

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY  
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY,  
MARCH 31, 2014 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Ebersohl called the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:02 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp and Mayor Hutchinson.

Absent: Alderman Agne.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, City Engineer Ron Williams (left at 9:21 p.m.), Assistant City Engineer Tim Ahrens (left at 9:00 p.m.), Director of Community and Economic Development Paul Ellis (left at 8:50 p.m.), Chief of Police and EMS Director Joe Edwards, Deputy Chief of Police Jerry Paul (left at 9:21 p.m.), Interim EMS Chief Shannon Bound (left at 9:21 p.m.), Head Librarian Britta Krabill (left at 7:10 p.m.), Accounting Manager Linda Sharp (left at 9:21 p.m.) and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandra Garmer.

Guests Present: Columbia EMS employees Tim May, Darin Hartman and Kevin Mennel (all left at 9:21 p.m.).

Chairman Ebersohl stated the meeting was called for the purpose of (1) receiving a presentation on financial information and discussing the city's FY 2014 – 2015 Budget; and (2) any other items to be considered or discussed.

**II. FINANCIAL INFORMATION PRESENTATION AND FY 2014 – 2015 BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Chairman Ebersohl opened the meeting and called upon City Administrator Al Hudzik to address the Committee/Council Members on this issue. Hudzik updated the Committee Members on the status of the budgetary process and indicated quite a bit of work still needs to be done – he also informed them that the city's Department Heads would be making presentations on the capital items included in their budgets, as well as other budgetary items they wish to address. He then asked that Head Librarian Britta Krabill address the Committee Members on the Library's Budget – Britta touched briefly on the amount of increases incorporated in the Library's budgetary figures for general operations and then reviewed all capital items listed (for the Library) on the worksheet

Committee of the Whole Meeting  
March 31, 2014

Memo from Accounting Manager Linda Sharp re: Capital Equipment and Capital Projects for Draft Budget (6 pages)

Memo from Accounting Manager Linda Sharp re: Analysis of Receipts – General Fund & Receipts and Disbursements – Ambulance Fund (4 pages)

entitled “City of Columbia, Illinois – Capital Equipment and Capital Projects for the Fiscal Year 2014/2015” (which had previously been distributed to the Committee Members) on an item by item basis and presented the justification for each of those items. City Administrator Hudzik (with comments from City Accounting Manager Linda Sharp) then reviewed the worksheet entitled “City of Columbia, Illinois – General Fund – FY 2013 – 2014 Receipts Analysis” (which had previously been distributed to the Committee Members) and commented on several of the receipts shown thereon – he indicated the projected receipts to be listed in the FY 2014 – 2015 budget would be based on the FY 2013 – 2014 receipts totals, and that they would be presented at the next Committee Meeting. Hudzik then indicated presentations would continue by the Department Heads, including their review of the items appearing on the “Capital Equipment and Capital Projects” worksheet pertaining to their respective departments (and giving their justification for those items reviewed): (i) EMS Chief Shannon Bound began by reviewing the Ambulance Worksheet (2 pages) of Receipts vs. Disbursement – FY 2013 – 2014 (previously distributed to the Committee Members) and touched upon various reasons for the reduction in billing receipts (discussion also occurred about city staff compiling a database of St. Clair County residents (living outside the city limits) eligible to receive city ambulance services (due to their being within the Columbia Fire Protection District boundaries) in an effort to request funds from St. Clair County for providing EMS services to those residents); Bound also informed the Committee Members she planned to advertise for additional Paid Volunteers due to several resignations and in a continued effort to provide more staffing to keep two (2) ambulances in service more of the time. Shannon (with assistance from Paramedic Darin Hartman) then reviewed the EMS Department’s capital items listed on the capital item worksheet; (ii) Community and Economic Development Director Paul Ellis reviewed several items listed in the General Fund and the TIF District Fund sections; (iii) City Engineer Ron Williams then reviewed his various departmental items as well as some of the items listed in the General Corporate Fund; (iv) Chief of Police Joe Edwards then reviewed the items listed in the Police Department and Control Room sections; and (v) Accounting Manager Sharp (along with City Administrator Hudzik) touched briefly upon the remainder of the items in the General Fund portion of the listing. During the various presentations, all in attendance were able to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions pertaining to the items discussed. City Administrator Hudzik stated that another Committee Meeting to discuss budgetary issues would be scheduled immediately following the April 7<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

### **III. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Ebersohl entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to receive an update on and discuss collective bargaining negotiations and employee wages.

#### **MOTION – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

It was moved by Alderman Roessler and seconded by Alderman Reis to go into Executive Session at 9:21 p.m. to receive an update on and discuss collective bargaining negotiations and employee wages. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and

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Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp voted yea.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION – REGULAR SESSION**

It was moved by Alderman Holtkamp and seconded by Alderman Niemietz to return to the Regular Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 9:30 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Upon return to the Regular Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting, Mayor Hutchinson and the following Committee Members were present: Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp.

Chairman Ebersohl asked if there was any action to be taken as a result of the Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting. There was none.

**IV. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED**

None.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**


**MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Roessler and seconded by Alderman Reis to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois held Monday, March 31, 2014 at 9:32 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**



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GENE EBERSOHL, Chairman  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes taken by:



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SANDRA GARMER, Accounting/Clerical Assistant