

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
June 21, 2021
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met June 21, 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.

Council member Kathy Doherty provided the Invocation followed the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Houser moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Appropriations Ordinance 21- 548, May 24, 2021 Work Session Meeting Minutes and June 7, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes amending council minutes to include townhall meeting date as July 14, 2021 at 6 p.m. Farstvedt seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Report –

- Appointed Barbara Wright as City Attorney.
- Appointed John Bullard as Municipal Judge.
- Appointed Barbara Wright as City Prosecutor.

MAYOR APPOINTMENTS – *City Attorney, Municipal Judge, City Prosecutor*

Houser moved to approve the Mayor’s appointments of Barbara Wright as City Attorney, John Bullard as Municipal Judge and Barbara Wright as City Prosecutor. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Staff Reports –

City Administrator Daniela Rivas noted the large dollar amount included in the Appropriation Ordinance is a donation from the Columbus Community Foundation to the Columbus Recreation Commission. The Foundation cannot directly contribute to the CRC, the City is utilized as a pass through to facilitate the donation.

Rivas informed that a staff picnic/cookout is being planned for July 15. She requested permission to close the City Swimming Pool early to allow event to be held at the pool. Rivas noted this will be for employees and elected officials and their immediate families.

POOL CLOSING

Houser moved to close the City Swimming Pool to the public at 5:30 p.m. July 15 to allow for the City employee cookout. Farstvedt seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Chief Jason Daniels informed that Columbus Police Officers will be conducting firearm qualifications this Wednesday June 23.

Daniels requested direction for a damaged tree at 203 South Minnesota. City Code calls for notification and 60-day process for remedy. Daniels provided pictures showing the tree’s condition and noted his concern for public safety. The area is blocked off from public access. Daniels informed that he has

consulted K-State Cherokee County Extension Agent Dale Helwig about the matter. Photos and emails were exchanged with the State Forestry Program. Email was presented showing a Kansas State Forestry Agent recommends the tree be condemned and removed for public safety.

REMOVE TREE – 203 South Minnesota

Doherty moved to waive City Code requirements and condemn/remove damaged tree at 203 South Minnesota and allow Police Chief Daniels to seek bids for project. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Property and Parks Director Randy Coble updated council on the High School Street Project. Coble stated Monday, June 28 the contractor will be removing the asphalt starting at the railroad tracks and moving south one block at a time. Administrator Rivas noted good weather is allowing crews to work longer making up some of the lost hours from previous rain delays.

ADJOURNMENT

Doherty moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Meetings:

City Council Work Session – June 28th 6:30 pm.




Cherri Chancellor, City Clerk