

CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
August 03, 2009

ATTENDANCE

The City Council of Columbus, Kansas, met August 03, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall. Mayor Marie Nepple presided. Council members present: Connie Bennett, Jerri Burton, Doug Hosier, David Morrison, Dewey Smith, Gary Smith, Grant Spieth. Members absent: Steve Dunlap, John Paradee, Dana Wellmeier.

Councilmember Doug Hosier led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Marie Nepple called for additions or correction to the minutes of the July 20, 2009 council meeting. Burton moved to accept the minutes of the July 20, 2009 council meeting. Hosier seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Hosier, Morrison, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth,. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 7-0.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #09-214

Hosier moved to approve Appropriation Ordinance #09-214. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Hosier, Morrison, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth,. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 7-0.

City Administrator Evan Capron report:

1. I have received information from one of the 3 trash pickup vendors. The City Superintendent and I have briefly reviewed the information. We are very impressed with their proposal. I am still waiting on information from the other 2 vendors. I contacted the auditor regarding how to handle this in the accounting system and budgeting. He said to the best way is to keep the trash pickup as a separate entity and track the revenue and expenses and billing charge.
2. I have been working on the 2010 budget with the budget committee. I almost have the required State spread sheet put together showing the budget.

City Superintendent Jim Burton report:

1. I checked the sewer tap at 200 N. Railroad after they tore the house down and it was properly plugged.
2. We will be opening the bids at 1:30 on August 5, 2009 for the remodeling of the bathrooms at the Community Building from Ness. Also on August 14, 2009 at 1:30 we will be opening the bids on the curb cuts uptown. The engineering came in at about \$149,000. I went to the County Commissioners today and they told me that after we open the bids and found out what they were to come back to them so they could be thinking about if they could help with it. I called Bill Adams with Tri-State on the asphalt at the Counties request and he said the County could haul the asphalt for us and he would take that much off. This would be roughly \$4,500 if the County agrees to haul it for us.
3. We are now in the process of cleaning and camera the sewer line over by Columbus Ford. One of the problems we ran into today is that we have a 10” line that goes down to an 8” line and then back up to a 12” line. By putting a bypass in East Town there should be no problem after they reline this sewer line.

4. Electrical work at the City Park has been completed and all is handicap accessible. All outlets have their own circuit breaker.

WELCOME TO COLUMBUS SIGNS

Smith Dewey moved to have Crossland Construction construct 2 signs out of concrete with one being placed on North High School and one will be placed on Highway 69 across from Crossland Construction. The City will be responsible for the lighting and needed brick work and Crossland will be responsible for everything else. Burton seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Hosier, Morrison, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 7-0.

DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

Smith Dewey moved to purchase 4 signs. 2 signs will be on 160 Highway off of Kansas Street on both sides and will designate directions to the City Park, Baseball/Softball Complex and Fair Ground/Rodeo Grounds and Business District. The other 2 signs will be on Highway 69 & Country Road and one by the old Pamida building designating the same with the addition of directions to Park Cemetery and City Cemetery. Smith Gary seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Hosier, Morrison, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 7-0.

ADA

City Attorney Barbara Wright brought up a new item that needed to be talked about or at least bring to your attention. There has been another complaint filed. This time it has been sent to the Attorney General State of Kansas and it has been filed by complainant Rick Knight. It states; Curb cuts & sidewalks are unsafe & inaccessible while the City of Columbus refuses to make them as a priority on their recently created Transition Plan. City has also failed to mediate in appropriate fashion as instructed in consent order from Federal District Court. In response to that letter the Attorney General's Office has sent us a letter saying we need to investigate this and they need a response within 60 days. Basically the only thing I can do is forward them the fact of the matter is that this is a pending open case in Federal District Court. He alluded to but did not go on to tell them this case has been reopened and is active once again which would deprive this Attorney General the jurisdiction and authority to do anything. Unless they dismiss the case in Federal District Court, which we are working with right now, and is my understanding from the Justice Department that the Attorney General and Justice Department would not do anything on this since it is being addressed in a court already. So with your approval I will respond to this and just provide the Attorney General's office with copies of the relevant documents. This would be like our self-evaluation, our most recent transition plan and an update showing some of these projects are being advanced even sooner than on the transition plan. That's really all I know to tell you. City Superintendent said this was even after he and Mr. January did a walk around with Bruce and I about the curb cuts and when we were going out for bid. Barbara said they are aware that this curb cut project is being advanced. This was filed the day after they were asked to participate with the engineer, Jim and Evan and the very next day they filed this thing. City Administrator reported another item. They are advertising on 1340 am radio which I guess they own that radio station and they are telling people to call 620-429-2171, which is my office number, and I have 6 recorded calls saying this call is for the City of Columbus and the County Commissioners. They are not wanting anything from the City of Columbus just the Commissioners, so I will have to pass that information along to the Commissioners. City Superintendent said the County commissioners have gotten the calls also. Barbara then said she would bring in a copy of the letter at the next council meeting but would not burden them with the other stuff. Since the bids for the curb cuts will be open on the 14th, City Attorney will wait

until after the action of the council's decision on the bids to proceed with written response as this is still within our 60 day time frame.

CITY ATTORNEY PROCEED WITH WRITTEN RESPONSE TO ADA

Burton moved to have City Attorney proceed with written response to the accessibility complaint after the meeting of August 17, 2009. Bennett seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Hosier, Morrison, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 7-0.

ORDINANCE # 1267

Burton moved to adopt Ordinance #1267 – *Adopting Position Description for Fire Department Backup Relief Driver*. Hosier seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Hosier, Morrison, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 7-0.

ORDINANCE #1268

Burton moved to adopt Ordinance #1268 – *Adopting Position Description for Public Works Foreman*. Hosier seconded the motion. Voting aye: Burton, Hosier, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary. Voting nay: Bennett, Morrison, Spieth. Motion carried: 4-3.

Meetings:

Budget

Tuesday August 11, 2009 @ 6:00 pm

Personnel

Wednesday August 12, 2009 @ 6:00 pm

Property/ Pools/ Park

Wednesday August 12, 2009 @ 7:30 pm

ADJOURNMENT

Smith Dewey moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 pm. Morrison seconded the motion. Voting aye: Bennett, Burton, Hosier, Morrison, Smith Dewey, Smith Gary, Spieth. Voting nay: None. Motion carried: 7-0.

Janice Blancett, City Clerk