

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
January 16, 2018  
6:30 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE**

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met January 16, 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 and Tom Pryor. Council members absent: Alvin Patterson.

Mrs. Toni Spieth led the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Burton moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of January 2, 2018 council meeting minutes and Appropriation Ordinance 17-453 and Appropriation Ordinance 18-454 as presented. Paradee seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

Mayor Spieth appointed Drew Richards to fill the unexpired term of Spieth's third ward council seat.

**COUNCIL APPOINTMENT – DREW RICHARDS**

Opela moved to approved the Mayor's appointment of Drew Richards to fill the unexpired term of vacant third ward council seat. Paradee seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

Mr. Richards took the oath of office and participated in the remainder of the council meeting.

**VISITOR – DALE MANNING**

Dale Manning approached the council requesting a waiver of the City Code Book mobile home placement requirements. His new mobile home, 517 West Oak, cannot meet the twenty feet from other structures guideline. Police Chief Daniels stated he has been out to look at the property and all other conditions of the mobile home ordinance are met.

**APPROVE WAIVER – 517 WEST OAK**

Johnson moved to approve waiver to City Code Book distance requirement for new mobile home placement at 517 West Oak. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**VISITOR – LAURA LOWERY-GREENE**

Laura Lowery-Greene stated her building (Maple UnCommon) has sustained damage twice by big trucks trying to maneuver the alley between Maple Street and Pine Street for deliveries. She asked the council to consider something to make this a safer situation. Two suggestions offered were to relocate the dumpster behind ParCom or dedicate the alley be one way with the entrance off Pine Street.

## **ONE WAY ALLEY DESIGNATION**

Dunlap moved to designate the alley between Pine Street and Maple Street as one way with entrance off Pine Street and to sign the Maple Street exit as “Do Not Enter”. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

## **VISITOR – LARRY HIATT**

Larry Hiatt of the Columbus News-Report informed the council the Kansas Senate will be recognizing the City of Columbus and its sesquicentennial birthday with a proclamation Wednesday February 7 at 2 p.m. The Kansas Governor’s office will also acknowledge the birthday with a proclamation Friday March 23 at 10 a.m.

## **City Treasurer Report –**

-Cash balance report as of today on your desks. Finishing up 2017 reports to move on to 2018.

## **City Superintendent Report –**

- Working with residents on water leaks.
- Crews working on snow removal and ice.
- Worked Saturday with the fire department on Vermont structure fire.
- City spreads salt/sand on roads, have not used cinders in several years.

## **City Clerk Report -**

- Drive through cash drawer is being installed this week.
- Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet is Wednesday January 31 at the State Theatre. Social hour begins at six – dinner at seven. Contact me by Tuesday, January 23 if you wish to attend.
- Received contract from Diehl Banwart Bolton for 2017 audit. This is the company the City has used for the past several years for audit and budget preparation. Fee is stated as not to exceed \$10,225, this is a \$50 increase from last year. Attorney has reviewed contract. If we wish to consider another firm for next year we will need to send out request for proposals.

## **AUDIT CONTRACT – DIEHL BANWART BOLTON**

Richards moved to accept the Diehl Banwart Bolton contract for the audit of 2017 not to exceed \$10,225. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

-Copy of the League News in your council packet, contains lots of good information and training opportunities. Municipal Finance course will be offered 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. February 2 in Pittsburg. This class will cover cash basis law, revenue sources, budgeting basics, tax lid impacts as well as other topics. Contact me if you would like to attend.

## **Police Chief -**

- Update on 523 West Olive. Garage has been taken down and the property cleaned up.
- City crews installed wall mounted power washer at the dog pound purchased at the end of 2017. This will help with state compliance guidelines.
- Officer Samantha Saxinger will graduate from KLETC Friday, January 26. She will need to return March 6 to complete training missed due to injury.
- Officer Corie Brown will be heading out for a week of reciprocity training January 28.
- Once Brown returns entire department will be Kansas Certified Officers.

## **Fire Chief –**

- January started off as a busy month – have 28 runs so far.
- Large house fire Saturday 1/13 on Vermont – several area departments assisted. Two hydrants frozen. Thank you to Jim Burton and Jason Daniels for their help.
- Columbus Community Foundation camera check presentation last week. Cameras should be here by February 14.
- Successful water rescue Friday night.
- A tall ladder truck would be a great benefit to fighting tall building fires. Galena’s truck really helped with Saturday’s fire being able to shoot water directly down into the blaze. Would like the council to consider a used ladder truck if one becomes available.

## **City Attorney-**

- Clean copy of Personnel Handbook Article XI in your packet. Error has been brought to our attention, will update.
- I will need an executive session at the end of the meeting.

## **City Superintendent- continued**

- Handicap accessibility at the cemetery chapel was addressed. City Superintendent will mark handicap parking.
- City Superintendent noted Mulberry sewer project is complete. Mulberry storm water issue is still pending.
- TEC will be in this week installing electronic door locks at City Hall approved at the 12/18/2017 council meeting.
- Cinders will be placed in the alley east of Christian Church later this spring

It was noted the capital improvement project sheet in the council packets reflect projects started or completed in 2017 and earlier projects with payments.

## **Mayor –**

- Thank you to area fire departments who respond to aid our fire department. It is greatly appreciated.

## **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

COMMITTEES: \*CHAIRMAN FIRST \*\*VICE CHAIRMAN SECOND 2018

### **Budget & Finance**

\*Drew Richards, \*\*Connie Bennett, Tom Pryor

### **Sanitation**

\*Alvin Patterson, \*\*Tom Pryor, Connie Bennett

### **Cemetery**

\*Tom Pryor, \*\*John Paradee, Alvin Patterson

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

\*Ron Johnson, \*\*Jerri Burton, Drew Richards

### **Economic Development**

\*Jim Lucian, \*\* Drew Richards, Jerri Burton

### **Fire**

\*Connie Bennett, \*\* Sammye Opela, Jim Lucian

### **Personnel**

\*Sammye Opela, \*\*Steve Dunlap, Ron Johnson

### **Police & License**

\*Steve Dunlap, \*\*Jim Lucian, John Paradee

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

\*John Paradee, \*\*Ron Johnson, Steve Dunlap

### **Water & Sewer**

\*Jerri Burton, \*\*Alvin Patterson, Sammye Opela

### **APPROVE APPOINTMENTS - COMMITTEES**

Richards moved to approve the Mayor's 2018 committee appointments. Johnson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

### **PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL**

Burton nominated Ron Johnson for president of the council. Opela nominated Steve Dunlap for president of the council. Mayor Spieth asked if there are any other nominations for president of the council. Seeing none Spieth asked for all in favor of Ron Johnson to raise their hand, count shows two. Spieth asked for all in favor of Steve Dunlap for a show of hands, count shows three.

Mayor Spieth asked for a motion on the matter. Lucian moved to approve Steve Dunlap as president of the council. Paradee seconded the motion. Spieth asked for all those in favor to say aye. All those opposed. Mayor declared the ayes have it, Steve Dunlap is the new president of the council.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Dunlap called for a twenty-minute executive session at 7:25 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to discuss personnel policy and a discipline issue with the Council, Mayor and City Attorney in attendance. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

### **REGULAR SESSION 7:45 P.M.**

#### **NO ACTION TAKEN**

Mayor Spieth appointed Justin Graham, Taylor Burns and Gary Gideon to the Volunteer Fire Department.

#### **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER – JUSTIN GRAHAM**

Richards moved to approve the Mayor's appointment of Justin Graham as a Volunteer Fire Fighter. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

#### **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER – TAYLOR BURNS**

Richards moved to approve the Mayor's appointment of Taylor Burns as a Volunteer Fire Fighter. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

No motion was made to approve the appointment of Gary Gideon.

#### **ADD NEW MAYOR TO CITY ACCOUNTS**

Burton moved to add new Mayor Grant Spieth to the City bank accounts as a signer and remove outgoing Mayor W.E. Schaiff from same accounts. Paradee seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: Dunlap. Motion carried 8-1.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Burton called for a ten-minute executive session at 8:03 p.m. for consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in an attorney – client relationship to discuss litigation

with the Council, Mayor, Attorney, City Superintendent and City Clerk in attendance. Paradee seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**REGULAR SESSION 8:13 P.M**

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

**Old business – NA**

**New business - NA**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Dunlap moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Paradee seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor, Richards. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

**Meetings:**

**Police & License**

**Monday 1/22/2018 @ 6:00 p.m.**

**Personnel**

**Monday 1/22/2018 @ 6:30 p.m.**

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*Cherri Chancellor City Clerk*