

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 17, 2023
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met April 17, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Kathy Doherty, Tom Pryor, Lindsay Shoemaker, Stephanie Farstvedt.

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON GRANTING PROPOSED TAX EXEMPTION FOR NEW ADDITION TO 501 S. EAST AVE. COLUMBUS, KS 66725

Mayor Grant Spieth opened the public hearing on granting proposed tax exemption for new addition to 501 S. East Ave., Columbus, KS. He explained that this addition would expand Crossland Construction Company's pre-fab division to include rebar fabrication. Tom Pryor added that the council has previously discussed the proposal. Juanita Dobkins addressed the council by stating her gratitude for all that Crossland's do to benefit the community. There were no other appearances by the public. The hearing was closed at 6:35 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Farstvedt moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Appropriation Ordinance #23-598, City Council Meeting Minutes – April 3, 2023, City Council Work Session Minutes – April 10, 2023, Municipal Court Docket Summary – April 10, 2023 and Treasurer's Report – April 14, 2023. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

COLUMBUS PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Pryor moved to approve the Mayor's appointments to the Columbus Planning Commission as follows:

- Betha Elliott – Term exp. 06/02/2025
- Dakota Smith – Term exp. 06/02/2025
- David Boyd – Term exp. 06/02/2025
- Janet Miller – Term exp. 06/01/2026
- Jessi Cain – Term exp. 06/01/2026
- Rick Walden – Term exp. 06/01/2026
- Thomas Niegisch – Term exp. 06/03/2024

Motion was seconded by Doherty. Voting aye: Doherty, Farstvedt, Pryor, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Staff Reports-

City Administrator Report –

-City Administrator Jake Letner congratulated Mayor Grant Spieth on receiving the prestigious 2023 Mayor of the Year award by the League of Kansas Municipalities at the recent mayor's convention in Hays, KS.

-Letner asked the council if they would like to continue the discussion regarding Ordinance 1405 and the issue of chickens during the next regular council meeting in May or if they would prefer to schedule a work session meeting for the discussion. The council agreed to a work session meeting to be held on Monday, April 24 at 6:30 p.m.

City Clerk Report –

-City Clerk Ruth Hutley reported that the Maintenance Worker II position had been filled. Letner added that the city still needed a couple summer laborers.

Police Chief Report –

-Police Chief Jason Daniels reported that he and Lieutenant Kyle Clark would be attending the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police leadership conference from April 30 through May 4.

-Chief Daniels confirmed that the police department would be hosting the 2nd Annual Police, Pork and PRIDE competition BBQ event over Columbus Day Weekend.

Fire Chief Report –

-Fire Chief Steven Burton reported that the new extrication tools were delivered recently and have been added to the rescue truck.

-The next fireworks fundraiser cook out will be held on April 28th from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. There will also be pulled pork and ribs available that can be pre-ordered for dinner that day.

Superintendent Report –

-Public Works Superintendent Randy Coble reported that spring cleanup began today.

-The public works department will be participating in the Touch a Truck event at Park School on Friday, April 21.

-CDL is expected to begin construction on the CO-OP water line extension project next week. City staff will do a walk through with CDL on Wednesday, April 26.

New Business –

H.1.A. Consider Ordinance 1507 – Authorizing the Issuance of Taxable Industrial Revenue Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1,680,000.

City Administrator Letner explained that this project has been discussed at previous meetings, and that the passage of the ordinance would allow the project to move forward. He confirmed that the issuance of the IRB's does not impact the city's books or budget at all, and referred to the recent cost benefit analysis that showed the project's benefits to the city far outweighed its costs. Pryor made a motion to approve Ordinance 1507, authorizing the issuance of taxable industrial revenue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1,680,000. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Pryor, Shoemaker, Doherty. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

H.4.A. Consider Sidewalk Cost Share Application – 309 S. Idaho Ave.

City Administrator Letner presented the council with revised bids received for the 75 feet of repair work for the sidewalk at 309 S. Idaho Ave. The city will reimburse the property owner for 75% of the cost of the low bid. Shoemaker made a motion to approve the sidewalk cost share application for 309 S. Idaho Avenue and the motion was seconded by Doherty. Voting aye: Farstvedt, Pryor, Shoemaker, Doherty. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Doherty asked about the status of the sidewalk on the north side of the laundry mat and Superintendent Coble responded that those repairs are planned for this year, probably in the early Fall.

Shoemaker moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. Doherty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Doherty, Pryor, Farstvedt, Shoemaker. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Upcoming Events:

Stormwater Meeting at Public Works Building - April 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

E-Waste drop off at the fairgrounds - April 22, 2023.

City Council Work Session Meeting – Monday, April 24, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m.


Ruth Hutley, City Clerk