

**CITY OF COLUMBUS**  
**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
April 20, 2009

**ATTENDANCE**

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas, met April 20, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall. Mayor Marie Nepple presided. Council members present: Connie Bennett, Jerri Burton, Steve Dunlap, Doug Hosier, David Morrison, John Paradee, Dewey Smith, Gary Smith, Grant Spieth, Dana Wellmeier. Members absent: None.

Council Member Doug Hosier led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Marie Nepple called for additions or correction to the minutes of the April 06, 2009 council meeting. Burton moved to accept the minutes of the April 06, 2009 council meeting. Hosier seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Abstaining: Morrison. Motion carried: 9-0 1-A.

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #09-207**

Hosier moved to approve Appropriation Ordinance #09-207. Spieth seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Abstaining: Morrison. Motion carried: 9-0 1-A.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Spieth moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes from 6:33 pm to 6:53 pm on consultation with an Attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in an Attorney – Client relationship with Mayor, Council members, City Attorney, City Administrator, Chief of Police and City Treasurer and City Clerk in attendance. Smith Dewey seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Abstaining: Morrison. Motion carried: 9-0 1-A.

**REGULAR SESSION 6:53 PM**

**City Superintendent Jim Burton Report:**

1. Last Wednesday we had a pre construction meeting on the East Town Sewer Project. Start date is 5/18/09. In the contract it gives them 150 calendar days to complete substantial work and 180 calendar days to complete the work with a \$500 per day for liquidation damages. They thought they might be through around 6/10/09 or by the end of June possibly.
2. All of the bids have come way under the amount that was estimated so we have talked to KDHE and Sandy Erbe, head of the grant. KDHE has pretty much given us the authority to maybe expand that area. There was so much grant money above and if we give that money back we will probably never get it back. The KDHE money will always be there until we say it is finalized. This will probably need to go to the committee before any recommendations can be made. What area we are looking at is where Carpino Ford is, back to the west and over to the tracks. There should be more than enough money to do

this and if there is any left we could possibly go over the tracks. The main reason we have to stay within the area is if we jump to another area of town we would have to do another environmental study. Sandy is hoping that we would only have to do a change order and not go out for bids again. The contractor has already said he would take on the additional work.

3. There is still the question of the Virginia Graeme Baker Act that we talked about earlier this year about our drains and stuff at the city pool. It is a Federal Law. There was a gentleman by the other day from G. Farney and Associates, who did the old chlorinator and stuff in the old pool years ago, gave us a bid which does not include labor in the amount of \$2,857. This includes drains and screens. The problem we have right now is that last year we went in and put a 4" valve in the drain in the bottom of the pool. Right now we have to send an employee down to lift that grate off and try to turn that valve. With this new improvement these grates have to be so they cannot be moved or easily unlocked by somebody. That is going to create a big problem in draining our pool. We would have to install it as they don't do that.

#### **PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FOR CITY POOL**

Smith Gary moved to purchase needed grates for City Pool in the amount of \$2,857 and employees will do the installation. This will come out of GL# 01-450-57620. Smith Dewey seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Morrison, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 10-0.

4. I have another bill from our attorney in Wichita, Mr. Keeley, in the amount of \$1,592.10. You had a copy in your packets as to what it consists of so I will need a motion to pay this and it will be paid out of GL# 10-000-57390.

#### **PAY ED KEELEY- ADA ATTORNEY**

Burton moved to pay Attorney Ed Keeley \$1,592.10 and to be paid out of GL#10-000-57390. Spieth seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Morrison, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

#### **SIGNATURES ON BANK ACCOUNTS – AMERICAN BANK**

Hosier moved to remove former Mayor Harley McDaniel and add Mayor Marie Nepple, City Clerk Janice Blancett and City Treasurer Doug Mogle as signers on Accounts Payable, Investment Account, Payroll Account and CD's at American Bank. Paradee seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Morrison, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 10-0.

#### **SIGNATURES ON BANK ACCOUNT – STANLEY BANK**

Smith Dewey moved to remove former Mayor Harley McDaniel and add Mayor Marie Nepple, City Clerk Janice Blancett and City Treasurer Doug Mogle to CD's at Stanley Bank. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Morrison, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 10-0.

#### **SIGNATURE ON PETTY CASH ACCOUNT – AMERICAN BANK**

Wellmeier moved to remove former Billing Clerk from petty cash checking account at American Bank and add Karen Engroff. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Morrison, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 10-0.

**Chief of Police Charles E Sharp report:**

1. I have a residence at 310 N Railroad and the owner has given us written consent to demolish it. This will come out of the Clean up Columbus Fund.

**DEMOLITION/CLEAN UP COLUMBUS FUND – 310 N RAILROAD**

Smith Gary moved to have City Attorney draft a resolution, accept owners consent to demolish residence at 310 N Railroad and to be paid out of the Clean up Columbus Fund. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Morrison, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 10-0.

**Fire Chief Brad Gleason report:**

1. We have had 172 fire runs this year.
2. We have a fire meeting tomorrow.
3. I had someone come to test the pumps on the trucks and we ran into some problems. On engine 20 we need \$200 in repair, engine 21 \$360 in repair, Engine 22 \$4,040, and engine 23 \$1,760. We need these to keep our ISO rating. This comes to \$6,560.

**REPAIR FIRE TRUCKS**

Dunlap moved to pay \$6,360 to repair fire trucks #20, 21, 22 & 23. This will be paid out of GL# 01-900-57600. Hosier seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Morrison, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Motion carried 10-0.

**RESOLUTION #387 – 416 S. FLORIDA**

Spieth moved to approve condemnation Resolution #387 for 416 S. Florida – *Fixing a Time and Place and Providing for Notice of a Hearing Before the Governing Body to appear and Show Cause Why Such Structure Should Not Be Condemned and Ordered Repaired or Demolished as Unsafe or Dangerous*. Wellmeier seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Morrison, Paradee, Smith Gary, Spieth Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Abstaining: Smith Dewey. Motion carried: 9-0 1-A.

**Mayor Marie Nepple report:**

1. I would like to welcome Mr. Morrison to the council and to the returning council members.
2. In your packet you have a proposed standing committee appointments and I would like a motion to approve. Councilmember David Morrison told the Mayor that his Son-In-Law works out at the Cemetery. Mayor Nepple said that is a good point. If you notice, several folks on the council have family members that work for the City and we understand that in most small towns across the state this comes in to being of the smallness of the community and families staying together, so we did take into consideration for chairpersons and several members of the committees any conflict they may have or may not have and also looked at precedence that has been set over time and we have had, with success, family members chairing committees where they have had family members that may have functioned a role in a particular committee section. It has worked well. If anyone who has family connections is uncomfortable then they are certainly welcome to abstain. City Attorney Barbara Wright wanted to reassure Councilmember Morrison's particular chair on the Cemetery Committee. Probably a lot of activity on that committee is not going to affect an employee on employee issues; it is just going to affect the property itself and not the person. I don't think you are going to see that much conflict on this committee affecting your Son-In-Law. His contact will be more with Personnel than they would be with the activity on the Cemetery Committee. Mayor Nepple the

proceeded to tell Council Morrison that Jerri has chaired the Sanitation Committee and has several family members that work for the City and there are others too. It is a good point and it is something we need to think about periodically. Councilmember Grant Spieth noted that the day to day operation of the City is the responsibility of the City Administrator and the people that report to him. We do policy basically so we do not get directly involved with employees or their activities.

**Budget & Finance**

\*Grant Spieth, \*\*John Paradee, Dewey Smith

**Sanitation**

\*Dana Wellmeier, \*\*Connie Bennett, David Morrison

**Cemetery**

\*David Morrison, \*\*Dewey Smith, Connie Bennett

**Property/Pool/Parks**

\*Dewey Smith, \*\*Jerri Burton, Gary Smith

**Economic Development**

\*Connie Bennett, \*\*Gary Smith, Dana Wellmeier

**Fire**

\*Doug Hosier, \*\*Dana Wellmeier, Steve Dunlap

**Personnel**

\*John Paradee, \*\*Doug Hosier, Grant Spieth

**Police & License**

\*Gary Smith, \*\*Steve Dunlap, Jerri Burton

**Streets/Alleys/Bridges**

\*Steve Dunlap, \*\*David Morrison, Doug Hosier

**Water & Sewer**

\*Jerri Burton, \*\*Grant Spieth, John Paradee

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

Smith Dewey moved to accept the Mayor's appointment for standing committees. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton, Hosier, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: Bennett, Dunlap, Morrison. Motion carried: 7-3.

**PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL – GRANT SPIETH**

Burton moved to appoint Grant Spieth as President of the City Council. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Morrison, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Abstaining: Spieth. Motion carried: 9-0 1-A.

**Meetings:**

**Water & Sewer**

Tuesday April 28, 2009 @ 6:00 pm

**Budget & Finance**

Tuesday April 28, 2009 @ 6:30 pm

**Property/Pool/Parks**

Wednesday April 28, 2009 @ 7:00 pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

Morrison moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm. Smith Dewey seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Dunlap, Hosier, Morrison, Paradee, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth, Wellmeier. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 10-0.

---

*Janice Blancett, City Clerk*