

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2006 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL

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 Treasurer Bob Naumann, City Attorney Tom Adams, City Auditor Gene Schorb, City Administrator Anthony Traxler, Chief of Police Joe Edwards, Fire Chief Mike Roediger, City Engineer Ron Williams, Building Inspector Al Holden, and Director of Community and Economic Development Mike Hemmer.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, December 4, 2006 were submitted for approval.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, December 4, 2006, as submitted and on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, December 4, 2006 were submitted for approval.

Corrections were forwarded to Mr. Hoeffken.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Row, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, December 4, 2006, as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

III. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations present.

IV. REPORT OF OFFICERS

A. Police Department

The report of the Chief of Police was presented to the Council

MOTION:

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

B. Ambulance Director

The monthly report of the Director of the Columbia Emergency Medical Service was presented to the Council.

MOTION:

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

C. Fire Department

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

MOTION:

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

D. Plan Commission

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

MOTION:

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

E. Community and Economic Development

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

1. Resolution No. 05-2006 - Columbia Crossing Feasibility Study

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Huch, to pass Resolution No. 05-2006, a resolution providing for a Feasibility Study on the designation of a portion of the City of Columbia as a Redevelopment Project Area and to induce development interest within such area. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Aldermen Unnerstall and Row voted nay. Motion Carried.

2. Ordinance No. 2519 - Columbia Centre Sign Variance

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to pass Ordinance No. 2519, an ordinance granting a Sign Variance to Columbia Centre, Inc. of Columbia, Illinois to allow and maintain an existing Shopping Center Identification Sign which exceeds the height and the sign area allowance prescribed by the City's Sign Code. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Niemietz, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Aldermen Agne and Unnerstall voted nay. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

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

F. Administration Department

1. Ordinance No 2520 - (REJIS) Service Agreement

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to pass Ordinance No. 2520, an ordinance approving a Service Agreement between the City of Columbia, Illinois and the Regional Justice Information Services (REJIS) for information technology support. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

2. Brush Clamp (Grapple) Purchase Request

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Row, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to approve the purchase of a brush clamp at a cost of \$9,690.00. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

3. Temporary Structure Business License Request - Dennis Vasquez

There was a discussion by the Council regarding the existing temporary building at 122 N. Main Street. Mayor Hutchinson stated that if the request is approved, he would like to see a clause that would require the building be moved at the owner's expense if the business does not continue. Alderman Niemietz stated that there should also be a time frame for Mr. Vasquez to get the business up and running. Alderman Conrad stated that the structure needs to be inspected by the health department to insure it is operable as a coffee shop. Alderman Koesterer stated that this should be sent to Committee to review the full impact of permitting this type of building on Main Street.

MOTION:

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

G. City Attorney

1. Ordinance No. 2521 - Amend Residential Real Property Maintenance Code

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to pass Ordinance No. 2521, an ordinance amending the Residential Real Property Maintenance Code of the City of Columbia, Illinois to include the City's Building Inspector and Police Officers of the City Police Department as Code Enforcement Officers. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

2. Brellinger Second Addition Subdivision Plat

Mr. Adams informed the Council that there have been some changes made to the Brellinger Second Addition Subdivision plat resulting in changes to the size of some of the lots and wanted to inform the Council before officially bringing the plat to the Council for review and approval. Mr. Adams then explained that the change in lot sizes

still leaves them all larger than is required for an R-2 district. Mr. Adams also explained that the developers, upon the approval of then City Consulting Engineer, Ken Vaughn, constructed the water retention area on common ground that was designated as a protected area by the Illinois Historical Preservation Agency and eliminated the need to locate the retention area on a private homeowner's property. Mr. Williams informed the Council that he would be reviewing the revised plat before the next Council meeting.

MOTION:

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

H. City Clerk

Mr. Hoeffken presented his report to the Council.

1. Report of Collections

The Report of Collections for the period commencing October 26, 2006 and ending November 25, 2006 was presented to the Council.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to approve the Report of Collections for the period commencing October 26, 2006 and ending November 25, 2006, as submitted and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Hutchinson informed the Council that there was no need for an Executive Session.

VI. CLAIMS & ACCOUNTS

A. Vouchers

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to authorize the payment of vouchers received through December 13, 2006; the total amount of the vouchers to be paid is two hundred seventy-three thousand, eighty-eight dollars, and twenty-three cents (\$273,088.23). Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

B. Statement of Funds

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

1. Ordinance No. 2522 - Tax Levy

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Huch, to pass Ordinance No. 2552, an ordinance levying the taxes for the Fiscal Year ending April 30, 2007. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Alderman Unnerstall voted nay. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

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

VII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business brought before the Council.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business brought before the Council.

IX. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

There were no Standing Committee meetings.

X. CALL FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Monday, January 15, 2007

8:00 PM - Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning

8:05 PM - Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreation

XI. ADJOURNMENT

1. Columbia Crossing Development

Cindy Meyer of 1430 Mule Road, Tara Meyer of 134 Skyline Drive, and Porsha Oberkfell of 11 Christina Court addressed the Council regarding the Columbia Crossing Development. All three residents expressed concern about the impact this development would have on the lifestyle of Columbia residents.

Mayor Hutchinson stated that the proposed development has not been a secret and that several newspapers and television stations have provided stories about the development.

Mr. Lester Schneider of 1 Oerter Lane explained the revenue sources for a municipality and stressed the importance of this development toward reducing the tax burden for the citizens of Columbia.

The Council acknowledged the comments of the residents and reminded everyone that the meetings of the City Council are open to the public and that minutes are available at City Hall and on the City's web site.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting held Monday, December 18, 2006 at 8:45 PM. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

Wesley J. Hoeffken, City Clerk

Mayor Kevin B. Hutchinson