

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 4, 2022
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met April 4, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Stephanie Farstvedt, Sammye Opela, Tom Pryor, Lindsay Shoemaker. Council members absent: Kathy Doherty.

Juanita Dobkins of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints provided the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Farstvedt moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Council Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes – March 28, 2022, Work Session Minutes – March 28, 2022, Appropriation Ordinance 22-570, Personnel Report – March 2022. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC FORUM

Kale Kitterman owner of Titan Fitness located at 200 W. Pine, voiced his request to council to remove the sod on the East side of his business in the City right of way and replace it with weed barrier and river rock to reduce the amount of maintenance currently required of the area. He also provided pictures as an example. He stated that the area would be dug out so the rock would be level with the curb and sidewalk to avoid any washout. Opela asked if this would cause any issues with the street sweeper and Property & Parks Director, Randy Coble, stated it would not. Pryor asked if this would cause any issues with the utilities and Kitterman stated they have already called in all the locates required and it posed no issues. Mayor Spieth asked if the area would be dug out around two to three inches and Kitterman stated it would.

Opela moved to allow the removal of dirt and insert of river rock to reduce the maintenance on the East side of Titan Fitness. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Report-

Mayor Spieth informed council that a tax rate brochure was included in this month's Kansas Journal and that it has information broken down by population and other valuable information to check out.

Staff Reports-

Coble provided an update on the new public works building stating that the drywall is set to be delivered this week and is expected to be hung next week, with the texture and paint to be completed the following week. He still needs to get cabinets and doors, but the estimated completion time right now is around four to six weeks.

New Business-

H.1.A. Consider 2022-2023 property/liability insurance proposal from EMC.

Pryor moved to approve the 2022-2023 property/liability insurance proposal from EMC. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Pryor asked if an updated quote had been provided following the removal of the Fire portion that we had double coverage on. Assistant City Clerk, Erin Williams, stated that no update had been provided yet. Mayor Spieth questioned City Administrator, Jake Letner, that if council did not approve the proposal if the city would have a lapse in coverage, Letner was unable to verify. Pryor changed his motion to wait to approve the proposal until the council has been provided an updated copy from Ryan Insurance. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

H.2.A. Consider approval of planting fruit trees in the City Park.

Shoemaker moved to approve the planting of fruit trees in the City Park. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0. Mayor Spieth reminded council that PRIDE would be maintaining the trees, and that the trees being planted were two apple trees, two jujubes, and two pear trees. He also advised Coble that a disc golf sign located in the area would need to be removed.

H.3.A. Consider approval of fire department purchase of two sets of bunker gear from First Due in the amount of \$5,925.28 to be paid out of 01-900-57510 Bunker Gear.

Opela moved to approve the fire department purchase of two sets of bunker gear from First Due in the amount of \$5,925.28 to be paid out of 01-900-57510 Bunker Gear. Farstvedt seconded the motion. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0. Mayor Spieth questioned Chief Burton on how often the sets of Bunker Gear were replaced. Chief Burton stated the sets cannot get over ten years old, so they try to replace a couple sets annually to continuously rotate them out. Spieth also inquired if they went out for bid for the gear or if we always use the same company. Chief Burton reminded Spieth that he teams up with the Topeka Fire Department to get a better group rate.

H.3.B. Consider approval of Fire Department auction item list.

Opela moved to approve the Fire Department auction item list. Farstvedt seconded the motion. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0. The auction item list consists of a Mercury outboard motor, Saturn inflatable rescue boat, an electric ventilation fan, and old ladder truck.

Mayor Spieth asked council members to take pictures if they witness any stormwater issues during storms and send them in to the City as a storm water survey is still being worked on. Farstvedt asked how much longer it would be until the survey. Letner stated FEMA advised it would still be another two weeks to a month before they would be ready for the City to put out an RFP.

Officer Jim Oberbeck informed council that he and Chief Daniels went and picked up the new police car on Wednesday.

Pryor called for a 10-minute executive session at 6:51 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel for the purpose of disciplinary action to include the Governing Body, City Administrator, City Attorney and Fire Chief. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting to reconvene at 7:01 p.m. in the council room.

Regular session 7:01 p.m.
No action taken.

Shoemaker called for a 5-minute executive session at 7:01 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel for the purpose of disciplinary action to include the Governing Body, City Administrator, City Attorney and Fire Chief. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting to reconvene at 7:06 p.m. in the council room.

Regular session 7:06 p.m.
No action taken.

City Clerk, Cherri Chancellor, provided clarification for council regarding the 2022-2023 property/liability insurance proposal from EMC through Ryan Insurance. After speaking with our insurance representative, there will be a \$1,000 to \$2,000 decrease in the Fire Pak premium after removal of the duplicated fire coverage and zero increase to the EMC premium. She further explained that the purpose of the motion to approve this evening was to approve the coverage not a specific dollar amount, as the City is currently in a grace period and any delay could potentially cause a lapse in coverage.

Pryor motioned to approve the 2022-2023 property/liability insurance proposal from EMC. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Shoemaker moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Farstvedt seconded the motion. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.


Meetings:

Work Session

Monday, April 11, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.

Council Meeting

Monday, April 18, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.


Erin Williams, Assistant City Clerk

