

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 7, 2022
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met March 7, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Kathy Doherty, Sammie Opela, Tom Pryor, Lindsay Shoemaker. Council members absent: Stephanie Farstvedt.

Neil Martin of Sherwood Christian Church provided the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Doherty moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Work Session Minutes – February 28, 2022, Appropriation Ordinance 22-568, Treasurer Report – February 2022 and the Personnel Report – February 2022. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Report-

Mayor Spieth presented a Years of Service Award to Jeff Woods who has been with the City for 25 years. He thanked Mr. Woods for his dedication and service to the community.

Staff Reports-

City Administrator, Daniela Rivas, spoke to the council stating that she leaves the City in good hands with the current department heads and staff. In her final weeks she has eased off and things have been taken care of. Mayor Spieth wished her the best and expressed his hopes of her enjoying time with family and her new position.

New Business-

H.1.A. Consider approval of salary adjustment for Cherri Chancellor to the City Administrator temporary minimum on the city's salary schedule.

Pryor moved to accept moving Cherri Chancellor to the City Administrator temporary minimum on the city's salary schedule effective March 14, 2022. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

H.1.B. Consider approval of sponsoring \$333 of \$2,500 host fee to the Kansas Sampler Foundation for upcoming Big Kansas Road Trip to be paid from Fund 02-Economic Development Miscellaneous Fund.

Pryor moved to approve sponsoring \$333 of the \$2,500 host fee to the Kansas Sampler Foundation for the upcoming Big Kansas Road Trip to be paid from Fund 02-Economic Development Miscellaneous Fund. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

H.1.C. Consider approval of updated job descriptions to include new City pay scale terms.

Pryor moved to approve the updated job descriptions to include the new City pay scale terms. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

H.1.D. Consider approval of sign installation request from Family Dollar/Dollar Tree.

Doherty moved to approve the sign installation request from Family Dollar/Dollar Tree per schematic. Discussion centered around the sign placement and if it would be overhanging the sidewalk, it was decided that it looks to be over one parking place but shouldn't be over the sidewalk. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

H.1.E. Consider accepting the entirety of City's American Rescue Plan Allocation as general government revenues pursuant to the Department of Treasury Final Rule.

Pryor moved to accept the entirety of the City's American Rescue Plan Allocation as general government revenues pursuant to the Department of Treasury Final Rule. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

H.3.A. Consider approval of Police Department take home vehicle policy updates.

Doherty moved to approve the Police Department take home vehicle policy updates. Police Chief, Jason Daniels provided the updates that were made to the policy. Per council request, the policy was updated to be more specific on how to calculate the driving distance. In the participation requirements section 44.2 subsection C it will now state: officers must reside within 25 miles of the Columbus Police Department; this will be calculated with actual driving distance and Google Maps will be utilized to determine the mileage distance with Columbus City Hall used as the starting point of the calculation. This was updated from the former requirement of requiring all officers to reside within Cherokee County. Additional updates were made in subsection A & B to allow an officer that has a minimum of one year of service with Columbus Police Department or another qualified agency that is not in a probationary status to also participate in the program. The changes were proposed with hope to attract and retain employees. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

H.3.B. Consider approval of Police Department handgun transition.

Doherty moved to approve the Police Department handgun transition allowing Chief Daniels a spending authority of up to \$3,500 for the 9mm handguns to be paid from Fund 09-VIN Fund. Daniels informed council that the original quote he had obtained from GT Distributors showed the Police Department having eleven guns to replace and there were only nine. Due to the price difference the department must pay an additional \$3,000, which is over his spending authority requiring council approval. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Fire Chief, Steven Burton, informed the council that the City would be participating in a statewide tornado siren drill tomorrow at 10:00 am for Severe Weather Awareness Week.

Rivas provided a recap of the past processes regarding inspection contracts and the need to go out for a request for proposal to the council since we have a new property director and will have a new City Administrator coming in. She relayed that back in 2017, she was tasked to prepare cost estimates and luckily the former City Superintendent Mr. Burton had provided her with preliminary plans that he obtained from PEC. When the City was awarded the CDBG grant, they in turn awarded PEC with the contract since they had provided the plans. PEC also provided the leg work for the CCLIP grant. PEC helped the City write the grant, and the City maintains a great working relationship with the engineers allowing City staff to ask questions without paying associated consulting fees. PEC receives nothing if the grant is not awarded so it has been a common practice to award inspection to the design and engineer. She expressed that it is more efficient to have one firm do the design, engineering, and inspection. In the future if the City chooses not to use the same firm they will be required to put out a request for qualifications (RFQ) to receive these specifications.

In 2020, the council requested that any non-grant funded projects go out for RFP. Rivas asked for an exception for PEC on this inspection project. No new projects have been initiated since the council made the request. Rivas also added that when Letner is applying for grants most of the time, he has a limited amount of time to prepare and gather information, the close relationship that has been developed with the current engineers has allowed him to receive helpful information. Shoemaker thanked Rivas for clarifying the process as she is also new to the council.

H.4.A. Consider approval of PEC inspection agreement for 2022 CCLIP street project totaling \$62,200 to be paid from CCLIP Grant funds.

Pryor moved to approve the PEC inspection agreement for the 2022 CCLIP street project totaling \$62,200 to be paid from CCLIP Grant funds. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: Opela. Motion carried 3-1.

H.4.B. Consider accepting lowest bid for 2022 CCLIP street project in the amount of \$163,485 from Heckert Construction Company, Inc. to be paid from KDOT CCLIP Grant funds.

Doherty moved to accept the lowest bid for 2022 CCLIP street project in the amount of \$163,485 from Heckert Construction Company, Inc. to be paid from KDOT CCLIP Grant funds for the purpose of the mill and overlay. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

H.4.C. Consider accepting lowest bid for 2022 Street Reconstruction project in the amount of \$199,255 (Item 1 & 2) from APAC Central, Inc. to be paid from Fund 01- General Fund-Streets Capital Outlay and Fund 11-Special Streets-Capital Outlay.

Pryor moved to accept the lowest bid for the 2022 Street Reconstruction project in the amount of \$199,255 (Item 1 & 2) from APAC Central, Inc. to be paid from Fund 01-General Fund-Streets Capital Outlay and Fund 11-Special Streets-Capital Outlay. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

2022 Streets List

Item 1) City Street Mill and Overlay

Milling of all intersections, and 30" from all curb and gutter. 2" overlay matching existing street grade for the following:

- i) 100-300 South Washington, (L) 1,030' (W) 20'
- ii) 100-500 West Oak, (L) 2,110 (W) 20'
- iii) 500-700 West Walnut, (L) 1,152' (W) 22'
- iv) 100-300 South Minnesota, (L) 1,109' (W) 21'
- v) 100-400 North Vermont, (L) 1,421' (W) 21'
- vi) Intersection of Vermont and Country Road (50 feet from center of intersection east and west and width of the street (approx. 25 feet)

Item 2) Street Mill and Overlay with concrete drain flume installation

Milling of all intersections, and 30" from all curb and gutter. 2" overlay matching existing street grade for the following:

- vii) 900 Block East Sycamore (L) 300'x (W) 20'
- viii) Remove storm tile at intersection and construct 60' concrete drain flume East starting at daylighted curb.

H.5.A. Consider approval of Ordinance 1493 updating solid waste in City Code.

Doherty moved to approve Ordinance 1493 updating solid waste in City Code. Rivas stated Ordinance 1493 updates the sanitation code to include poly carts and the ability to assess administrative fees to customers. This ordinance incorporates previous ordinances 1469, 1484 and 1493. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Council Information-

Coble provided an update on the disc golf tee pads, citing a problem he has encountered with the Saddle Club not allowing the placement of permanent tee pads. He found an alternative option of using temporary tee pads that are a 4x12 that anchor into the ground. He would be using three of those, which is a cost savings of \$160 per box. He also stated the Columbarium was delivered and sat and looks nice. Mayor Spieth inquired when the spaces in the Columbarium would be available for purchase, Coble stated they are available now.

Erin Williams informed council that on Friday, May 20th from 4-7 p.m. the City is planning the grand opening of the splash pad. More information on the details in the coming weeks.

Pryor called for a 30-minute executive session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel regarding reviewing applications for the City Administrator position with the Council, City Administrator, City Attorney, City Clerk and Assistant City Clerk in attendance. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting to reconvene at 7:55 p.m. in the council room.

Regular session 7:55 p.m.

No action taken.

City Clerk, Cherri Chancellor, will contact the selected candidates to establish interview times. Council requested Monday, March 14th at 7:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. for internal candidates and Tuesday, March 15th at 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. for external candidates. Council requested the interview questions to be sent out on Friday for council review prior to the interviews. After each interview the candidates will participate in a meet and greet with department heads.

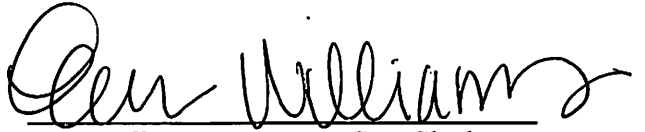
ADJOURNMENT

Doherty moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Meetings:

Work Session

Monday, March 14, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.


Erin Williams, Assistant City Clerk

