

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 2, 2021
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met August 2, 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.

Tom Pryor provided the Invocation followed the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Farstvedt moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Appropriation Ordinance 21-551, Council Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2021, Work Session Minutes – July 12, 2021, July 2021 Personnel Report. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC FORUM

Jamie Suiter with the Farmers Cooperative Ag Center addressed the council regarding the City providing water to their future Ag facility that will be south of Columbus. He stated that he was requesting that the City provide water to this facility including the installation of a new line. Mayor Spieth informed Mr. Suiter that this would need to be brought to a work session prior to a council meeting. Mr. Suiter provided his contact information and Mayor Spieth stated that we would contact him to follow up.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Spieth informed the council that Ms. Rivas was delayed on returning home due to flight cancellations. He also stated that a meeting had taken place with Iron Horse investments and City Attorney Barbara Wright was working with the investors to come to a compromise on the contract.

STAFF REPORTS

Utilities Director, Scott Bennett, provided an update on the High School Street project, stating that the water portion of the project should be completed within the next two weeks.

Property & Parks Director, Randy Coble, stated that Branco is estimating the start of asphalt on High School Street to begin in about three weeks. Coble has worked with the crews and the members of the schools to develop a plan if it is not completed by the start of the school year. He added that B3 completed the dirt pad today for the splash pad, so the project is ready to move forward.

Police Chief, Jason Daniels, stated that there were minimal incidents at the Cherokee County Fair this year. Daniels also thanked the American Legion, Fair Board, H&K Campers, and the Lions Club for taking care of his staff during the fair, it was greatly appreciated.

Community Development Coordinator, Jake Letner, spoke to the City's portion of the American Rescue Funds that were received and has begun researching what projects fall under the program guidelines. He informed the council a presentation will be coming soon to provide details on his findings.

Assistant City Clerk, Erin Williams, provided information regarding the Kansas Legislative Research Departments' schedule for the upcoming listening tour for the 2021 House and Senate Redistricting Committee Town Hall Meetings. There will be a meeting held in Pittsburg, Kansas on Thursday, August 12, 2021, from 9:00 to 10:15 am at the Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium. Mayor Spieth added that on August 16, the U.S. Census Bureau will release the demographic data from the 2020 Census that will be used to redraw the legislative voting districts.

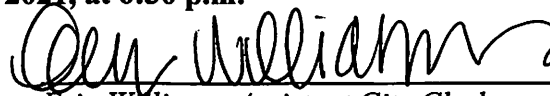
Mayor Spieth reminded the council that the League of Kansas Municipalities will be holding their annual conference in October this year. He also reported that 81 Kansas counties are in the high-risk category with COVID cases.

ADJOURNMENT

Houser moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Meetings:

City Council Work Session – August 9, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.


Erin Williams, Assistant City Clerk

