

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
May 17, 2021
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met May 17, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Kathy Doherty, Stephanie Farstvedt, Jan Houser, Tom Pryor. Council members absent: Nate Long.

Linda Griffitt of Sherwin Christian Church provided the Invocation followed the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Farstvedt moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Appropriations Ordinance 21-546, May 2021 Treasurer Report, May 3, 2021 council meeting minutes and May 10 work session minutes as presented. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC FORUM

Terry Sercer of Diehl, Banwart, Bolton accounting firm addressed the council with findings from the 2020 City audit. Mr. Sercer informed the Governing Body that the City received an unqualified opinion in accordance with regulatory basis of accounting which is an accounting that is designed to show compliance to Kansas Statutes. He also commented that Columbus has healthy cash and reserve balances. Sercer noted one budget violation was found in the new Pathways fund. Expenditures for the fund exceeded budget authority by \$800. The City was never in jeopardy as expenditures did not exceed revenue, only budget authority.

Sercer advised it is a good internal control measure to have council minutes reflect financial interests of the City's revenue.

MAYOR REPORT –

Proclamation – National Public Works Week (May 16-22).

STAFF REPORTS –

Administrator Rivas provided a general fund cash summary, ten-year cash summary and debt service summary for review. Rivas stated the City is in a good financial position, sales tax revenue was up last year and helped make up for other shortfalls. She noted it is common practice to keep debt to cash ratio under 7%, the City is currently about 3%.

City Clerk Chancellor informed council of an upcoming training opportunity through the League of Kansas Municipalities. The LKM Annual Leadership Summit will be June 18-19 in Lawrence, KS. Those wanting to attend are to contact the Clerk's office by Monday, May 24 to meet the hotel block reservation deadline.

Chancellor also reminded of the June 1 filing deadline for City Council, Mayor, Treasurer or Hospital Board positions to be elected on the November 2021 ballot. Persons interested in running for office should file at the Cherokee County Clerks office by noon on Tuesday June 1.

Community Development Coordinator Letner announced Thursday May 20 is the kickoff event for the Farmer's Market. The market is located at 202 North East Avenue just north of NAPA from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

New Business –

3.A. Consider modular home placement at 626 South Delaware providing it meets City Code requirements. Houser moved to approve modular home placement at 626 South Delaware providing it meets City Code requirements. Farstvedt seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Houser moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Meetings:

Work session

Monday, May 24, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.


Cherri Chancellor, City Clerk

