

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,  
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2007 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL

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I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hutchinson called the City Council of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:00 PM.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch.

Absent: None.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Clerk Wes Hoeffken, City Attorney Tom Adams, City Administrator Anthony Traxler, Chief of Police Joe Edwards, City Engineer Ron Williams, Building Inspector Al Holden, Fire Marshall Mike Roediger, Director of Community and Economic Development Mike Hemmer, and Director of EMS Ken Buss.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, February 19, 2007 were submitted for approval.

Corrections were forwarded to Mr. Hoeffken. Alderman Unnerstall requested corrections specific to the discussion on Eminent Domain. The corrections were not allowed.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, February 19, 2007, as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Unnerstall voted nay. Motion Carried.

III. **DELEGATIONS**

A. Columbia Bath and Tennis - Linda Archer

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to approve the request of the Columbia Bath and Tennis Club and allow the road in front of the pool to be closed for their swim event to be held July 18<sup>th</sup> - July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007, and to require the Club to coordinate the event with the Columbia Department of Public Works, the City Clerk's Office, and the Columbia Police Department. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

B. Columbia Crossing

There were no delegations present.

IV. **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

A. City Engineer

The report of the City Engineer was presented to the Council.

1. Reliable Sanitation Annual Rate Increase

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Row, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to approve the \$0.35 increase in the refuse collection rate per household as permitted by the current contract between the City of Columbia, Illinois and Reliable Sanitation. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to accept the report of the City Engineer as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

B. Community and Economic Development

The report of the Director of Community and Economic Development was presented to the Council.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to accept the report of the Director of Community and Economic Development as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

C. Administration Department

The report of the City Administrator was presented to the Council.

1. Ordinance No. 2533 - Amend Salary Ordinance

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to pass Ordinance No. 2533, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2459 which established the salary/remuneration of employees of the City of Columbia, Illinois for the fiscal year of the City commencing May 1, 2006 and ending April 30, 2007. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

2. Employee Memorial Policy

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to approve the Employee Memorial Policy that provides for the donation of a \$25.00 memorial of the employee's choice for the deceased family member with family member being defined as spouse, child, parent, sibling, or corresponding in-law or step relation. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Row, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to accept the report of the Administration Department as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

D. Building Department

The monthly report of the Building Department was presented to the Council.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to accept the report of the Building Department as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

E. Plan Commission

The report of the Plan Commission was presented to the Council.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Row, to accept the report of the Plan Commission as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

F. City Attorney

1. Resolution No. 08-2006 - Hill Lake Creek Bridge Reconstruction

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to pass Resolution No. 08-2006, a resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of Columbia, Illinois to apply for a Utility Permit from the Illinois Department of Transportation for the relocation of an existing City water main located within the State of Illinois right-of-way of Old Illinois Route No. 3, which water main relocation is required in connection with the State of Illinois Department of Transportation reconstruction of the Hill Lake Creek Bridge located in said State Highway right-of-way. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

2. Ordinance No. 2534 - Amend Nuisance Ordinance

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to pass Ordinance No. 2534, an ordinance amending the Nuisance Ordinance of the City of Columbia, Illinois to include as a specific nuisance the installation of exterior lighting sources that direct light beams onto neighboring property. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Conrad, to accept the report of the City Attorney as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

V. CLAIMS & ACCOUNTS

A. Vouchers

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to authorize the payment of vouchers received through March 1, 2007; the total amount of the vouchers to be paid is three hundred twenty-seven thousand, nine hundred eleven dollars, and fifty-eight cents (\$327,911.58). Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business brought before the Council.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business brought before the Council.

## **VIII. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **A. Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee**

Minutes of the Ordinance, Planning, and Zoning Committee meeting held Monday, February 26, 2007 were presented to the Council for approval.

#### **1. Hotel/Motel Tax**

##### **MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Conrad, to accept the recommendation of the Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee to authorize Mr. Hemmer to extend the Hotel/Motel Tax incentive for the proposed hotel from five years to seven years. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Unnerstall voted nay. Motion Carried.

##### **MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to approve the minutes of the Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee meeting held Monday, February 26, 2007 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Niemietz abstained since she was not present for the Committee meeting. Motion Carried.

### **B. Streets, Sidewalks, Drainage, and Utilities Committee**

Minutes of the Streets, Sidewalks, Drainage, and Utilities Committee meeting held Monday, February 26, 2007 were presented to the Council for approval.

#### **1. Juneau Associates Assessment Fee**

##### **MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Row, to table any action on the Juneau Associates, Inc. Roadway Improvement assessment fees until City staff can further research the matter with the City Attorney. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

##### **MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Row, to approve the minutes of the Streets, Sidewalks, Drainage, and Utilities Committee meeting held Monday, February 26, 2007 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Niemietz abstained since she was not present for the Committee meeting. Motion Carried.

### **C. Personnel**

Minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting and the Executive Session of the Personnel Committee held Monday, February 26, 2007 were presented to the Council for approval.

##### **MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the Personnel Committee meeting held Monday, February 26, 2007 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Niemietz abstained since she was not present for the Committee meeting. Motion Carried.

##### **MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to approve the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held Monday, February

26, 2007 as amended and on file at City Hall. Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Niemietz abstained since she was not present for the Committee meeting. Motion Carried.

**IX. CALL FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Monday, March 12, 2007  
7:00 PM - Committee of the Whole

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Hutchinson informed the Council that he would entertain a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel, litigation, and land acquisition.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to direct the Mayor to go into Executive Session at 8:02 PM for the purpose of discussing personnel, litigation, and land acquisition. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to return to the Regular Session of the City Council at 9:32 PM. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

Upon return to Regular Session, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch and Mayor Hutchinson were present.

Mayor Hutchinson inquired if there was any business to be brought before the Council as a result of the Executive Session.

**A. DOPW Superintendent & EMT-P**

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to authorize the City Administrator to advertise for the full time position of DOPW Superintendent and EMT Paramedic. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

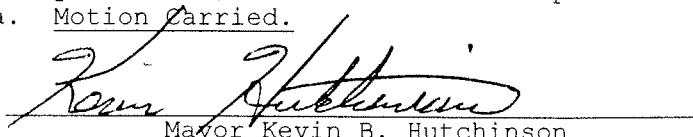
**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting held Monday, March 5, 2007 at 9:34 PM. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.



Wesley J. Hoeffken, City Clerk



Kevin B. Hutchinson  
Mayor Kevin B. Hutchinson