

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY,
JANUARY 25, 2010 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

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 7:00 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Aldermen Ebersohl, Agne, Row, Hejna, Stumpf and Roessler.

Absent: Aldermen Niemietz and Oberkfell and Mayor Hutchinson.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, Building Inspector Al Holden, Director of Community & Economic Development Paul Ellis, Accounting Manager Linda Sharp, Fire Chief Mike Roediger and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandy Garmer.

Guests Present: George Obernagel, Chair for the Monroe County Economic Development Council (MCEDC) and Nora Feuquay, University of Illinois Extension Community and Economic Development Educator for Monroe County.

Chairman Ebersohl stated the purpose of the meeting was (1) to receive a presentation by the Monroe County Economic Development Council (MCEDC); and (2) for any other items to be considered or discussed.

**II. MONROE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (MCEDC)
PRESENTATION**

Alderman Ebersohl asked Director of Community & Economic Development Paul Ellis to open the meeting. Paul made introductory remarks (see III – Other Items to be Considered or Discussed) and introduced George Obernagel and Nora Feuquay to make the MCEDC presentation – he then distributed documents entitled “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Recovery Zone (Bonds)”, “Financing Opportunity Alert – Recovery Zone Facility Bonds”, “Public Finance Bulletin (February 2009)” and a flyer to a local event (arranged by the MCEDC) on February 8, 2010, at the Falls Conference Center, presented by Jack Schultz and entitled “The 7½ Keys to Big Success in Small Towns”. Nora briefly reviewed the ARRA Recovery Zone Bonds handouts, which review included the aggregate amount of each of these types of bonds Monroe County has been given authority to issue, and a description of projects that may be eligible for bonding approval – she informed the Committee Members that the applications are still being finalized at this time. She then updated the Committee Members on other items

MCEDC has implemented/is planning to implement, including a Revolving Loan Fund (\$40,000), a Business Retention Program (she invited all city officials to participate by volunteering to be on one of the business retention teams), and the February 8, 2010 presentation by Jack Schultz at the Falls Conference Center. George Obernagel then addressed the Committee and asked that the city give consideration to a contribution of financial support for the MCEDC in the amount of \$1.00/resident. George informed the Committee that several other municipalities in the county (Waterloo, Maeystown and Valmeyer) had agreed to this contribution level, and Monroe County agreed to a contribution of \$10,000 – he said the funds would be used to support the overall operations, including equipment purchases, of the MCEDC. During the presentation several questions were asked of the MCEDC representatives (i) concerning the ARRA Recovery Zone Bonds, including a timeline for the applications to be submitted and for the bonds to be issued; and (ii) to clarify the use of the funds requested by MCEDC. The Committee thanked the MCEDC representatives for their presentation and indicated they would give consideration to their financial support request.

III. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED

Prior to introducing the MCEDC representatives Director of Community & Economic Development Paul Ellis informed the Committee that he recently attended the International Council of Shopping Centers (Heartland States Idea Exchange) Conference in Kansas City. He was encouraged by the response of several retailers/development brokers at the trade show, who expressed an interest in the potential of the Columbia/Monroe County area – he informed the Committee that he plans to provide additional information to the council in the near future (and share some of the leads he acquired with local realtors) – he also stated there are additional trade shows on his schedule. After the MCEDC presentation Paul was asked for an update on the Oak Street property lease agreements – he stated the current tenants have tentatively agreed to the lease rates previously discussed, and informed the Committee that another party has expressed an interest in leasing the vacant space in the building. Paul informed the Committee that he plans to bring all leases to the council in the near future.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Hejna and seconded by Alderman Agne to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia held Monday, January 25, 2010 at 7:28 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Row, Hejna, Stumpf and Roessler voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**



GENE EBERSOHL, Chairman
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes taken by:



SANDRA GARMER, Accounting/Clerical Assistant

**MINUTES OF THE REFUSE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS
HELD MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY
HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Candace Hejna called the Refuse Collection and Recycling Committee Meeting of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:28 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Hejna and Aldermen Ebersohl and Agne.

Absent: Alderman Niemietz.

Quorum Present.

Others Present: Aldermen Row, Stumpf and Roessler.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, Building Inspector Al Holden, Accounting Manager Linda Sharp, Fire Chief Mike Roediger and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandy Garmer.

Guests Present: None.

Chairman Hejna stated the meeting was called to discuss (1) the Leaf and Limb Pick-Up contracts; and (2) any other items to be considered or discussed.

II. LEAF AND LIMB PICK-UP CONTRACT DISCUSSION

Chairman Hejna stated the current contracts expired on December 31, 2009, and that she would entertain a motion to have City Engineer Ron Williams prepare bids for new contracts on a two (2) year basis.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl and seconded by Alderman Agne to recommend to the City Council that City Engineer Ron Williams prepare bids for the Leaf Removal and Limb Pick-Up contracts, each for a (2) year period. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Hejna and Aldermen Ebersohl and Agne voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.** A poll of the other Aldermen: Row, Stumpf and Roessler voted yea.

III. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED/MIXED

Alderman Ebersohl questioned if any progress had been made on commercial recycling by Reliable Sanitation. Chairman Hejna said she would check on this issue and report

back to the Committee. City Administrator Hudzik was questioned on the Skyline Drive/Blaylock turnaround situation and he updated the Committee on this issue.

IV. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED

None.

V. ADJOURNMENT

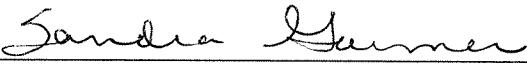
MOTION:

It was moved by Aldermen Ebersohl and seconded by Alderman Agne to adjourn the Refuse Collection and Recycling Committee Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois held Monday, January 25, 2010, at 7:35 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Hejna and Aldermen Ebersohl and Agne voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED**.



CANDACE HEJNA, Chairman
REFUSE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Minutes taken by:



SANDRA GARMER, Accounting/Clerical Assistant

**MINUTES OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY,
JANUARY 25, 2010 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ebersohl called the Fire Department Committee Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:35 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Stumpf and Roessler.

Absent: None.

Quorum Present.

Others Present: Aldermen Row and Hejna.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, Building Inspector (& CVFD Member) Al Holden, Accounting Manager Linda Sharp, Fire Chief Mike Roediger and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandy Garmer.

Guests Present: Columbia Rural Fire Protection District Trustees Earl Doerr, Scott Harres and Glenn Stumpf, and Columbia Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) members Francis Asselmeier, Cole Dreher and Rich Dreher.

Chairman Ebersohl stated the meeting was called to discuss (1) the appointment (vs. election) of the Fire Chief (volunteer/part-time position vs. full-time position); and (2) any other items to be considered or discussed.

**II. APPOINTMENT OF FIRE CHIEF DISCUSSION/OTHER ITEMS TO BE
CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED**

Chairman Ebersohl stated the purpose of the meeting was to open a dialogue on whether the Fire Chief's position should be an appointed one vs. elected by the members of the fire department – he indicated this was a preliminary meeting and did not anticipate a decision on this issue would be made. A discussion then took place during which many of the Committee/Council Members expressed their opinions on whether the Fire Chief should be appointed or elected; comments were also made about how Fire Chiefs in other local districts/departments hold their position (i.e., appointed vs. elected) – Fire Chief Roediger also made several comments during the discussion. During the discussion, the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association Consulting Service Report of 2006 (An Assessment of Staffing and Station Distribution – Columbia Fire Department, Columbia Rural Fire District and Columbia Emergency Medical Service) was referenced several times, including some of the recommendations made in the report. Fire Chief Roediger said

several of the report's recommendations had been implemented and that many had not due to various assumptions made in the report, that have not yet occurred, or budgetary constraints (e.g. building & equipping additional fire stations, manning the stations 24/7). The question of whether or not the city and rural fire districts should merge, as was discussed in the past, was brought up for discussion and consideration. Rural Fire Protection District President/Trustee Doerr reported on steps taken in the past pertaining to this issue and indicated the question of merging was dropped since the city and fire protection district could not come to agreement on several issues. Rural Fire Protection District Trustees Harres and Stumpf also made comments and indicated that the fire district is willing to again open a dialogue with the city to form a merged district – Trustee Doerr stated that the district's attorney said the city would have to initiate that process by asking to be annexed into the fire protection district. The discussion (including questions and answers) continued and encompassed cross-training of Fire Department Members/EMS Personnel, budgetary & taxation items and response time issues. At the end of the discussion it was the consensus of the Committee that Chairman Ebersohl contact Rural Fire Protection District President/Trustee Doerr to schedule a meeting to again discuss the possibility of merging into one fire district.

III. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Stumpf and seconded by Alderman Agne to adjourn the Fire Department Committee Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia held Monday, January 25, 2010, at 8:45 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Stumpf and Roessler voted yea. MOTION CARRIED.

Gene Ebersohl
GENE EBERSOHL, Chairman
FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes taken by:

Sandra Garner
SANDRA GARMER, Accounting/Clerical Assistant