

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 18, 2021
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met October 18, 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 and Nate Long.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Pryor moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Appropriation Ordinance 21-556, Council Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2021, Treasurer Report – September 30, 2021 and Treasurer Report – October 14, 2021. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 3-0.

Jim Oberbeck reported the success of the recent Ducks Unlimited Dinner and thanked the Council for the opportunity to list the event on the City marquee.

Mayor Report-

Mayor Spieth stated Fire Chief Steven Burton and Community Development Coordinator Jake Letner are attending a fire incident debriefing and will not be at tonight's council meeting. Spieth read a statement from Fire Chief Burton noting members of the Columbus fire department provided mutual aid on a structure fire that involved injury to a Baxter Springs firefighter and several members of the department will be included in the debriefing.

Staff Reports-

Code Enforcement Officer Gary Holt provided an update on 121 North Illinois property that was severely damaged by fire. Holt stated 30 days has passed without considerable progress on the cleanup of the property and recommends proceeding with setting a date for a condemnation hearing.

CONDEMNATION HEARING DATE – 121 North Illinois

Houser moved to set December 6, 2021 condemnation hearing date for 121 North Illinois. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 3-0.

DRAFT AND SIGN CONDEMNATION RESOLUTION

Houser moved to allow the City Attorney to draft condemnation resolution for 121 North Illinois and allow the Mayor to sign said resolution to allow for timely publication. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 3-0.

City Administrator Daniela Rivas noted that Officer Holt will provide a code enforcement end of year update in the coming weeks. Rivas stated council members should funnel any specific items or topics they wished to be addressed in the report to Officer Holt.

City Clerk Cherri Chancellor announced she has been awarded a CCMFOA scholarship for the upcoming November 2021 City Clerk Academy. The scholarship covers registration cost and partial reimbursement for hotel and travel expenses.

Police Chief Jason Daniels informed he will be attending the KLETC graduation for Officer Saul Farfan-Ulloa Friday, October 22, and invited council to attend.

Daniels provided local contractor has completed his part of the renovation work on the animal control shelter. City staff are finishing up utility hookups.

Property/Parks Director Randy Coble noted High School Street opened to through traffic on Friday October 8 in time for the Columbus Day weekend festivities. Crews continue to work on the punch list to finish the project. Coble noted the vintage carriage stoop in front of the Watkins property that had been moved during construction would be replaced. Sidewalk tie in at the railroad crossing will be completed through the railroad company.

Coble noted contractors are setting forms for the new public works building and stubbing in utilities. Plan to see concrete work next week.

Council member Jan Houser noted bathroom work has begun at Reeves Park and the new Splash Pad locations. Private donations are funding the projects.

Utility Director Scott Bennett noted work continues on the water standpipe by the hospital. Painting on the inside and outside should begin in the next few days. Staff are working on the Reeves Park and Splash pad restrooms. We are also working with contractor finishing up the utility portion of the High School Street project.

City Administrator noted Street and Park employees will be attending CDL training sponsored by Cherokee County on Thursday.

Mayor Spieth reminded everyone of the upcoming election on Tuesday, November 2.

New Business – None.


Old Business – None.

ADJOURNMENT

Doherty moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Houser seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Houser, Pryor. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 3-0.

Meetings:

Work Session – October 25, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.


Cherri Chancellor, City Clerk

