

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
August 20, 2018  
6:30 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE**

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met August 20, 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. Council member absent: Drew Richards.

Council member Ron Johnson provided the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Burton moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of August 6, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes and Appropriation Ordinance 18-470 as presented. Paradee seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**VISITOR – JUANITA DOBKINS – POW/MIA WATCHFIRE**

Juanita Dobkins announced that it is time for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Prisoners of War/Missing in Action Watchfire sponsored by the members and auxiliaries of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). She stated the Watchfire is in remembrance and honor of the POW/MIA Military Men and Women. They also have a flag retiring ceremony, flags may be delivered to the VFW during normal business hours 2 p.m. – 2 a.m. Mrs. Dobkins asked the council to allow the Watchfire to be held at the VFW pond and to waive the camping fees September 21-22.

**ALLOW POW/MIA WATCHFIRE**

Opela moved to allow the annual POW/MIA Watchfire to be held at the VFW Pond September 21 and to waive the camping fees for the participants of the event for September 21-22. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**VISITOR – BEVERLY NORTH – COMMUNITY BUILDING**

Beverly North addressed the council regarding the condition of the community building. Mrs. North stated she uses this facility every year for a family reunion and was disappointed in the cleanliness of the building again this year. She noted several points of concern and asked for the council to address the matter. It was agreed this would be sent to committee to develop a plan or solution. Mrs. North asked to be notified in writing of the outcome.

**City Treasurer Report –**

-No report – will answer questions if you have them.

**Interim City Superintendent Report –**

-Pool closed August 11, everything put away for another year. big canopy needs replaced will get quotes.

- Fall cleanup September 17-28 by ward – will advertise in the utility bill, newspaper and marquee.

-Still waiting on second easement for Mulberry drainage project.

**Condemnation Hearing – 6:45 p.m.** (See condemnation hearing minutes)  
Resume regular council meeting 6:54 p.m.

**City Clerk Report –**

- Elementary age back to school carnival at the City Park Thursday, August 23 from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- Meet the Titans event at the football field Thursday, August 23 starting at 6:30 p.m.
- Columbus Recreation Commission meeting Monday, August 27 beginning at 6 p.m. in the Crossland Construction training room.
- Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for the annual CHRIS AWARD. This is an opportunity to recognize someone who goes above and beyond doing things for the city through community involvement and engagement. Deadline for submission is September 11, there is not an official form – contact Jean Pritchett at the Chamber with your nomination.
- Commissioner of Education Dr. Watson will be at Crossland Construction 1 p.m. Wednesday August 29<sup>th</sup> to meet with the public and discuss the direction of education in the State.
- City offices will be closed Monday, September 3 in observance of Labor Day and the next council meeting will be Tuesday, September 4 due to the holiday. There will be a reminder in your council packet.

**Police Chief Report –**

- (Lieutenant Dave Justice in attendance for the department.)
- Chief Daniels is away for training.
  - Reminder of the First Responder and Veteran’s Recognition Picnic, 5 p.m. Sunday September 9 at the City Park. There will be food and music – the public is invited.
  - Request Police/Licensing meeting and Personnel meeting sometime after Thursday 9/24.

**Fire Chief Report-**

- (Assistant Fire Chief Steve Burton in attendance for department.)
- Fire bay exhaust system bids due by noon Tuesday September 4, three bids were sent out and the notice ran in the local newspaper.

**City Attorney Report –**

- Nothing to report – will take questions.

**COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION GRANT REIMBURSEMENT**

Lucian moved to approve Cherokee County Hospitality Center Commercial Rehabilitation Grant reimbursement in the amount of \$1,821.50. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Abstain: Dunlap. Motion carried 8-0-1.

**SPONSOR COLUMBUS DAY BALLOON**

Lucian moved to sponsor a balloon for the Columbus Day/Hot Air Balloon Regatta in the amount of \$500 to be paid out of transient guest tax. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

## **INTERIM CITY SUPERINTENDENT PURCHASING AUTHORITY**

Opela moved to approve \$7,000 purchasing authority for Scott Bennett while Interim City Superintendent. Johnson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Abstain: Bennett. Motion carried 8-0-1.

## **POLICE SERGEANT – MATTHEW HATFIELD**

Opela moved to approve Matthew Hatfield for the position of Police Sergeant with a starting wage of \$16.56 per hour. Johnson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

Opela informed the personnel committee, with input from the Interim City Superintendent, promoted Kasie England from Seasonal Laborer to Full-time Laborer beginning 8/13/2018 with a beginning wage of \$10.03 per hour.

## **PAVE STREETS/INTERSECTIONS**

Paradee moved to approve the street paving plan as presented, deleting the “S” curve on East Country Road and adding Cedar Brook as indicated, not to exceed \$220,000 and allow the Mayor to sign necessary documents. Johnson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

## **CURB REPAIR**

Paradee moved to approve curb repair on the north side of East Maple Street near Apple Market and New Beginnings Salon in the amount of \$5,406 to be paid out of 2018 street capital projects. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

## **PURCHASE GRINDER PUMP**

Burton moved to approve purchase of new grinder pump for the North Indiana lift station from ASC in the amount of \$5,740. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

## **Old business –**

-None.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Johnson called for a ten-minute executive session at 7:23 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to discuss personnel matter with the Council, Mayor and City Attorney in attendance. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

## **REGULAR SESSION 7:33 P.M.**

-Noxious weed discussion – certification required to spray. County has certified employee, cannot spray in the City.

## **New business –**

-None.

**Mayor –**

- Need a ten-minute attorney/client executive session to discuss contract.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Opela called for a ten-minute executive session at 7:40 p.m. for consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in an attorney/client relationship to discuss a contract with the Council, Mayor and City Attorney in attendance. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**REGULAR SESSION 7:50 P.M.**

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR – DANIELA RIVAS**

Opela moved to approve Daniela Rivas for the position of City Administrator with a beginning salary of \$90,000 and October 15 start date and allow the Mayor to sign the contract. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Paradee moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**Meetings:**

**Streets/Alleys/Bridges**

**Wednesday 8/22/2018 @ 5:30 p.m.**

**Personnel**

**Wednesday 8/22/2018 @ 6:00 p.m.**

**Personnel**

**Tuesday 8/28/2018 @ 6:00 p.m.**

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*Cherri Chancellor City Clerk*