

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2018 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY
HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ebersohl called the Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole committee meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 8:05 P.M.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

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

Absent: Alderman Hutch.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator James Morani, City Engineer Chris Smith, Director of Community Development Scott Dunakey, Building Official Justin Osterhage, and Deputy Clerk Donna Mehaffey.

Guests Present: Mr. Frederick Keck of Weilmuenster & Keck, P.C.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and (2)

Chairman Ebersohl stated the Executive Session was called to discuss personnel and collective bargaining as permitted under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and (2).

III. PERSONNEL - ZONING HEARING OFFICER

Mr. Fred Keck appeared before the Committee as a candidate for Zoning Hearing Officer for the City of Columbia. A three-page letter from Mr. Keck outlining his credentials with references was distributed to the Committee. Mr. Keck owns his own law firm in Belleville and has been a lawyer since 2001. He has known City Attorney Terry Bruckert for many years and has no conflicts with the citizens of Columbia. His hourly rate is \$160. Columbia's Zoning hearings dates would fit his schedule. Mr. Keck is very familiar with what he will need to do as a Zoning Hearing Officer and each application has to be reviewed on a case by case basis. Mr. Keck said he will do what the Zoning Code requires and will not be political. Mr. Keck is also very neutral and he does not know many people in Columbia. Mr. Keck said the direction of the City of Columbia having a Zoning Hearing Officer is the right decision and added how difficult it is to have City residents serve on boards.

Mr. Keck left the meeting at 8:15 P.M.

It was the consensus of the Committee to move forward with the appointment of Mr. Fred Keck as the Zoning Hearing Officer for the City of Columbia.

IV. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

City Administrator James Morani provided an update on collective bargaining for the Department of Public Works (DOPW). Mr. Morani said he spoke to Mr. Jason Chism, the union representative, and he is hopeful that the DOPW will accept the City's proposal based on his comments to Mr. Morani. Labor Attorney, Mr. Corey Franklin, is working on a red-line version of the contract that will be sent to Mr. Chism in the form of a final offer so it will be voted up or down soon.

V.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Reis and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to adjourn the Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole committee meeting of Monday, October 22, 2018 at 8:32 P.M. Upon voice vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Minutes Taken By:

Gene Ebersohl
GENE EBERSOHL, Chairman
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Donna Mehafey
DONNA MEHAFFEY, Deputy Clerk