

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
February 3, 2020  
6:30 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE**

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met February 3, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Connie Bennett, John Brassart, Jerri Burton, Kathy Doherty, Stephanie Farstvedt, Sean Gilmore, Nate Long, Sammye Opela, Tom Pryor. Council member absent: Jan Houser.

Pastor Jim Bowels of Calvary Baptist Church led the Invocation followed the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Burton moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of January 21, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes, Appropriation Ordinance 19-510 and Appropriation Ordinance 20-511, January 2020 Personnel Report and Cereal Malt Beverage license for Quick Shop #3 as presented. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Farstvedt, Gilmore, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**Mayor Report –**

Mayor Grant Spieth announced he would like to move New Business item #2 regarding planting a Butterfly Garden in Discovery Park up on the agenda if there are no objections to allow Girl Scout representatives to present then leave the meeting as necessary.

Girl Scout Bronwyn Messer asked council for permission to plant a Butterfly Garden in the northeast corner of Discovery Park as part of her senior project. Ms. Messer informed she has spoken with City Superintendent Dave Bass and Public Works Foreman Scott Bennett about the location and future maintenance of the garden. She noted the importance of pollinators and available food sources for them in our community.

**BUTTERFLY GARDEN- DISCOVERY PARK**

Opela moved to allow Bronwyn Messer to plant a Butterfly Garden in Discovery Park as part of a Girl Scout project with Public Works staff covering future maintenance. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Farstvedt, Gilmore, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**City Administrator Report-**

- Thank you to those who attended the recent Complete Count Census Committee meeting. Census is right around the corner.
- Kansas Rural Water rate study results are in. I will be asking for a water committee meeting to review findings.
- Hospital and Library representatives will be giving a report to the council at the February 18 meeting.
- 2019 Financial Audit Report.

**City Treasurer Report –**

Mr. Mogle unable to attend meeting.  
Treasurer report included in the council packet.

**City Superintendent Report –**

Public Works Foreman Scott Bennett in attendance for the department.  
-All Wheels Bike Park on hold until better weather.  
-Tennis court power washed.  
- Request for Bid went out for backhoe and jackhammer.  
-Sewer lift station motor being rebuilt.  
-Crews have been cleaning out ditches.  
-Reported Spring Cleanup date is yet to be determined.

**City Clerk Report –**

-LKM Government Journal on your desk. The package arrived today, I wanted to make them available to you right away instead of holding them until the next council packet.  
- Columbus PRIDE meets at noon tomorrow here at City Hall.  
- Cherokee County Economic Development Corporation regular board meeting 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 4 at the CCEDC office on Pine Street.  
-Destination Creation Course deadline registration is Friday February 7. This 8-week course explores how to transform your business into a consumer destination. This class is a good fit for existing business owners looking to take their businesses to the next level.  
-Blood Drive Monday February 10 from 1:00 to 5:30 p.m. at the Community Building.  
-LKM Municipal Finance classes Thursday February 20 in McPherson and Friday February 21 in Fort Scott. Both programs will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with lunch provided. City will cover the cost of the training. See me for more information or to register.  
-Reminder that City offices will be closed Monday February 17 in observance of Presidents Day and the council meeting will be held Tuesday, February 18. A reminder will be in your council packet.

**Police Chief Report –**

-Terminated agreement with current court debt collection service, looking at other vendors.  
-Leaving Monday for training, will be back late Wednesday.

**Fire Chief Report-**

-Department has responded to 25 emergencies so far this year.  
-Monthly storms siren test today. All sirens activated as they should, we have a couple that did not want to turn off, Blue Valley will be down to investigate. Sirens are tested the first Monday of every month.  
-Completed three business walk throughs, all passed inspection with only a couple of minor correctable issues.

**City Attorney Report –**

-Proposed ordinance later under the Budget and Finance report.

**ORDINANCE 1459 – PURCHASING/CONTRACTING PROCEDURES**

Pryor moved to approve Ordinance 1459 updating the City’s purchasing and contracting procedures to include spending authority and credit card policy include city Clerk, Fire Chief, Police Chief, and Public Works Foreman at \$3,000 each; the City Administrator and City

Superintendent at \$7,000 each. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Farstvedt, Gilmore, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**APPROVE BUDGET TRANSFERS**

Pryor moved to approve 2019 budget transfers as follows:

Administrative	\$ 3,000	Records Retention Software
Streets	50,000	Future Street Project
Parks	7,000	Vehicle Replacement
	5,500	Lawn Mower (Eddington Park)
Pool	5,000	Pool Maintenance
Property	10,000	Community Building Remodel
Police	25,000	Property – Animal Control Building
	25,000	Vehicle Replacement
Animal Control	2,500	Vehicle Replacement
Garbage	25,000	New Public Works Building
Water	70,000	New Public Works Building
Water	5,000	Vehicle Replacement
Sewer	25,000	New Public Works Building.

Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Farstvedt, Gilmore, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**SELL/TRADE FIRE VEHICLES**

Bennett moved to approve the Fire Department to trade or sell Rescue 30 and Brush Truck 28 and purchase one truck that better meets the needs of the department. Long seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Farstvedt, Gilmore, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**SELL/TRADE FIRE EQUIPMENT**

Bennett moved to approve Fire Department to trade or sell retired fire equipment. Long seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Farstvedt, Gilmore, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**Old Business –**

Council discussed speeding problem on High School Street from Maple to Highway, especially right before and after school.

Council discussed visibility issues for eastbound traffic on Walnut and Sycamore Streets when they approach Kansas Street and vehicles are parked on Kansas in front of the Columbus Library and Mercy Hospital.

**New Business –**

1. **Consider adding Vision coverage to City Health insurance plan.** Administrator Rivas provided cost analysis to add vision coverage for full-time City staff with the City contributing half of the monthly premiums. Opela moved to approve VSP vision insurance option for full-time City employees with the City contributing half of the monthly premium. Farstvedt seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Farstvedt, Gilmore, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Burton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Farstvedt, Gilmore, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

### **Meetings:**

#### **Streets/Alleys/Bridges**

- *Wednesday February 5, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.*

#### **Water/Sewer**

- *Wednesday February 12, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m.*

#### **Property/Pool/Parks**

- *Tuesday February 18, 2020 @ 3:00 p.m.*

#### **Economic Development**

- *Wednesday February 19, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m.*

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*Cherri Chancellor City Clerk*