, he asked for any comment from the city council. Head of the budget committee, Drew Richards stated, "We had to cut quite a bit to stay under the increase allowed. Pretty pleased with what we were able to do. We will need to do more thinking and planning for next year with benefits increasing to see what we can do."

**APPROVE 2019 BUDGET**

Richards moved to approve the 2019 city budget as presented. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

Mayor Spieth closed the 2019 budget hearing at 6:35 p.m.

CITY OF COLUMBUS

August 6, 2018

6:36 P.M.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Burton moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of July 16, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes, July 30, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes and Appropriation Ordinance 18-469 as presented. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Richards. Voting nay: None. Abstain: Paradee, Pryor. Motion carried 8-0-2.

**VISITOR - GARTH HERRMANN**

Garth Herrmann of Gilmore & Bell spoke to the council about the Recreation Center Ballot Proposal and the process of issuing GO Bonds (General Obligation). Mr. Herrmann provided bonds are issued only after a successful ballot campaign, the firm is paid only if the bonds are issued; if the measure does not pass there is no fee. He also stated if the project goes forward, the first payment would probably be in 2020, with early payoff option no earlier than 8-10 years in.

**RESOLUTION 537 – RECREATION CENTER BALLOT QUESTION**

Johnson moved to adopt Resolution 537 – *“A Resolution Authorizing and Providing for the Calling of a Special Question Election in the City of Columbus, Kansas, for the Purpose of Submitting to the Electors of the City the Question of Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds of the City to Finance Public Building Improvements and Providing for the Giving of Notice of the Election.”* Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: Lucian. Motion carried 9-1.

**City Treasurer Report –**

-Quarterly and cash balance reports in your council packets. Interest rates are creeping up.

**Interim City Superintendent Report –**

- City crews have installed 390 new water meters.
- We have water to the cemetery building.
- Crews completed fifteen blocks of crack sealing.
- Waiting on neighboring easement to begin Mulberry drainage project.

Recent social media coverage of city crews on break was mentioned. It was noted public works employees are not allowed to frequent the convenience stores on break at 10 a.m. & 2 p.m. so they are standing in the shade or truck near the worksites. Extreme heat and employee safety need to be taken into consideration.

Fire department shower bid inquiry – will attempt to locate bid(s).

**City Clerk Report –**

-KOMA/KORA training opportunity through League of Kansas Municipalities Friday, August 24 in Lenexa. Contact me to register for the event.

-LKM annual conference over Columbus Day weekend, Saturday October 6 – Monday October 8 in Topeka. The City has opportunity for two voting delegates and two alternates for the annual meeting that will be held on Monday of the conference.

-PRIDE meeting noon Tuesday, August 14 here at City Hall. Always welcome new faces and ideas.

-Chamber of Commerce third Thursday coffee Thursday, August 16 at Maple UnCommon. Mrs. Greene welcomes all to attend and tour the new art exhibit.

-Ordinance 1423 pertaining to the new Wage Range Chart for city employees. Last council meeting minutes reflect the motion for the change but did not reference the ordinance directly. Ordinance has been signed and published, ask for motion to amend meeting minutes to reflect this correctly.

**ORDINANCE 1423 – WAGE RANGE CHART APPENDIX A**

Opela moved to approve amending July 2 council meeting minutes to reflect approving of Ordinance 1423 as presented. Richards seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**Police Chief Report –**

-Fair report - from a law enforcement perspective mild week and very enjoyable. Large crowds several nights with only a few minor instances. Would like to thank John Lopp / Fast Mart for the donation of Gatorade; Don Kirk / H & K Campers for providing a RV to have a place to cool off; Lions Club; Brad Wells / Fair Board and the American Legion for their help throughout the week.

-308 North Dennison, one of the properties on the August 20 condemnation list has already been taken down by the owner D & T Rentals.

- Planning another annual cookout with Carolyn Eddington to honor first responders and veterans in the area. Scheduled for Sunday, September 9 at 5:30 p.m. in the city park. Menu of hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, chips, pop and patriotic music. Everyone is invited; bring lawn chairs, come out and enjoy the event.

**Fire Chief Report-**

(Lead Driver Jaden Tedlock in attendance for department.)

-216 fire runs so far this year, up 20 calls from the same time last year.

-Would like to schedule fire committee meeting. Loaner firetruck from Fire Master may be sold; need to discuss options.

-Will get back on track with fire bay exhaust system bids.

**City Attorney Report –**

-Revised Neighborhood Revitalization Program Interlocal Agreement in your packet. Attorney General's office requested new language in paragraph one bottom of page one to reflect statutory language before approval. New resolution also needs to be adopted.

**RESOLUTION 538 – NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM AGREEMENT**

Opela moved to adopt Resolution 538, "A Resolution by the Governing Body of the City of Columbus, Kansas, Adopting the Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Columbus, Kansas, and Cherokee County, Kansas". Richards seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**Old business –**

-None.

**New business –**

-None.

**Mayor –**

- Farmers Market plans to hold event uptown Thursday, August 9; asking for approval to close Kansas Street during the event.

**CLOSE STREET – FARMERS MARKET**

Burton moved to close Kansas Street from Pine Street to Elm Street Thursday, August 9 from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. for the farmers market event. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Opela called for a thirty-minute executive session at 7:34 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel for personnel update and issue, with the Council, Mayor and City Attorney in attendance. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**REGULAR SESSION 8:04 P.M.**

**WAGE INCREASE – SCOTT BENNETT**

Opela moved to approve Scott Bennett for the position of Interim City Superintendent with a wage increase to \$20.20 while he is in this position, retroactive to July 24, 2018. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Abstain: Bennett. Motion carried 9-0-1.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Paradee moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**Meetings:**

**Streets/Alleys/Bridges**

**Tuesday 8/07/2018 @ 5:00 p.m.**

**Fire**

**Tuesday 8/07/2018 @ 6:00 p.m.**

**Economic Development**

**Tuesday 8/07/2018 @ 6:45 p.m.**

**Personnel**

**Tuesday 8/07/2018 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**Personnel**

**Thursday 8/09/2018 @ 5:30 p.m.**

**Water/Sewer**

**Tuesday 8/14/2018 @ 5:30 p.m.**

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*Cherri Chancellor City Clerk*