

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 7, 2021
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met September 7, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Kathy Doherty, Jan Houser, Tom Pryor. Council members absent: Stephanie Farstvedt, Nate Long.

Paul Jaeger representing Center Christian Church provided the Invocation followed the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE HEARING

The Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing was opened at 6:32 p.m. for the purpose of exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate and giving taxpayers an opportunity to comment on the budget.

Houser moved to approve Resolution No. 616 to levy a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pryor, Houser, Doherty. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 3-0.

The Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing was closed at 6:35 p.m.

2022 CITY BUDGET HEARING

The 2022 City Budget Hearing was opened at 6:36 p.m. for the purpose of giving taxpayers an opportunity to comment on the budget prior to the budget adoption.

The 2022 City Budget Hearing closed at 6:38 p.m.

Doherty moved to approve the 2022 budget as published. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Houser, Pryor, Doherty. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 3-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Pryor moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Appropriation Ordinance 21-553, Council Meeting Minutes – August 16, 2021, Work Session Minutes – August 9, 2021, August 2021 Personnel Report. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 3-0.

Mayor Report-

-Appointed Jake Letner as Volunteer Firefighter for the Columbus Fire Department.

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER – *Jake Letner*

Houser moved to approve the Mayor's appointment of Jake Letner as Volunteer Firefighter for the Columbus Fire Department. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pryor, Doherty, Houser. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 3-0.

LKM VOTING DELEGATES

Houser moved to approve Mayor Grant Spieth and Community Development Coordinator Jake Letner as voting delegates, and City Administrator Daniela Rivas as the alternate voting delegate for the 2021 LKM annual conference. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Pryor, Houser. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 3-0.

Mayor Spieth informed the council that a proposed public transportation plan for Cherokee County will be discussed at the next worksession. The group putting this together would like to start with two vans to see how successful the program would be. The grant application for the program is due on November 1, 2021.

Staff Reports-

City Administrator Ms. Rivas provided the council with a September 2021 city update that included: McGuire Iron standpipe repair timeline, 2021 city street maintenance program for milling and overlay, splash pad update, city-wide fall clean-up, pay study update, vehicle purchase updates, and staff training.

New Business –

J.1.A. Consider writing off special assessments for demolition charges in the amount of \$2,250.00 on property located at 302 N. Kansas owned by Maude Norton Memorial City Hospital. Houser moved to approve the write-off of special assessments for demolition charges in the amount of \$2,250.00 on property located at 302 N. Kansas owned by Maude Norton Memorial City Hospital. Doherty seconded the motion. Discussion centered around the fact that the demolition was a fee for a service, and the council feels it is an injustice to ask the community to pay for that service. Voting aye: None. Voting nay: Pryor, Doherty, Houser. Motion fails 3-0.

J.1.B. Consider GIS contract with PEC in the amount of \$20,200.00 to map all city infrastructure to be paid from multiple departments with the City's 2021 budget. Doherty moved to approve the GIS contract with PEC to map all city infrastructure in the amount of \$20,200.00 to be paid from General Fund-Admin in the amount of \$1,600.00, General Fund-Streets in the amount of \$2,500.00, General Fund-Parks in the amount of \$500.00, Water Fund in the amount of \$7,800.00 and Sewer Fund in the amount of \$7,800.00. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Houser, Pryor, Doherty. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

J.1.C. Consider Ordinance No. 1485, Authorizing and Providing for the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021, of the City of Columbus, Kansas; Providing for the Levy and Collection of an annual tax for the purpose of paying the principal of and interested on said bonds as they become due; Authorizing certain other documents and actions in connection therewith; and making certain covenants with respect thereto. Houser moved to approve Ordinance No. 1485, authorizing and providing for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021, of the City of Columbus, Kansas; providing for the levy and collection of an annual tax for the purpose of paying the principal of and interested on said bonds as they become due; authorizing certain other documents and actions in connection therewith; and making certain covenants with respect thereto. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Pryor, Houser. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

J.1.D. Consider Resolution No. 615, Prescribing the Form and Details of and Authorizing and Directing the Sale and Delivery of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021, of the City of

Columbus, Kansas, previously authorized by Ordinance No. 1485 of the Issuer; Making Certain Covenants and Agreements to Provide for the Payment and Security Thereof; And Authorizing Certain Other Documents and Actions Connected Therewith. Houser moved to approve Resolution No. 615, prescribing the form and details of and authorizing and directing the sale and delivery of General Obligation Bonds, series 2021, of the City of Columbus, Kansas, previously authorized by Ordinance No. 1485 of the issuer; making certain covenants and agreements to provide for the payment and security thereof; and authorizing certain other documents and actions connected therewith. Doherty seconded the motion. Rick Ensz of Cooper Malone McClain, Inc. discussed the sources of funding for the project for the High School Street project are the bond issue in the amount of \$1,075,000.00, CDBG grant funds in the amount of \$600,000, and a \$570,000 contribution from the city. Mr. Ensz also stated that the bonds are set to close on September 22, 2021, at which time the funds will be wired to the city. Voting aye: Pryor, Houser, Doherty. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

J.1.E. Consider Full-Time Temporary Sanitation Collector job description. Doherty moved to approve the Full-Time Temporary Sanitation Collector job description. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Houser, Pryor, Doherty. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

J.1.F. Consider Resolution No. 614, approving Rural Housing Incentive District. Pryor moved to approve Resolution No. 614, approving Rural Housing Incentive District. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Houser, Pryor, Doherty. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

J.3.A. Consider approval of Animal Shelter updates by Roger Box in the amount of \$3,990.00 to be paid out of Fund 20-Capital Reserves, Animal Control. Houser moved to approve the animal shelter updates by Roger Box in the amount of \$3,990.00 to be paid out of Fund 20-Capital Reserves, Animal Control. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

J.4.A. Consider Halloween Safe Walk blocking off square and corresponding streets. Houser moved to approve the Halloween Safe Walk blocking off the square and corresponding streets on October 31st from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pryor, Doherty, Houser. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

J.4.B. Consider allowing Titan Band 5K Run use of city streets. Doherty moved to approve the Titan Band 5K Zombie Run use of city streets. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pryor, Doherty, Houser. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

J.4.C. Consider approval of SRTS Agreement with KDOT with estimated total contract price of \$407,550.00 with 80% covered by SRTS grant and the remainder (20%) to be paid with cash reserves. Pryor moved to approve the SRTS Agreement with KDOT with an estimated total contract price of \$407,550.00 with 80% covered by SRTS grant and the remaining 20% to be paid with cash reserves. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

Community Coordinator, Jake Letner, informed the council that by the next work session, the city should have a preliminary design for the safe routes to school. Mayor Spieth stated that it is important that once the city moves forward with the safe routes to school program that the council be mindful of the sidewalk widths when residents utilize the Sidewalk Grant Improvement applications to ensure we

are being consistent with our sidewalks. The safe routes to school sidewalks will be 5 ft. but neighborhood sidewalks throughout town have 4ft. sidewalks for the most part. Houser stated that she felt the 5 ft. sidewalks were necessary for the main roads, but 4 ft. sidewalks should be sufficient for neighborhoods. Letner added that ADA regulations allow for a slope to be factored in as well.

J.4.D. Consider Sidewalk Grant Application for 118 W. Olive in the amount of \$2,235.00 to be paid out of Fund 22, Street Improvement-Sidewalk Grant Improvement reimbursed upon project completion and proof of payment. Doherty moved to approve the Sidewalk Grant Application for 118 W. Olive in the amount of \$2,235.00 to be paid out of Fund 22, Street Improvement-Sidewalk Grant Improvement to be reimbursed upon project completion and proof of payment. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pryor, Doherty, Houser. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

J.4.E. Consider Sidewalk Grant Application for 414 S. Pennsylvania in the amount of \$1,171.50 to be paid out of Fund 22, Street Improvement-Sidewalk Grant Improvement upon project completion and proof of payment. Houser moved to approve the Sidewalk Grant Application for 414 S. Pennsylvania in the amount of \$1,171.50 to be paid out of Fund 22, Street Improvement-Sidewalk Grant Improvement upon project completion and proof of payment. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Pryor, Houser. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

J.4.F. Discussion: Sidewalk repairs at 235 S. Delaware. Property & Parks Director, Randy Coble, spoke to the sidewalk at 235 S. Delaware stating that his recommendation would be to leave the existing sidewalk in place, and he suggested that the homeowner utilize the Sidewalk Grant Improvement program to get assistance from the city on repairing the sidewalk. Coble added that he felt it was the city's responsibility to add the stormwater/drainage to the culvert for proper draining. The council agreed and a letter will be sent to the property owner urging him to apply for the Sidewalk Grant Improvement program.

J.5.A. Consider purchase of concrete vault in the amount of \$7,200.00 from Travis Kitch for the housing of water meter for the splash pad. Houser moved to approve the purchase of the concrete vault for the housing of the water meter for the splash pad from Travis Kitch in the amount of \$7,200.00. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pryor, Doherty, Houser. Voting nay: None. Motion carries 3-0.

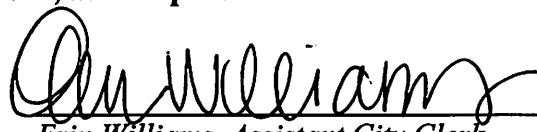
Letner mentioned to the council that she had a conversation with a representative from Burns & McDonald regarding stormwater planning and studies to get a very general idea of what the expense might be. She added that PEC also offers these services.

ADJOURNMENT

Doherty moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Houser, Doherty, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 3-0.

Meetings:

City Council Meeting – September 20, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.


Erin Williams, Assistant City Clerk

