

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
701 E. BROADWAY, COLUMBIA, MISSOURI  
AUGUST 5, 2024**

**INTRODUCTORY**

The City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri met for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 5, 2024, in the Council Chamber of the City of Columbia, Missouri. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the roll was taken with the following results: Council Member BETSY PETERS, Mayor BARBARA BUFFALOE, Council Member LISA E.A. MEYER, Council Member ROY LOVELADY, Council Member NICK FOSTER, and Council Member DON WATERMAN were present. City Manager De'Carlon Seewood, City Counselor Nancy Thompson, City Clerk Sheela Amin, and various Department Heads and staff members were also present.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the regular meeting of July 15, 2024 were approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Mayor Buffaloe and a second by Council Member Meyer.

**APPROVAL AND ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA INCLUDING CONSENT AGENDA**

The agenda, including the consent agenda, was approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Mayor Buffaloe and a second by Council Member Foster.

**SPECIAL ITEM**

None.

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

None.

**SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**PH26-24**     Proposed construction of a vehicle wash bay facility at the City of Columbia sanitary landfill.

The public hearing was read by the City Clerk.

Utilities Director David Sorrell provided a staff report.

Mayor Buffaloe opened the public hearing.

There being no comment, Mayor Buffaloe closed the public hearing.

Mayor Buffaloe made a motion authorizing staff to proceed with the proposed solid waste vehicle wash bay improvement project. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lovelady, and approved unanimously by voice vote.

**PH27-24**     Consider the Water and Light 2024 Renewable Energy Plan.

The public hearing was read by the City Clerk.

Utilities Director David Sorrell and Electric Utility Services Manager Todd McVicker provided a staff report, and responded to Council questions and comments.

Mayor Buffaloe opened the public hearing.

Eddie Lehr spoke.

Troy O'Donnell Sapp spoke.

There being no further comment, Mayor Buffaloe closed the public hearing.

The Council asked questions and made comments.

Mayor Buffaloe made a motion to accept the 2024 Renewable Energy Plan. The motion was seconded by Council Member Foster, and approved unanimously by voice vote.

**PH28-24**     FY 2025 Annual Budget for the City of Columbia.

**B166-24**     Amending Chapter 17 of the City Code as it relates to Parks and Recreation fees.

**B167-24**     Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to Rental Unit Conservation Law provisions, and fees and charges.

**B168-24**     Amending Chapter 27 of the City Code as it relates to water rates.

The public hearing was read by the City Clerk, and the bills were given second reading by the City Clerk.

Finance Director Matthew Lue, Budget Officer Andrea Greer, Assistant Finance Director Jim McDonald, Parks and Recreation Director Gabe Huffington, and Neighborhood Services Manager Leigh Kottwitz provided a staff report, and they along with City Manager De'Carlton Seewood, Economist Supervisor Deepayan Debnath, Assistant Utilities Director of Rates and Fiscal Planning Sarah Talbert, and Utilities Director David Sorrell responded to Council questions and comments.

Mayor Buffaloe opened the public hearing.

Tom Rose, Chair of the Housing and Development Commission, spoke and responded to Council questions.

Stacy Ford, Chair of the Human Services Commission, spoke.

David Spear, Chair of the Commission on Cultural Affairs, spoke and responded to Council comments.

John Conway, 4902 Thornbrook Ridge, spoke.

Julie Ryan spoke on behalf of COMO Safe Water Coalition.

Eddie Lehr spoke.

Traci Wilson-Kleekamp spoke on behalf on Race Matters, Friends.

Eugene Elkin, 3406 Range Line Street, spoke.

Reba Newman, 4800 Murrell Drive, spoke.

Chriss Jones spoke on behalf of Hold CoMo Accountable.

Troy O'Donnell Sapp spoke.

Renee Carter, a Second Ward resident, spoke.

There being no further comment, Mayor Buffaloe continued the public hearing to the August 19, 2024 Council Meeting.

The Council asked questions and made comments.

Mayor Buffaloe made a motion to continue B167-24, B168-24, and B169-24 to the August 19, 2024 Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Waterman. After discussion, the motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

The Council made comments.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**B171-24** Authorizing a transportation enhancements funds program agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the Broadway (Maplewood Drive to West Boulevard) sidewalk project.

The bill was given second reading by the City Clerk.

Public Works Director Shane Creech provided a staff report, and responded to Council comments.

Mayor Buffaloe made a motion to amend B171-24 per the amendment sheet. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lovelady and approved by voice vote with the exception of Council Member Meyer who had stepped out during the discussion on this item.

B171-24, as amended, was given third reading by the City Clerk with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: PETERS, BUFFALOE, LOVELADY, FOSTER, WATERMAN. VOTING NO: NO ONE. ABSENT: MEYER (Council Member Meyer stepped out during the vote on this item.) Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

**B172-24** Authorizing acceptance of the FY 2023 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation to fund projects and activities associated with the Vision Zero Program; amending the FY 2024 Annual Budget by appropriating funds.

The bill was given second reading by the City Clerk.

Public Works Director Shane Creech provided a staff report, and responded to Council comments.

Mayor Buffaloe made a motion to amend B172-24 per the amendment sheet. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lovelady and approved unanimously by voice vote.

B172-24, as amended, was given third reading by the City Clerk with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: PETERS, BUFFALOE, MEYER, LOVELADY, FOSTER, WATERMAN. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following bills were given second reading and the resolutions were read by the City Clerk.

**B169-24** Voluntary annexation of property located on the northwest corner of Brown School Road and Highway 763 (1003 E. Brown School Road); establishing permanent M-C (Mixed-Use Corridor) zoning.

**B170-24** Approving the Final Plat of "OPR Subdivision Plat 2" located on the south side of Old Plank Road and west of Bethel Church Road; authorizing a performance contract.

**B173-24** Amending the FY 2024 Annual Budget by adding positions in the Public Works Department; amending the FY 2024 Annual Budget Appendix - Authorized Full Time Equivalent (FTE)

position identification summary; amending the FY 2024 Classification and Pay Plan to add a classification.

- B174-24** Authorizing the acquisition of easements associated with the replacement and improvement of public storm drainage infrastructure on Sexton Road and McBaine Avenue.
- B175-24** Amending the FY 2024 Annual Budget by appropriating funds for the building foundation repair project at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC).
- B176-24** Authorizing a challenge cost share agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Region 8 to support conservation of genetic diversity of the maple-leaf oak.
- R135-24** Setting a public hearing: setting property tax rates for 2024 for the City of Columbia.
- R136-24** Setting a public hearing: proposed construction of improvements at Westwinds Park.
- R137-24** Authorizing a programs agreement for rapid HIV, syphilis, and Hepatitis C testing services and a business associate agreement with Spectrum Health Care.
- R138-24** Authorizing a second amendment to the allocation agreement with Columbia Community Land Trust, Inc. for the issuance of ARPA funds for affordable housing purposes.
- R139-24** Approving the Preliminary Plat of "Central Humane Society" located on the northwest corner of Brown School Road and Highway 763 (1003 E. Brown School Road).

The bills were given third reading and the resolutions read by the City Clerk with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: PETERS, BUFFALOE, MEYER, LOVELADY, FOSTER, WATERMAN. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bills declared enacted and resolutions declared adopted, reading as follows:

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

The following bills were introduced by the Mayor unless otherwise indicated, and all were given first reading.

- B177-24** Amending Chapter 2 of the City Code relating to conflicts of interest and financial disclosure procedures; directing the City Clerk to send a certified copy of the ordinance to the Missouri Ethics Commission.
- B178-24** Setting property tax rates for 2024; directing the City Clerk and Finance Director to give notice of the property tax rate.
- B179-24** Adopting the FY 2025 Annual Budget for the City of Columbia.
- B180-24** Authorizing a contract with Consolidated Public Water Supply District No. 1 of Boone County, Missouri relating to the relocation of a waterline as part of the Route K and Old Plank Road roundabout improvement project.
- B181-24** Authorizing replacement and improvement of public storm drainage infrastructure on Alan Lane, McKee Street, Oriole Lane, and Boyd Lane; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division or authorizing a contract for the work using a term and supply contractor.
- B182-24** Authorizing construction of stormwater improvements on Calvert Drive, Sylvan Lane and Vandiver Drive, and construction of sanitary sewer improvements on Calvert Drive; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.
- B183-24** Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey, United States Department of the Interior for operation and maintenance of a streamgage on Hinkson Creek to provide historical stream flow data and flood stage information.
- B184-24** Authorizing construction of improvements at Westwinds Park; calling for bids for a portion of the project through the Purchasing Division.
- B185-24** Authorizing a third amendment to the PCS tower agreement with SBA 2012 TC ASSETS, LLC relating to the lease of City-owned property located at 1808 Parkside Drive.
- B186-24** Authorizing a license agreement with the Missouri Department of Conservation associated with the design and construction of the Gans Creek Recreation Area natural surface trail.
- B187-24** Authorizing a first amendment to the agreement with ImageNet Consulting, LLC for completion of the Laserfiche implementation and migration project; amending the FY 2024 Annual Budget by appropriating funds.
- B188-24** Authorizing a contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for Show Me Healthy Women program services.
- B189-24** Authorizing Amendment No. 2 to the contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for local public health disparities initiative program services.
- B190-24** Authorizing a fifth supplemental to the airport aid agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for air service promotion.
- B191-24** Authorizing a memorandum of understanding with The Board of Curators of Lincoln University Missouri for Police Officer Standards and Training Commission (POST) certification training.

## **REPORTS AND PETITIONS**

### **REP49-24** Merideth Drive Right-of-Way Vacation.

Community Development Director Tim Teddy provided a staff report, and responded to Council question and comments.

Mayor Buffaloe made a motion for staff to proceed with the technical review of the requested vacation and present an ordinance to vacate excess right-of-way for Council consideration upon completion of such review. The motion was seconded by Council Member Foster and approved unanimously by voice vote.

### **REP50-24** CASH and HELP Programs.

After discussion, Mayor Buffaloe made a motion for staff to proceed with phasing out the CASH and HELP programs. The motion was seconded by Council Member Foster and approved unanimously by voice vote.

### **REP51-24** Communication from the Citizens Police Review Board relating to Chapter 21 Amendments associated with Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement.

City Counselor Nancy Thompson provided a staff report, and responded to Council questions and comments.

### **REP52-24** Solid Waste Report: Skipped Commercial Collection Services.

Utilities Director David Sorrell provided a staff report, and responded to Council questions and comments.

## **COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, COUNCIL AND STAFF**

Eugene Elkin, 3406 Range Line Street, spoke regarding the building of Habitat for Humanity homes, water rates, the stock market, the homeless, water windmills, water quality, and recycling.

Amari spoke about the rental license and inspection processes as he was new to Columbia and did not know about those requirements nor the process to address nuisance issues.

Chriss Jones, a Second Ward resident, spoke about the changes to the Citizens Police Review Board as she did not feel some of the changes discussed earlier were needed, her volunteering to participate in any committee formed by Police Chief Jill Schlude, and her police misconduct complaint related to the responsiveness of police to a suicide call.

The Council and staff discussed various topics to include Council Member Meyer's experience during a police ride-a-long and a potential pilot program in Ward 2 involving art beautification in terms of electric boxes, etc, and pollinator enhancements.

Council Member Meyer made a motion for the City Manager to direct and collaborate with various departments to prepare a report for a pilot program in Ward 2 focused on high traffic areas and ways to improve the aesthetics with art, beautification, and creative ways to improve the aesthetics of the pollinators on or before October 21, 2024. The motion was seconded by Council Member Waterman. After discussion, the motion was modified with agreement from Council Member Meyer and Council Member Waterman for the City Manager to prepare a report for a pilot program in Ward 2 with regard to pollinator aesthetics and enhancements. The modified motion was approved by voice vote with only Mayor Buffaloe voting no.

The Council and staff continued to discuss various topics to include a report regarding a potential change to the council meeting start times and/or meeting days, the need for better community engagement processes to improve trust with citizens beyond the community connectors program, BeHeard, etc., the need for a conversation about how to make Columbia's transit system a more robust system, everyone educating themselves and exercising their right to vote tomorrow, the ability to do solid waste ride-a-longs, looking forward to receiving and acting on the transit and housing studies, appreciation for the person handling manual recycling duties by himself in Ward 5 on July 31, understanding the frustration and disappointment with the lack of progress on water utility projects as that was shared by many on the City Council, the need to share progress and delays on projects with the public, the fact the City has increased social services funding over the last two years, the benefit of assisting when frustrated by volunteering, participating in meetings when solutions are being discussed, supporting changes, advocating at the state level, etc., the narrative in the budget as it described things that were being done by the City, an update on some water utility capital projects, and the use of BeHeard by the public to ask questions and make comments regarding the budget.

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 10:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheela Amin  
City Clerk