

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 17, 2022
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met October 17, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Kathy Doherty, Sammye Opela, Tom Pryor, Lindsay Shoemaker. Council members absent: Stephanie Farstvedt.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Doherty moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Council Meeting Minutes – October 3, 2022, and Appropriation Ordinance 22-583. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Grant Spieth presented a Certificate of Commendation to Police Officer Gary Holt for his actions above and beyond the call of duty in response to a recent call for service.

Utility Director Report –

- repairing Maple Street broken water hydrant next week.
- boring under two streets installing new service lines on West Elm near Florida Street and East Walnut near 3rd Street in the coming week.
- last week a vehicle crossed the center line and struck Davis's work vehicle causing minimal damage.
- staff repaired several water leaks recently including a 6" main break near Illinois and Oak and a 1"line break near Kansas and Indiana

Property/Parks Director Report –

- pushing out leaf pickup scheduled for next week a couple of weeks to give time for more leaves to fall.
- Columbus Day festivities went smoothly.
- Fall cleanup finished.

Fire Chief Report -

- Fire Prevention education at Park School and Highland School.
- Fire prevention class and station tours for daycares.
- 436 emergency calls to date.
- county wide burn ban – city included.

Police Chief Report –

- staff worked 130 hours covering Columbus Day events. After action report will help next year run more smoothly.
- \$9.81 profit from Columbus Day Police/Pork/Pride event. Three teams competed. Positive opportunity to interact with the public with a non-enforcement action.
- Staff covering home football games.
- Participating in Halloween trick or trunk event.

Economic Development Coordinator Report-

- Completed Kansas Tobacco Cessation Help Line Training for chronic disease risk reduction (CDRR) as part of a requirement of the pathways grant.
- Submitted pathways budget.
- Working with Columbus PRIDE leaders to implement plan for a recently awarded community rehab grant.
- Working with police department on a K-9 grant.
- Attending Friday workshop in conjunction with an Infrastructure HUB grant opportunity.
- Other CDRR opportunities include working with local businesses on indoor smoking cessation policies and behavioral health organizations throughout the county on policies to assist their efforts.

City Clerk Report –

- Trunk or treat chamber event
- Working on benefit fair for employees in the coming weeks
- BCBS renewal rates expected in the near future for council review.

Coble announced staff will be locking park bathrooms tomorrow with the exception of the soccer field bathrooms, they will be closed and winterized at the end of the season.

New Business-

H.3A. Consider allowing Titan Band 5K Run use of city street. Police Chief Jason Daniels spoke to a flyer in council packets for a 5K Zombie Run sponsored by the CUHS Band. He noted they held this event last year and it was one of the biggest fundraisers for their organization. Band Director Gae Phillips asked for permission to block the street in front of the courthouse for the event beginning at 5 p.m. Opela moved to close the 100 block of East Maple Saturday, October 29 beginning at 5 p.m. for the CUHS band 5K Zombie Run event. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Opela called for a 15-minute executive session at 6:55 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to discuss employee discipline with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, City Administrator and Chief of Police in attendance. Meeting to reconvene at 7:10 p.m. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Regular session 7:10 p.m.

Opela moved to terminate Officer Christopher Hardison effective October 17, 2022, for cause before completion of his 90-day probationary period as outlined in the Employee Handbook. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

H.1.A. Executive session for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to discuss employee performance review. Pryor called for a 20-minute executive session at 7:15 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to discuss employee performance review with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, and City Administrator in attendance. Meeting to reconvene at 7:35 p.m. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Regular session 7:35 p.m.
No action taken.

Shoemaker called for a 10-minute executive session at 7:36 for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to continue discussion with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, and City Administrator in attendance. Meeting to reconvene at 7:46 p.m. Opela seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Regular session 7:46 p.m.
No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Shoemaker moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Opela, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 5-0.

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Work Session

Monday, October 24, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.

LKM Legislative Dinner

Wednesday, November 2, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.


Cherri Chancellor, City Clerk

