

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 19, 2018
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met November 19, 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, Tom Pryor. Council member absent: Alvin Patterson, Drew Richards.

Pastor John Warring from the First Christian Church provided the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AWARD PRESENTATION

Mayor Grant Spieth presented Interim City Superintendent Scott Bennett a certificate for his 20 years of service with the City.

CONSENT AGENDA

Burton moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of November 5, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes and Appropriation Ordinance 18-476 as presented. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

City Administrator Report-

- Public works report in your council packets. Interim Superintendent Bennett will be providing this for each council meeting.
- Office chair information in front of you. Let me know if you have preference. Will try to have samples for review at upcoming council meeting.
- LMI survey kick off and training meeting tomorrow November 20 at 5:30 p.m. here at City Hall. I am encouraging council, staff and anyone else who would like to help or get more information to attend. You have a copy of the flyer that will be distributed to area residents providing more information about LMI survey.
- Website update. We are looking at cost effective ways to update current webpage. Request council approval to use their photos on the council page. Photos are one way to change the look.
- Meeting with department heads and the Mayor weekly, we are looking at 1- 6-year plans of inventory replacement for each department.
- Received an alley vacation request and ask a street committee meeting to address this matter and policy going forward on similar issues.

City Treasurer Report –

- Treasurer Report shows current cash balances.
- Interest rates rising.
- Currently all Certificate of Deposits are kept local.
- Have been visiting with the City Administrator about the City accounts.
- Kansas Pooled Money Investment Board currently paying 2.2%. I believe we could earn an additional \$17,000 annually if we move some of the City's funds. Money would always accessible. Will visit with the City Administrator more and have something for council consideration at a future meeting.

Interim City Superintendent Report

- Paving project has been slowed down due to the weather. East Country Road will be closed tomorrow for paving.
- Leaf pickup program went well in November. Will have another cycle December 3-14 depending on the weather.

City Clerk Report –

- Attended training in Wichita Thursday and Friday of last week, covered a lot of good information including cybersecurity material that I plan to visit with Ms. Rivas about in the near future.
- City Hall offices will be closed Thursday and Friday this week in observance of Thanksgiving holiday.
- City employees will be coordinating the Angel Tree program again this year. Sign-ups began today, and names will be taken until November 30. Children 12 and younger who live in the City can be registered. Citizens, clubs, organizations adopt these angels and help provide presents for Santa and the volunteers to deliver December 15.

Police Chief Report –

- Columbus officers trained with Quapaw tribal marshals last Wednesday in Picher, Oklahoma. Provided new level of training and was very beneficial.
- Demolition and clean-up of 310 South Minnesota, 301 South Delaware and 622 West Elm are complete or near completion. Started on 604/608 East Walnut today. Interior pictures provided show some of the challenges the contractor must deal with and the necessity of the added tonnage charge to the demolition quotes.

Mayor asked about tracking properties without water service and possibly keeping houses from falling into this level of neglect.

Fire Chief Report-

(Lead Driver Steven Burton in attendance for the department)

- 269 calls so far this year.
- Fire Banquet December 1st at The State Theatre for fire department employees, volunteers and fire committee members.
- Hoping to have firetruck back late December – sometime in January.

City Attorney Report –

- Working on changes to Code Book concerning weeds and mowing in conjunction with new Animal Control/Community Service Officer position. Will have something for council consideration at a future meeting.

Old Business –

- 1. Consider Ordinance by the City Council of the City of Columbus Kansas amending Chapter 1, Article 9, Section 1-903 of the City Code, regarding the City's requests for bid proposals.**

City Attorney Barbara Wright presented an ordinance to update City Code allowing bid opening by the City Administrator and a department head. Currently bids are opened at committee meetings. Opela moved to approve Ordinance 1427 - *An Ordinance by the City Council of the City of Columbus, Kansas, Amending Chapter I, Article 9, Section 1-903 of*

the City Code, Regarding Responses to the City's Requests for Proposals and Bids.
Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

New Business –

- 1. Consider approval of emergency storm sirens for City of Columbus under the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) contract from Blue Valley Public Safety in the amount of \$83,918.52 in which \$63,770 will be reimbursed to the City by the State of Kansas.**

Lead Fire Driver Steven Burton stated bids were combined with the KC metro area to allow more aggressive pricing. These sirens would replace units that have failed or are getting too costly to repair. Opela moved to approve purchase of emergency storm sirens for the City of Columbus under the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) contract from Blue Valley Public Safety in the amount of \$83,918.52 to be paid out of property; in which \$63,770 will be reimbursed to the City by the State of Kansas. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

- 2. Consider transfer of \$4,300 (Purple Wave proceeds for sale of fire trailer) from general fund back to capital equipment reserve fund-fire department.**

Lead Fire Driver Steven Burton asked for funds from sale of fire prevention trailer to be transferred to fire reserves to be able to use them toward fire prevention items/programs. City Administrator Daniela Rivas informed this is coming before the council because these revenues went into the general fund and council approval is required to move them to the fire capital equipment fund. Pryor moved to transfer \$4,300 (Purple Wave proceeds for sale of fire trailer) from general fund to fire department capital equipment reserve fund. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

- 3. Discussion: Cleaning services proposal.**

City Administrator Daniela Rivas informed that no bids were received for the cleaning service request. Three verbal inquires came in after the deadline. She asked to extend bid process to November 30, with bid tabulation presented at the December 3 council meeting for consideration. Dunlap moved to continue bid cleaning service proposal until November 30, 2018. Lucian seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

- 4. Discussion: Social media site for City of Columbus.**

City Administrator Daniela Rivas discussed need for social media presence for the City. Statistics from January 2018 show daily use of social media by the 18-34-year-old age group. According to the latest census 35% of the City's population falls in this category. Social media is integrated in all we do, it is not just a fad or a trend, it is the way people interact. Social media would allow for citizen feedback, surveys, enable us to grow a following, gain transparency and get information out. Facebook feed can also be part of the website to help keep it more current. We have plans to improve website little by little.

- 5. Discussion: City hours on Monday, December 24, 2018.**

City Administrator informed the council she has been asked about work schedule for Christmas Eve. Dunlap moved to allow City employees to have Christmas Eve, Monday

December 24, 2018 off with pay. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

Mayor –

- Encouraged participation in the LMI survey and training meeting on Tuesday 11/20.

ADJOURNMENT

Paradee moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 8-0.

Meetings:

Personnel

Monday November 26, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

Streets/Alleys/Bridges

Tuesday November 27, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

Cherri Chancellor City Clerk