

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 19, 2020
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met October 19, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. presided over by President of the Council Tom Pryor. Council members physically present: Connie Bennett, John Brassart, Jerri Burton, Kathy Doherty, Jan Houser, Nate Long, Sammie Opela, Tom Pryor. Council members present by zoom: Sean Gilmore. Council members absent: Farstvedt.

Pastor Jim Thomas of First Baptist Church led the Invocation followed the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Burton moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Appropriation Ordinance 20-527 Resignation of Police Officer Justin Butler, 2020 Structure Fire Report and How to Submit a Complaint Process as presented. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Gilmore, Houser, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

President of the Council Report –

- Mayor Spieth unable to attend tonight, I will be filling in as President of the Council.
- Condolences to Jerri Burton on the recent passing of her mother.

City Administrator Report-

- Busy couple of weeks. We have been interviewing for several positions including the Property & Parks Director that will be addressed later in the meeting.
- Several updates in my council packet memo.
- Budget update to be presented in November.
- Trash cart delivery scheduled for this week.
- Bailey Asphalt will begin work in November.

City Treasurer Report

- Report in your council packet. Cash balances remain stable/strong.

City Clerk Report –

- Several City staff took part in the recent PRIDE sponsored community cleanup day. Event had a great turnout with people sprucing up and readying the town for the Columbus Day weekend and guests.
- Great weather for Columbus Day weekend events. Large attendance and hot air balloons were able to fly.
- Several City staff participated in the League of Kansas Municipalities virtual annual conference last week. Lot of good presentations and information. Look forward to sharing material in the coming weeks.

Community Development Coordinator –

- Finalizing plans for BCBS Pathway grant.

Police Chief Report –

- Conducted interviews for the open Animal Control Officer position. An offer was made to one of the candidates, hopeful to have them on board by the first of November.
- Working with the Municipal Judge and Prosecutor it has been decided to conduct municipal court in person going forward. Virtual attempt last month was not as smooth of a process as hoped.

Fire Chief Report –

- 242 call for the year, 26 since the last council meeting.
- Working with Jake (Community Development Coordinator) on a State Farm Neighborhood grant relating to fire prevention and another grant from a charitable foundation for a smoke detector program.
- Located a Light and Air truck and plan to check it out later this week. SPARK funds will be used if a decision is made to move forward with purchase of the unit.

City Attorney Report –

- Fire rescue billing discussion under old business.

It was noted a make up date for the City Park basketball court dedication has not been set to date.

City Administrator noted old garbage truck is being retro fitted for poly cart pick up. Leaf pick up dates will be announced at the next meeting.

HIRE PROPERTY & PARKS DIRECTOR – *Randy Coble*

Opela moved to approve Randy Coble for the FLSA exempt position of Property & Parks Director at an annual salary of \$43,000 providing he passes all pre-employment requirements. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Gilmore, Houser, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: Bennett. Motion carried 8-1.

Old Business –

1. ***Discuss Fire Service billing.*** Several items of concern were discussed. Fire Chief Steven Burton noted the intent is not to go after uninsured people. Burton informed that he would be in charge of submitting claims to the collection agency. He also noted that the company can be instructed not to proceed with a claim in the event it is denied by the insurance company. Houser moved to have the City Attorney provide draft ordinance for review at the next council meeting to update the current City Code to utilize fire rescue billing. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Gilmore, Houser, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

New Business –

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Burton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Brassart, Burton, Doherty, Gilmore, Houser, Long, Opela, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 9-0.

Meetings:

Water/Sewer

Tuesday October 20, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m.

Personnel

Wednesday October 21, 2020 @ 1:00 p.m.

Police/License

Thursday October 29, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m.

Cherri Chancellor City Clerk