

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,  
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2006 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 Treasurer Bob Naumann, City Attorney Tom Adams, City Administrator Anthony Traxler, Chief of Police Joe Edwards, Fire Chief Mike Roediger, Engineering Consultant Ken Vaughn, City Auditors Gene Schorb and Jim Schmersahl, Director of Community and Economic Development Mike Hemmer, and Info. Syst. Mgr. Fred Devenport.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, April 3, 2006 were submitted for approval.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, April 3, 2006, as submitted and on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Aldermen Conrad and Huch abstained since they were not present for the Executive Session. Motion Carried.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, April 3, 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, April 3, 2006, as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Aldermen Conrad and Huch abstained since they were not present for the meeting. 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 Huch, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, 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 Huch, to accept the report of the Ambulance Director as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

C. Administration Department

1. Transfer of Funds

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to authorize the City Treasurer to transfer \$56,895.79 from the General Obligation Improvement Fund to the Ambulance Fund closing the General Obligation Improvement Bond Fund. 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 Huch, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to authorize the City Treasurer to transfer \$55,000.00 from the General Obligation Fund to the Ambulance Fund. 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 Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to authorize the City Treasurer to transfer \$21,590.36 from the Water and Sewer Sinking Fund to the Water and Sewer Bond Reserve Fund. 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 Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to authorize the City Treasurer to transfer \$25,000.00 from the MEMJAWA account to the Water Operations Fund. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

2. Ordinance No. 2457 - Budget Ordinance - FY 2006 - 2007

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Row, to pass Ordinance No. 2457, an ordinance establishing the budget for the City of Columbia, Illinois for the fiscal year commencing May 1, 2006 and ending April 30, 2007. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Alderman Conrad abstained since he was not involved in the budget process. Motion Carried.

3. Employee Contracts

Mr. Traxler stated that this issue would be discussed in Executive Session.

4. Salary/Remuneration Ordinance

Alderman Niemietz stated that there are some discrepancies with the ordinance and she would like to discuss them in Executive Session.

5. Appointed Officials Ordinance

Mayor Hutchinson deferred action on this ordinance until the other salary issues were addressed.

6. Ordinance No. 2458 - Appointed Boards

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to pass Ordinance No. 2458, an ordinance providing for the appointment of members of certain Boards and Commissions of the City of Columbia, Illinois of the City of Columbia, Illinois for the fiscal year commencing May 1, 2006 and ending April 30, 2007.

Alderman Niemietz inquired about some of the vacancies for some of the Boards. Mayor Hutchinson stated that he was still confirming appointments for those vacancies. Alderman Niemietz inquired if this ordinance could be deferred until those vacancies are filled.

Alderman Agne withdrew his first and Alderman Unnerstall withdrew his second.

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 Ebersohl, to accept the report of the Plan Commission as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

E. City Attorney

1. Motion to Reconsider Opinion

Mr. Adams informed the Council that he had distributed his research on motions to reconsider.

MOTION:

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

F. City Engineer

The monthly report of the City Engineering Consultant was presented to the Council.

1. Accept Bids - Illinois Rt. 3 Frontage Roads

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to accept the recommendation of the City Engineering Consultant and accept the low bid of \$287,931.15 submitted by Illinois Excavators for the Illinois Rt. 3 Frontage Road project. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

2. Assistant Engineer

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to authorize the City Engineering Consultant to advertise for applications for an Assistant City Engineer. 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 Agne, to accept the report of the City Engineering Consultant as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

**V. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Hutchinson presented his report to the Council.

**VI. CLAIMS & ACCOUNTS**

A. Statement of Funds

The City Auditor presented his report for the month of March 2006 to the Council.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to approve the Report of the City Auditor as submitted and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

B. Vouchers

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to authorize the payment of vouchers received through April 13, 2006; the total amount of the vouchers to be paid is two hundred eighty-two thousand, two hundred seven dollars, and three cents (\$282,207.03). Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Columbia Crossings Subdivision

Mayor Hutchinson informed the Council that Mr. Grewe is currently working on Exhibit "H" and the City is trying to set a meeting with Mr. Grewe to discuss. Mayor Hutchinson then stated that Mr. Grewe has requested that the City authorize the next work order which would allow Mr. Brancaglione to proceed with the next phase of the project. Mayor Hutchinson stated that the Council should not authorize the next work order until Exhibit "H" is complete.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

A. MDA Walk N' Roll

Alderman explained the rules for determining resident versus non-resident rates for the park. Mayor Hutchinson stated that there is a direct link to the City and that a Columbia youth was the MDA poster child a few years ago.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to approve the Bolm-Schuhkraft Park Pavilion reservation for the MDA Walk n' Roll at the resident rate of \$16.00. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

B. Columbia School Picnic and Parade

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Row, to approve the request of the Columbia PTA to hold the annual School Picnic and Parade as requested and on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

C. Pine Creek Preliminary Plat Extension Request

Alderman Unnerstall inquired as to how long of an extension is required. Mr. Thompson stated that there was only 60 days left on the current timeline and wants to insure there is enough time to resolve all of the outstanding issues. Alderman Unnerstall stated that he did not just want to give Mr. Thompson an open-ended timeline. Alderman Conrad suggested a 6-month extension. Alderman Unnerstall inquired if the City Engineering Consultant is comfortable with the current dam situation. Mr. Vaughn stated that the dam has never been reviewed, but it has been there a long time. Alderman Koesterer stated that Gene Henckler is currently reviewing all dams within the County as part of Homeland Security. Alderman Conrad stated that this is not a dam, just a railroad right-of-way with two huge drain pipes. Alderman Unnerstall inquired if the City should require an engineering study. Mr. Vaughn stated there was an analysis performed as part of the FEMA Flood Maps, but not for structural integrity, but based on historical performance, there are no concerns.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to approve the request to grant an extension of time for the Pine Creek preliminary plat for 6 months from the current deadline. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

D. Temporary Banner Request

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to approve the Temporary Banner Request for the Kiwanis Club of Columbia, Illinois as submitted and on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Alderman Huch abstained since he is a member of the Kiwanis Club. Motion Carried.

**IX. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee

Minutes of the Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee meeting held Monday, March 27, 2006 were presented to the Council for approval.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to approve the minutes of the Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee meeting held Monday, March 27, 2006 as submitted and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

Minutes of the Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee meeting held Monday, April 10, 2006 were presented to the Council for approval.

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, April 10, 2006 as submitted and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

B. Finance, Claims, Bonds, and Interest Committee

Minutes of the Finance, Claims, Bonds, and Interest Committee meeting held Monday, April 10, 2006 were presented to the Council for approval.

Corrections were forwarded to the City Administrator.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to approve the minutes of the Finance, Claims, Bonds, and Interest Committee meeting held Monday, April 10, 2006 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

C. Personnel Committee

Minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting and the Executive Session of the Personnel Committee held Monday, April 10, 2006 were presented to the Council for approval.

Corrections were forwarded to the City Administrator.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the Personnel Committee meeting held Monday, April 10, 2006 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to approve the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held Monday, April 10, 2006 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

D. Committee of the Whole

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held Monday, April 10, 2006 were presented to the Council for approval.

1. ATM Structure

Alderman Conrad stated that the building plans were included with the building permit application, but did not include the graphics and the bank will need a variance for the signage.

It was agreed by the Council that the application fee for the construction material variance would not be waived since the bank should have submitted an application for a construction material variance anyway.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to approve the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held Monday, April 10, 2006 as submitted and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

**X. CALL FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Monday, April 24, 2006

7:00 PM - Streets, Sidewalks, and Drainage

7:05 PM - Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreation

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Row, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to direct the Mayor to go into Executive Session at 8:32 PM for the purpose of discussing personnel 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 Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to return to the Regular Session of the City Council at 9:50 PM. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

Upon return to the 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. There was none.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting held Monday, April 17, 2006 at 9:51 PM. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

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Wesley J. Hoeffken, City Clerk

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Mayor Kevin Hutchinson