

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
February 4, 2019  
6:30 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE**

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met February 4, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Connie Bennett, Randy Coble, Steve Dunlap, Ron Johnson, James Lucian, Sammye Opela, Alvin Patterson, Tom Pryor. Council member absent: John Brassart, Jerri Burton.

Council Member Alvin Patterson provided the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Opela moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of January 22, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes, Appropriation Ordinance 18-483, Appropriation Ordinance 19-4824 as presented. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**AWARD PRESENTATION**

Mayor Grant Spieth and Chief of Police Jason Daniels presented an award certificate and letter of commendation to Police Officer Christopher Gurney for his actions above and beyond the call of duty in response to a recent call for service. Chief Daniels praised Gurney and stated he is a valuable member of the department.

**City Administrator Report-**

- Code Book codification update – have quotes from four vendors, working towards proposal for the next council meeting.
- First Impression town hall meeting will be 6 p.m. Thursday April 11 at the State Theater. Representatives will present findings from First Impression experience. Council members, staff, residents, everyone is encouraged to attend.
- Presentation of the 2018 financial report addendum attached.

**City Treasurer Report –**

- Cash balance report as of January 31 in your council packet.
- Kansas Municipal Investment Pool update.

**Interim City Superintendent Report**

- Justin Graham and I will be attending the Kansas Rural Water Conference March 26-28 in Wichita.
- Crews cleaning ditches.
- Fixed small leaks and frozen pipes.
- Will discuss purchasing digital water meters at next Water committee meeting to get the rest of the residential meters changed out.

**City Clerk Report –**

- Still time to register for the Municipal Finance training Friday February 22 in Olathe. Class is through LKM (League of Kansas Municipalities). Contact me if you would like more information or to register.

- Blood drive Monday, February 11 from 1-5:30 at the Community Building.
- PRIDE meeting Tuesday February 12 at noon in the City Hall committee room.
- Monday, February 18 is President's Day; City Hall offices will be closed, and the Council Meeting will be Tuesday, February 19.
- Audit is scheduled for the week of March 18.
- LMI survey update. We have received confirmation from Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission that we have reached 51.4% LMI designation. While we have met the quota, Ms. Galemore recommends collecting a few more surveys as a buffer just in case some are disqualified when we get further in the process. City Administrator Rivas explained the process for State verification of the surveys waits until a CDBG project is awarded, they then review and either approve/not approve the surveys. If they don't approve it, the community has to give the grant back. The good news is now we are eligible to apply for a wider array of grants. This does not mean we will be approved for all, simply that we can now apply. A huge thank you to all those who completed surveys and everyone who helped. We would not have been able to get this done without your efforts.
- Request an Economic Development meeting to review a Commercial Rehabilitation Matching Grant application.

**Police Chief Report-**

- New Charger is in for equipment installation.
- Will be presenting properties for condemnation consideration at the next council meeting.

**Fire Chief Report-**

- 24 fire runs to date.
- Storm siren installation scheduled for February 25.
- Fire plug painting when the weather warms up.

**City Attorney Report –**

-The State has not updated the statutes on the new cereal malt beverage regulations. I have an ordinance to bring the City into compliance, have been waiting to be able to quote the new statutes as reference. The prepared draft ordinance only updates the new regulation to allow the sell of strong beer – up to 6%, nothing else has been changed.

Ms. Rivas noted she will forward codification information to the City Attorney for review.

-Mulberry update: City Administrator is working with PEC (Professional Engineering Consultants) representative on easements needed to move forward with the project.

**APPROVE 2018 BUDGET TRANSFERS**

Pryor moved to approve the 2018 budget transfers as listed in the addendum. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

Council member Pryor and City Administrator Rivas spoke to the council about an upcoming goal planning workshop. The workshop will assist with planning for the City 2020 budget and create a CIP (capital improvement plan) that will be used as a guiding document for future budget years. (2021-2026) Two dates were suggested Saturday, February 16 from 9 am-12 pm and Thursday, February 28 from 6 pm - 9 pm.

Mayor Spieth asked for a show of hands which date they would prefer. Majority decided on Thursday, February 28. Ms. Rivas asked goal worksheets to be turned in to City Hall by February 13.

**TANKER #23**

Bennett moved to approve sale of fire department Tanker #23 for \$15,000 with \$7,500 of the proceeds going to the Fire Department Smokey Fund. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT BATHROOM REMODEL**

Bennett moved to accept Roger Box fire department bathroom project quote of \$3,680 to be paid out of 2019 property budget. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Abstain: Dunlap. Motion carried 7-0-1.

**PAY INCREASE – JUSTIN GRAHAM/DAVID SPATAFORA**

Opela moved to approve a pay increase for Laborers Justin Graham and David Spatafora to \$10.65 per hour effective February 10, 2019. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**SOLID WASTE LEAD MAN – JERRY KIRK**

Opela moved to approve promotion of Jerry Kirk to Solid Waste Lead Man with a starting wage of \$12.03 per hour effective February 5, 2019. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**RESERVE OFFICER PAY INCREASE**

Opela moved to increase Reserve Police Officer pay to \$14.00 per hour effective with the next pay cycle. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL**

Opela moved to approve a \$.50 cent per hour shift differential for the employees of the Police Department. Lucian seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**RESIGNATION – KATHERINE PARADEE**

Opela moved to approve the resignation of Katherine Paradee, Laborer not in good standing. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**MULBERRY PROJECT -HOME CENTER CONSTRUCTION**

Lucian moved to accept the low bid from Home Center Construction in the amount of \$44,865 with the addition of approximately 175 feet (south of new pipe) of grading and erosion matting in the amount of \$6,720 totaling \$51,585 to be paid out of Street Reserves. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**Old Business –**

- 1. Consider purchase of 17 chairs for council room from Westco in the amount of \$3,582 (\$199 each) to be paid out of the capital equipment reserve-legislative fund.** City Administrator Rivas noted of the chairs on display at the January 22 council meeting, this one received the most favorable feedback from council and staff. She added that if new chairs are bought, current council chairs will be utilized in other departments within the City. Opela moved to purchase 17 chairs for council room from Westco in the amount of \$3,582 to be paid out of the capital equipment reserve-legislative fund. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: Lucian. Motion carried 7-1.

**New Business –**

- 1. Consider Ordinance 1431 updating Article XI Section XI-1 of the Employee Personnel Handbook.** City Attorney Barbara Wright explained this would allow previous employees who left City employment not in good standing to be considered for re-employment, volunteer or reserve positions on a case by case basis. Opela moved to approve Ordinance 1431 updating Article XI Section XI-1 of the Employee Personnel Handbook. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: Bennett. Motion carried 7-1.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Opela called for a twenty-minute executive session at 8:05 p.m. for consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in an attorney-client relationship to discuss possible litigation with the Council, Mayor, City Administrator, City Attorney, Chief of Police and City Clerk in attendance; meeting to reconvene in the council chambers at 8:25 p.m. Dunlap seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**REGULAR SESSION 8:25 P.M.**

**NO ACTION TAKEN.**

**Mayor –**

The Columbus Recreation Commission recommends Dan Walters as a member of the CRC board. Mr. Walters would fill a four-year term replacing Ivan Crossland Jr. whose appointment expires February 28, 2019.

**COLUMBUS RECREATION BOARD – DAN WALTERS**

Opela moved to approve the Mayor's appointment of Dan Walters to the Columbus Recreation Commission for a four-year term expiring February 28, 2023. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Patterson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Coble, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Patterson, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

**Meetings:**

**Police & License**

Wednesday February 6, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

**Personnel**

Wednesday February 6, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Streets/Alleys/Bridges**

Thursday February 7, 2019 @ 4:00 p.m.

**Sanitation**

Thursday February 7, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

**Cemetery**

Tuesday February 12, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

**Property/Pool/Parks**

Wednesday February 13, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

**Water/Sewer**

Thursday February 21, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

**Economic Development**

Tuesday February 25, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

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*Cherri Chancellor City Clerk*