

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COMMITTEE MEETING OF
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY,
FEBURARY 11, 2019 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ebersohl called the Committee of the Whole committee meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:00 P.M.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Committee Members - Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Reis, and Holtkamp. Mayor Hutchinson was also present.

Alderman Huch arrived at 7:35 P.M.

Absent: Aldermen Roessler and Martens.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator James Morani, City Attorney Terry Bruckert, City Clerk and Director of EMA Wes Hoeffken, EMS Chief Kim Lamprecht, Director of Community Development Scott Dunakey, Accounting Manager and Acting City Treasurer Linda Sharp, Deputy Chief of Police Jason Donjon, and Deputy Clerk Kelly Mathews.

Guests: Jerry Burke, Paul Galeski, Cindy Huseman, Bruce Freeland, Kris Brower, and Pat McDermott.

Chairman Ebersohl stated the meeting was called for the purpose of discussing: (1) Approval of Minutes from the January 28, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting; (2) Business Licenses and Regulations; (3) Business Enterprise Program Participation and Utilization Plan; (4) FY 2018-2019 Revenue Projections; (5) Other Items to be Considered; (6) Public Comments; and (8) Executive Session – 5 ILCS 120/2(c).

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 28, 2019 COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE MEETING**

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Reis to approve the minutes as amended of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois held Monday, January 28, 2019. Upon roll call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Reis, and Holtkamp voted yea. **MOTION
CARRIED.**

III. BUSINESS LICENSES AND REGULATIONS

City Administrator James Morani presented the Committee a memo proposing an amendment to the business licenses fee schedule that replaces “Restaurants” with “Eating and Drinking Establishments” to expand on the definition of “Restaurant.” There will be no change in fee, changing the definition will result in consistency with the zoning code.

Alderman Reis questioned the code having several different definitions of “Restaurant.” City Attorney Terry Bruckert stated he will discuss further with Mr. Morani and consider a revision if necessary.

It was the consensus of the Committee to move forward with the proposed amendment to the code. Mr. Morani will revise, if necessary, and bring it to the Council next meeting.

City Attorney Terry Bruckert explained in the Columbia Liquor Code and the State Liquor Code it states that it is unlawful for any restaurant licensed to sell alcohol to sell alcohol except with meals. Mr. Bruckert contacted the legal counsel for the Illinois Liquor Control Commission for clarification. The State told Mr. Bruckert that they do not enforce this provision and defer to the local authority. Therefore, Mr. Bruckert and city staff recommend removing this from the code since the State does not enforce it and it is impractical for the City to enforce it.

Mr. Morani explained the City plans to codify the municipal code in Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

IV. BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AND UTILIZATION PLAN

City Administrator James Morani presented the Committee a section of the state statute that refers to the business enterprise program. The Business Enterprise program is a state program that encourages increased participation of minority, women, and persons with disabilities owned businesses in public contracts. Until recently, there was not a blanket requirement that all municipalities receiving grants up to a certain dollar amount comply with this. The City has previously used this program due to IDOT projects, but the state administered the program. The definition was expanded to apply to any unit of local government that receives a grant over \$250,000. This affects the City with grants such as the OSLAD grant. City Engineer Chris Smith will ensure contractors are aware of this program and it will be in the bid packet for the project.

Alderman Huch questioned the program being repealed in 2020. Mr. Morani explained there appears to be a sunset law clause in the statute; he expects it will be extended.

V. FY 2018-2019 REVENUE PROJECTIONS

Ms. Sharp presented the fiscal year 2017-2018 Budget Revenue Review to the Committee. She made the following remarks for the General Fund, the MFT Fund, and the Capital Development Fund:

1. The sales tax will be under budget by approximately \$12,000 by the end of the fiscal year.
2. The income tax receipts \$36,000 over budget. Ms. Sharp uses IML projections when creating the budget. IML projected \$92.40 per resident, and then changed the projection to \$97.70 per resident.
3. The use tax receipts come in at 24% higher than the actual receipts from last year. This will make the use tax over the original projection by \$39,000.
4. Charter Communications and Cable TV Franchise Receipts are expected to be over budget by \$3,000. This increase is similar to fiscal year 2017-2018.
5. Ms. Sharp expects the utility taxes to over budget by \$80,000. The City receives \$11,812.50 as part of the Ameren Electric Buyout, which goes into this fund.
6. The Motor Fuel Tax receipts are expected to be over budget by approximately \$8,000. The IML revised their estimate for Motor Fuel Tax receipts upward.
7. The City has collected 74% of budgeted revenue through January, which is down 3% than last year. The City did not receive income tax in a timely manner from Monroe County. Monroe County owes the City \$180,000, but Ms. Sharp expects the County to pay the City by May 1.
8. The interest income was budgeted for \$9,000 and at the end of January it is at \$36,000. Ms. Sharp transferred money to Reliance Bank, which offers over 2% interest rate compared to 0.3% interest at the previous bank.
9. Ambulance revenue receipts are at 77% of budget and expenses at 75% of budget. Last year revenue receipts were 57% of budget and expenses were 57% of budget. The City hasn't received distribution from Monroe County from property taxes. Monroe County gives the City money in lieu of levying taxes. We expect to get \$190,000 from Monroe County. The ambulance fees are \$20,000 over budget and general fund transfers under budget by \$23,000. This will put the ambulance close to budget.

The Committee thanked Ms. Sharp for her presentation.

VI. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED

1. Director of Community Development Scott Dunakey updated the Committee on temporary structures. Sunset Overlook contacted Traube Tent to remove their outside tent by the March 1st deadline, but due to prior commitments, Traube Tent is unable to remove the tent until March 8. Sunset Overlook has canceled their live music events after February 28. Mr. Dunakey has also been working with Sunset Overlook with other compliance issues. Ameren will replace the light fixture in the parking lot to a shielded light fixture within seven (7) to ten (10) business days. Also, the light on

the rear of the building will need to be replaced by April 1; Sunset Overlook agreed to keep the light off until they replace it.

2. City Clerk and Director of EMA Wes Hoeffken proposed to the Committee to schedule an evening to complete National Incident Management System (NIMS) training. The training would include course NIMS 100 and course NIMS 700.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Resident Jerry Burke presented the Committee with his concern regarding water coming out of the street at 343 Bradington Drive. The water started coming out of the street December 31, 2018. He called DOPW and they were closed, he then called the police department and they dispatched DOPW. A DOPW worker tested the water and discovered it was ground water and there were no water main breaks. Mr. Burke is concerned the water will eventually cause the street to collapse. City Administrator James Morani will consult with City Engineer Chris Smith about this issue.

Resident Paul Galeski addressed the Committee questioning tents and live music being allowed in C-1 zoning. Mr. Morani explained that due to pending litigation, the Committee will not publicly comment on this question. Mr. Galeski also questioned the difference between a restaurant that serves alcohol and a tavern, pub, or lounge. Mr. Bruckert responded the City could not comment on this due to pending litigation.

Resident Kris Brower expressed her concern regarding zoning issues with the City.

Resident Cindy Huseman addressed the Committee questioning which light Sunset Overlook was going to fix. Mr. Dunakey explained it was the dusk-to-dawn light in the rear of the building.

Resident Bruce Freeland addressed the Committee questioning speakers mounted on the rear of the Sunset Overlook building. Mr. Freeland was under the impression the speakers were supposed to be removed. Mr. Morani explained the City has made visits to the property and were told the speakers are not currently being used.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)

Chairman Ebersohl inquired if there was a need to go into Executive Session. There was none.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Reis to adjourn the Committee of the Whole committee meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois held Monday, February 11, 2019 at 7:50 P.M. Upon voice vote, Chairman

Committee of the Whole Meeting – February 11, 2019

Business Licenses and Regulations – 3 pages

Business Enterprise Program Participation and Utilization Plan – 8 pages

FY 2018-2019 Revenue Projections – 9 pages

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Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Huch, Reis and Holtkamp voted yea.
MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by:

Gene Ebersohl

Chairman Gene Ebersohl
Committee of the Whole

Kelly Mathews

Kelly Mathews, Deputy Clerk