

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
October 2, 2017  
6:30 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE**

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met October 2, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers presided over by Mayor W.E. Schaiff. Council members present: Connie Bennett, Jerri Burton, Steve Dunlap, Ron Johnson, James Lucian, Sammye Opela, John Paradee, Alvin Patterson, Drew Richards and Grant Spieth. Council members absent: None.

Council member and Pastor Alvin Patterson led the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council member Ron Johnson offered prayer for Baxter and former Columbus Police Officer Jimmy Hamilton who was injured recently in the line of duty.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Burton moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of September 18, 2017 council meeting minutes and Appropriation Ordinance 17-445 as presented. Paradee seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Abstain: Richards. Motion carried 9-0-1

**VISITOR – *BREAH BIGGERSTAFF***

Mayor Schaiff noted Ms. Biggerstaff is unable to attend the meeting due to a prior commitment. She has authorized Fire Chief Jason Allison to speak to the council on her behalf.

Allison asked the council to reconsider Ordinance 1367 which prohibits Ms. Biggerstaff from serving as a volunteer fire fighter. (*Biggerstaff resigned her fulltime position with the City and the council accepted the resignation not in good standing at the September 18, 2017 meeting. Ordinance 1367 and Article XI of the Personnel Handbook do not allow for someone who has left full time employment with the City not in good standing to work in any other capacity for the City.*) Allison noted good firefighters are hard to come by and he believes she is an asset to the fire department and would hate to lose her. He stated he has already lost other people to this regulation.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Dunlap called for a ten minute executive session at 6:39 p.m. for personnel matters of non elected personnel to discuss non elected personnel and procedures with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, Allison, Police Chief and City Clerk in attendance. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Richards, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**REGULAR SESSION 6:49 P.M.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Dunlap called for a fifteen minute executive session at 6:51 p.m. for personnel matters of non elected personnel to discuss non elected personnel and procedures with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney,

Allison, Police Chief and City Clerk in attendance. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Richards, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried. 10-0.

**REGULAR SESSION 7:06 P.M.  
NO ACTION TAKEN**

**City Treasurer Report –**

-Cash Balance Sheets on your desks.

**City Superintendent Report –**

Weekly project report in the council packet. Superintendent unable to be here tonight.

**City Clerk –**

-Read Thank You note from Carolyn Eddington for participation and attendance at the September 10 Veteran's and First Responder City Wide Appreciation Cook Out, they are already looking forward to next year's event.

-Kansas Rural Water Conference - Wichita, May 2018, hotel reservations open up tomorrow morning and rooms will go quickly. Notify me after the meeting if you have any interest in attending.

-Need Water/Sewer committee meeting to address a water bill adjustment request that falls outside the perimeters of Ordinance 1404.

-Last call for League of Kansas Municipalities Regional Supper in Coffeyville October 12. Registration is due by Friday 10/6.

-Columbus Day festivities this weekend beginning Friday evening. Reminder that Liberty Empire District will have a booth on Saturday promoting a tree give away. City residents may sign up for larger trees online beginning Saturday, October 7. Computers will be available at the booth during Columbus Day Celebration. Reserved tree pickup and planting demonstration November 17 at the City Park.

**Chief of Police –**

-Officer Hamilton update. There will be a candle light prayer service Wednesday, October 4 at 8:00 p.m. across the street from the Baxter police station.

-Columbus Day preparations, would like to close Walnut Street on Saturday for Tractor Show.

**CLOSE STREET FOR TRACTOR SHOW**

Opela moved to close Walnut Street from Kansas Street to Indiana Street Saturday, October 7, 2017 all day for the Columbus Day Tractor Show. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Richards, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

-B3 Construction has completed the demolition and cleanup of the condemned property at 608 South High School.

- West Walnut property also scheduled for demolition, had utility vacate issue. Will be moving forward soon.

**Fire Chief –**

- Columbus Day preparations.
- This is Fire prevention week - will be doing programs with the local elementary schools and local daycares.
- Fire hydrant painting is complete. Mayor noted some are fading, yellow/orange especially. Chief will check into this.

**City Attorney-**

- Update on Country Road fire plug incident. Council voted to reject the insurance settlement offer at the August 21 council meeting. Since that time the insurance company has agreed to pay the full damages of \$3,706.98 to avoid further litigation.

**PAY OFF FIRE TRUCK LEASE**

Spieth moved to pay off the firetruck lease with \$128,232.21 coming out of fire equipment reserves, \$6,084.00 out of remaining 2017 fire lease payments #01-900-57870 and balance from 2017 fire transfer out to reserves #01-900-57991. Lucian seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Richards, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**Old Business-**

- LMI Survey update – would like to have approximately 20 two person teams. Short training session will be third week of October. Canvassing week of October 23. Surveys could help the City qualify for grants. Working through the Southeast Regional Planning Commission.
- Spieth looking at a capital project software program – will be visiting with individual committees in the upcoming weeks with more information and sample reports.

**New Business –**

- Spieth offered thank you to all who participated and helped in any way with the recent Community Day of Service. He asked for people to plan for next year's event to help make it even more successful. Working together a lot can be accomplished.
- Mayor noted several of the downtown flowerboxes are not planted. Would like to have them decorated for the Columbus Day festivities this weekend. Delbert/Sheryl Rowden have offered to decorate them with mums at a discounted price.

**COLUMBUS DAY PLANTS**

Opela moved to authorize City to provide plants for the downtown business district flower boxes for Columbus Day weekend not to exceed \$300.00 to be paid out of economic development. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Richards, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Dunlap called for a ten minute executive session at 7:43 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to discuss a personnel issue with the Council, Mayor, Attorney, Police Chief and City Clerk in attendance. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Richards, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**REGULAR SESSION 7:53 P.M.  
NO ACTION TAKEN.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Paradee moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. Patterson seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Johnson, Lucian, Opela, Paradee, Patterson, Richards, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**Meetings:**

**Sanitation**

**Tuesday 10/03/2017 @ 6:00 p.m.**

**Water/Sewer**

**Tuesday 10/03/2017 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**Economic Development**

**Tuesday 10/10/2017 @ 6:15 p.m.**

**Personnel**

**Tuesday 10/10/2017 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**Streets/Alleys/Bridges**

**Wednesday 10/11/2017 @ 6:30 p.m.**

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*Cherri Chancellor City Clerk*