

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 5, 2024
5:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas met August 5, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. presided over by Mayor Grant Spieth. Council members present: Laura Epler, Tom Pryor, Lindsay Shoemaker and Wiley Sanders (via Zoom). Council members absent: Kathy Doherty.

Tom Pryor provided the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM

Melinda Hosier addressed the council with a request that the street be closed in the 100 block of West Elm Street between Kansas and Pennsylvania on September 21 between 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. for a block party at First Christian Church. Shoemaker made a motion to approve closing the street on September 21 between 5 – 7 p.m. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

2025 CITY BUDGET HEARING

Mayor Grant Spieth opened the 2025 City Budget Hearing at 5:36 p.m. for the purpose of giving taxpayers an opportunity to comment on the budget prior to the budget adoption.

The 2025 City Budget Hearing closed at 5:40 p.m.

Epler moved to approve the 2025 budget as presented. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Shoemaker moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of Appropriation Ordinance #24-632 – August 5, 2024, City Council Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2024, Municipal Court Docket Summary – July 22, 2024, and Treasurer’s Report. Epler seconded the motion. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

MAYOR

Mayor Grant Spieth and Police Chief Kyle Clark presented Officer Arlo Lewke with a 5-year certificate in appreciation for his hard work and dedication to the citizens of Columbus.

APPOINTMENTS TO COLUMBUS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Grant Spieth recommended the appointment of Brian Midgett, Cody Fought and Clayton Holsonback to the Columbus Volunteer Fire Department for a one-year term. Shoemaker moved to approve the appointment of Midgett, Fought and Holsonback to the Volunteer Fire Department. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Grant Spieth recommended the acceptance of Zach Davis’ resignation to the Columbus Volunteer Fire Department. Shoemaker moved to accept Davis’ resignation. The motion was seconded by Epler. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

STAFF REPORTS

City Administrator – no report.

City Clerk – City Clerk Ruth Hutley announced the city pool would be closing for the season on Saturday, August 10. Hutley advised she would have a pool revenue and expense report at the next council meeting.

Fire Department – no report.

Police Department – Police Chief Kyle Clark reported no issues at the recent Cherokee County Fair. -Chief Clark said he would soon begin interviews for the Sergeant position, adding that he had several qualified internal candidates.

-Chief Clark reported that he met recently with the Highland Education Center administrator and SEK Interlocal staff to discuss the expectations of the school resource officer for the upcoming school year. Chief Clark added that the city has applied for a C.O.P.S. grant through the U.S. Department of Justice to subsidize the position, and he should find out later in the fall if the city has received the grant. Chief Clark said he is looking forward to the partnership between the Police Department and the Highland Education Center.

Public Works – no report.

City Treasurer – City Treasurer Doug Mogle reported city finances were stable with no issues.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approving Revised Contract from Earle's Engineering for Survey & Engineering Services at 0 E. Merle Evans Dr.

City Administrator Jake Letner led the discussion regarding an addendum to the original contract with Earle's Engineering for survey and engineering service at 0 E. Merle Evans Dr. The surveying will establish new property boundaries for a new housing addition containing 16 rental units. Pryor made a motion to approve the revised contract from Earle's Engineering in the amount of \$13,000.

Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Consider Ordinance 1514 – Issuing Industrial Revenue Bonds.

Mayor Grant Spieth opened the public hearing regarding authorizing the issuance of taxable industrial revenue bonds to provide funds to acquire, construct and equip a project for Crossland Construction Company, Inc. With no comments by the public, Mayor Spieth closed the public hearing. Pryor moved to approve Ordinance 1514 issuing industrial revenue bonds for the Crossland Construction project. The motion was seconded by Shoemaker. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Consider Ordinance 1515 – Regulating the Parking Of, and Residing In, Recreational Vehicles (R.V.) within the City Limits.

Shoemaker moved to approve Ordinance 1515 regulating the parking of and residing in recreational vehicles within the city limits. The motion was seconded by Epler. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Consider Authorizing the Purchase of a 2019 Wacker Neuson Tandem Roller from Kubota of Joplin.

City Superintendent Randy Coble opened the discussion regarding the purchase of a 2019 Wacker Neuson pavement roller. Coble said replacing the current roller has been discussed several times and he believes this roller would be a perfect replacement. After discussion, Shoemaker made a motion to approve purchasing the 2019 Wacker Neuson pavement roller from Joplin Kubota in the amount of \$13,995. The motion was seconded by Pryor. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Consider Approval of the School Resource Officer (SRO) Position Description.

City Administrator Jake Letner opened the discussion regarding the newly created School Resource Officer (SRO) job description. Letner explained the primary duty of the SRO is to ensure the safety and security of students, faculty, staff, visitors, or any other occupants of a specifically designated educational facility or facilities within the City Limits. Epler made a motion to approve the School Resource Office job description. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Consider Ordinance 1516 – Adopting the 2024 Uniform Public Offense Code (UPOC).

Shoemaker made a motion to approve Ordinance 1516 adopting the 2024 Uniform Public Offense Code and repealing Ordinance 1510. Epler seconded the motion. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Consider Ordinance 1517 – Adopting the 2024 Standard Traffic Ordinance (STO).

Shoemaker made a motion to approve Ordinance 1517 adopting the 2024 Standard Traffic Ordinance and repealing Ordinance 1511. Pryor seconded the motion. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pryor called for a seven-minute executive session at 6:24 p.m. for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to discuss employee discipline with the Council, Mayor, City Administrator, City Superintendent, City Attorney and City Clerk in attendance. Shoemaker seconded the motion. Voting aye: Epler, Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Regular session resumed 6:31 p.m.

No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Pryor moved to adjourn the meeting. Epler seconded the motion. Voting aye: Shoemaker, Pryor, Sanders and Epler. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

- **City Council Meeting – Monday, August 19, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.**




Ruth Hutley, City Clerk