City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Monday, March 19, 2018 7:00 PM	Regular	Council Chamber Columbia City Hall 701 E. Broadway

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

The City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri met for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 19, 2018, in the Council Chamber of the City of Columbia, Missouri. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the roll was taken with the following results: Council Members THOMAS, PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, and SKALA were present. The City Manager, City Counselor, City Clerk, and various Department Heads and staff members were also present.

The minutes of the regular meeting of February 19, 2018 were approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Mr. Skala and a second by Mr. Pitzer.

The agenda, including the consent agenda, was approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Mr. Skala and a second by Mr. Pitzer.

II. SPECIAL ITEMS

SI4-18 Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2017 Financial Audit.

Maria Oropallo explained she served on the City's Finance Advisory and Audit Committee (FAAC) and that the State of Missouri required an annual financial audit. She stated the City had a contract to conduct the annual audit with the firm of RSM US, LLP out of Kansas City, and believed they were in the seventh or eighth year of a contract with them. She commented that the auditing firm had rendered an opinion on the financial statement and had prepared a detailed letter of issues with recommendations for improvement to internal controls and accounting systems and procedures, which had been issued to the Finance Director and City Manager and incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). She noted the audit for October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017, and the independent auditor's letter of finding could be found on pages five and six of the CAFR. She understood the audit of the financial statements had been conducted in accordance with standards that governed accounting and auditing, and the auditor's letter cited no material errors in review of the financial statements as the financial statements had been presented fairly in all material aspects, i.e., the financial position of government activities, major funds, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City as of September 30, 2017. She commented that the standards of audit review also required management discussion and analysis, which was located on pages 9-13 of the CAFR, and the basic financial statements of the City's finances were on page 18 of the CAFR. She suggested the Council review the details and extensive explanation of the City's picture, which were on pages 43-108 of the CAFR. At the February 22 meeting of the FAAC, RSM had presented its results and had satisfactorily responded to a myriad of questions including how RSM conducted its work with City, the internal controls, and the response from City staff and management to their inquiries and investigation. She noted FAAC wanted to commend the Finance Director and the Accounting Division as they had worked closely with the auditors. She understood the Finance Department had faced significant staffing challenges so this effort

should be clearly recognized by them all. She commented that they believed the CAFR conformed to the very high standard set forth by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), and they would once again submit the report to GFOA for a certificate of achievement award. It would be the 38th year if the award was received.

Mayor Treece understood Ms. Oropallo had over 20 years of experience in municipal finance as a former municipal employee in a couple of different states, and appreciated her bringing that expertise to the City of Columbia. He asked Ms. Oropallo if she had any suggestions to improve the process or any other thoughts she wanted the Council to know. Ms. Oropallo replied they recently had a change in membership on the FAAC, and Mr. Tunks brought a level of expertise to the FAAC as an auditor that they had not had before. She stated she had been pleased with the questions he had been able to illicit from the auditors. Mayor Treece understood he was out of the State Auditor's Office. Ms. Oropallo stated that was correct. Ms. Oropallo commented that as had been mentioned by John Clark, a former member of the FAAC, this was really a responsibility of the Council and it would be good to have the Council in on these meetings. She noted she would be more proactive in letting the Council know when the auditors were here and would encourage the Council to be a part of that discussion. She thought they might be interested in seeing some of the information received.

III. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

BC3-18 Board and Commission Applicants.

Upon receiving the majority vote of the Council, the following individuals were appointed to the following Boards and Commissions.

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMISSION
Aden, Brooke, 1401 University Avenue, Apt. C, Ward 6, Term to expire June 1, 2020

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMISSION
Willoughby, Blake, 1338 Ashland Road, Apt. F, Ward 6, Term to expire March 1, 2019

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
Erickson, Rachael, Ward 5, Term to expire June 1, 2018
Rashid, Ismael, Ward 5, Term to expire June 1, 2018

Mayor Treece noted they had adopted the resolution establishing the Fair Housing Task Force about four weeks ago. Five members were from other boards and commissions while eight members would be selected from different organizations, and not all of those slots had applicants.

Mr. Thomas suggested they hold off on the appointments to the Fair Housing Task Force since they did not have applicants for several of the slots, and to allow the City Clerk to readvertise the positions to hopefully obtain applicants for all of the slots.

Mr. Trapp stated he was agreeable.

Mr. Skala concurred and noted it would hopefully allow some diversity in the applicants in terms of wards, experiences, etc.

Mayor Treece commented that his desire was to see more applicants from the front lines to really bring to them the challenges and barriers with regard to fair housing.

IV. SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

PH7-18 Proposed installation of active warning devices at the Columbia Terminal Railroad's (COLT) intersection with Mount Zion Church Road in Hallsville, Missouri.

Discussion shown with B58-18.

B58-18 Authorizing the installation of active warning devices at the Columbia Terminal Railroad's (COLT) intersection with Mount Zion Church Road in Hallsville, Missouri; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division; authorizing a supplemental agreement for highway/rail crossing improvements with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission; appropriating funds.

PH7-18 was read by the Clerk, and B58-18 was given second reading by the Clerk.
Mr. Johnsen provided a staff report.
Mayor Treece opened the public hearing.
There being no comment, Mayor Treece closed the public hearing.

B58-18 was given third reading with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: THOMAS, PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

PH8-18 Proposed construction of Phase I of the Sports Fieldhouse project located in A. Perry Philips Park to include a 41,000 square foot sports fieldhouse with four hardwood basketball/volleyball courts, office space, restroom facilities, multipurpose rooms, concession area, parking lot, extension of the entry road from Ponderosa Street and the installation of walkways, landscaping and exterior lights.

Discussion shown with B59-18.

B59-18 Authorizing construction of Phase I of the Sports Fieldhouse project located in A. Perry Philips Park to include a 41,000 square foot sports fieldhouse with four hardwood basketball/volleyball courts, office space, restroom facilities, multipurpose rooms, concession area, parking lot, extension of the entry road from Ponderosa Street and the installation of walkways, landscaping and exterior lights; calling for bids for a portion of the project through the Purchasing Division.

PH8-18 was read by the Clerk, and B59-18 was given second reading by the Clerk.
Mr. Griggs provided a staff report.
Mayor Treece asked how this would be different than the policy at the ARC. Mr. Griggs replied the ARC was based on individual memberships as it had a full range of equipment. It was a true recreation center with drop-ins and pick-up play. They saw this facility accommodating teams or large group rentals. He commented that if a group wanted to play on a day the facility was closed, they would try to work it out with the group.
Mr. Griggs continued the staff report.
Mayor Treece asked if the exterior finish was metal panel. Mr. Griggs replied yes, and explained they had included some features to make it look less like a steel pole barn. Mayor Treece commented that it did not look too fancy. It seemed to be utilitarian. Mr. Griggs stated most of the money would be used in the interior court space versus the exterior, offices, etc.

Mayor Treece commented that there did not appear to be much bleacher space, and asked for clarification. Mr. Griggs described the seating using a diagram displayed.

Mayor Treece asked if the lack of locker space was intentional. Mr. Griggs replied the other facilities they had looked at did not have locker rooms, except for the ones that had a pure cardio area as well. Recreation centers had locker rooms, but most of fieldhouses did not because kids did not use them. In addition, locker rooms were high square foot cost amenities.

Mayor Treece understood the total fiscal note on this was $3.95 million. Mr. Griggs replied yes, but pointed out they viewed this similarly to the ARC. He explained the ARC had originally been a $9-$10 million project, but as they received sponsorships, they accommodated additional amenities. The hope was that the same would occur with this fieldhouse.

Mr. Skala understood some outside areas were ripe for expansion to include the potential expansion of basketball courts. Mr. Griggs described the potential expansion options using a diagram displayed. He noted they could potentially add four more basketball courts each in two different locations for a total of eight more, or even six tennis courts in one of the locations.

Mr. Skala understood there were six pickleball courts. Mr. Griggs stated that was correct, and noted they were striped on the diagram.

Mr. Skala commented that tennis players did not have an indoor facility, and wondered if there was a possibility of entertaining that on some of these courts if that eventuality arose. Mr. Griggs explained they planned to incorporate the USTA Start Smart program, which was an instructional program to get kids interested in tennis.

Mr. Thomas asked Mr. Griggs to summarize the historical planning processes, community engagement, public feedback, and the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) involvement that had led to where they were now. Mr. Griggs replied this discussion had been ongoing for a long time. They had started out with the thought of building this at Clary-Shy, but that ballot issue, which included an indoor fieldhouse, ice rink, and farmers market, had been defeated. In terms of this particular project, the Columbia Youth Basketball Association (CYBA) had agreed to help with fundraising if $2.7 million came from the park sales tax. He understood they had pledged $100,000 and were working with the City to raise more funds. Mr. Huffington stated they had originally had two public meetings in May of 2017 after about 6-8 months of planning with architect. They had then taken comments from those meetings along with comments from groups they had met with to the architect for revisions to the plans.

Mr. Pitzer asked if what was identified in the diagram as Phase 2 Parking would be constructed as part of Phase 1. Mr. Griggs replied yes.

Mr. Pitzer asked Mr. Griggs if they had thought about potential timelines for future expansion or plans. Mr. Griggs replied the next funding source would be the 2021 park sales tax ballot. He noted there were other things they could do as they had a recreation services user fund that generated a little less than $160,000 per year, but it would be difficult to fund Phase 2 with it as that estimated cost was $4 million. He stated they would likely have to wait until the next ballot issue to do something major like that. Mr. Pitzer asked Mr. Griggs if he would prioritize the outdoor space or the indoor space. Mr. Griggs replied he thought the indoor space would be a priority. He explained they looked at the entire community to ensure they had projects in every section of the City. The priority with the parks sales tax was maintenance and taking care of what they had. He noted 60 percent of the 2015 parks sale tax ballot was for those types of projects, and the remaining was used for new things the citizens wanted. He commented that that funding for future expansion would be dependent upon when they decided to move forward with another ballot issue, i.e., in six years, ten years, etc.

Mr. Pitzer asked if Phase 1 would be a viable standalone facility if they did not add any more indoor space and only added to the outdoor space. Mr. Griggs replied it would be viable for league play and most tournaments. He understood the Show-Me State games

would love it for the four more courts and eight courts for the younger age groups. He noted, however, it would still not be the 80,000 square foot facility the Victus Advisors had proposed in their study to bring in the big tournaments. He pointed out the target was those within a three hour drive time, and they could easily accommodate that. He did not believe they wanted to overbuild it, and felt a phased approach was good.

Mr. Griggs pointed out they had funding for the outdoor tennis facility as part of the ballot issue so one of the outdoor amenities would be built as part of this project.

Mr. Pitzer understood if only Phase 1 was built, which meant they would not have the really big tournaments, it would still get a lot of use based on what was already going on in the community. Mr. Griggs stated that was correct. He commented that four courts meant about forty teams for weekend basketball tournaments.

Ms. Peters asked Mr. Griggs to discuss why the City chose Philips Park. She understood there had been 2-3 options initially. Mr. Griggs replied as they were discussing this project as part of the ballot issue, they had looked at three sites, Clary-Shy, the Fairgrounds, and this property. Clary-Shy was removed from consideration as they started moving forward with the farmers market project and because it would compete with the ARC for parking. Both had the heaviest parking uses in the winter season. He noted the Fairgrounds had not been an option at the time either because it had ceased to exist in terms of operations. There was not any programming at the site, and the ballot issue proposed by the County for it had failed, so they had thought that option was over. The preferred option then became Philips Park.

Ms. Peters understood the Armory programming would be moved to the new facility and asked for clarification. Mr. Griggs replied the adult sports would be relocated to that facility. All of the other programs would stay at the Armory.

Mayor Treece opened the public hearing.

John Clark, 403 N. Ninth Street, commented that when the ARC had been proposed he had campaigned against it because the group that was heading it had refused to commit to a long term citywide recreational facilities plan. He stated he was not against this proposal, but noted he was very disappointed in it. He wondered if they were using Convention and Visitors Bureau funding because they thought it would bring in revenues for hotels. He commented that he thought they needed recreation centers instead of these kinds of facilities. Although he appreciated the funding that would come from something like this, he wished this had been much more focused as an ARC facility with other things for the southeast and southwest part of town, and later for the north. He wondered if the foundation would accommodate two stories and for what the multipurpose rooms would be used. Mr. Griggs replied the multipurpose rooms would be used as meeting rooms for anyone wanting to have a meeting when the facility was open. Mr. Clark commented that he hoped the Council would direct staff to think about things other than attracting those from out of town if this was approved as he believed recreational and community meeting facilities were needed all over town, especially since they had a disaster of a public transportation system. He suggested the Council approve this with the caveat of asking staff to come back with a different set of plans so the next phase was an indoor and outdoor recreational and community facility, i.e., a second ARC. He believed four full service recreation centers were needed in Columbia due to its population, and felt this was too small a vision at this stage, but thought it could be remedied.

Dean Berry, 2204 Sunflower Street, explained he was the founder, and for the last 25 years, a member of the CYBA Board. Along with their partners, the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department and the Columbia Public Schools, CYBA provided a recreational league for kids from first grade through high school. It was a completely recreational league with an emphasis on sportsmanship, and it served about 900-1,000 kids every year. In those 25 years, he pointed out they had twice tried to raise money to build a facility to donate to the City. CYBA was a not-for-profit with an all-volunteer board, and did not have any staff to manage a building even if they had one. When they had not

been successful with their fundraising efforts, they had contacted donors to return money to them, but a number of those donors had indicated they could keep the money that had been given, and they had held on to that money with the intention of donating it to the Parks and Recreation Department when a facility was in the works. As a result, they had looked in interest at the two different projects that had been considered. He commented that they would love to have a building in Columbia with thirteen basketball courts, but did not feel that was a viable project at this time. He understood the $3.75 million was approximately 10 percent of the $30-$40 million cost to build the facility, and noted he had not seen anything indicating from where the other $30-plus million would come. The City had the money for the project at A. Perry Philips Park, and that project could be built. He pointed out he thought the CYBA Board would be willing to donate $100,000 toward enhancing the project, and issued a challenge to any other group, individual, or company to match their donation to make it a better facility.

Nathan Martin, 10351 Highway CC, Centralia, stated he was a 30-plus year volunteer with 4-H and the Future Farmers of America (FFA) programs in Boone County, and asked the Council to consider the 90-day proposal to delay a decision as he believed the Fairgrounds opportunity was very unique due to the extra land space and opportunities for a larger facility. He felt they needed more sports facilities, and noted the agricultural community was willing to be a part of it. He mentioned Boone County and Columbia had a history with agriculture with the University and its College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and its College of Veterinary Medicine along with the fact they were home to MFA and several associations, and believed some of the facilities they had would enhance the agricultural education in Boone County. He commented that the idea of where food was produced and grown was greater every day, and thought a facility that incorporated this for the youth would be beneficial. He reiterated this was a unique opportunity to partner with Boone County and use the expertise of the City's Parks and Recreation Department to manage the facilities, and the facilities could be multipurpose in that they could be used for livestock, skating, basketball, etc. He stated he would appreciate a delay on voting on this particular project.

David Heidlage, 5005 Newbury Way, explained he was the Vice President of the CYBA and had been a volunteer coach for ten years in that league. He stated he could not say enough about the life lessons kids learned through recreational sports and how important that was in the community. They valued sportsmanship and the concept of everyone playing, and because everyone paid, they guarantee equal playing time. They also worked with the Columbia Public Schools to guarantee practice time in grades 1-8. He noted the CYBA league went all of the way to high school and about half of the league involved high schoolers, and they wanted to extend that guarantee to them, which a facility like this could accommodate.

Eugene Hrdina asked the Council to consider a 90-day delay in moving forward with this facility as he agreed with the comments of Mr. Martin with regard to agriculture and sports. He noted 2-3 of his children had participated in several sports through the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department and its facilities, and his daughter had participated in the 4-H and FFA. He believed agriculture was very important to the community and thought a partnership between Boone County, the City of Columbia, and a private investor could be a win for many. The Fairgrounds had 120-125 acres so there was room for expansion and number of different facilities that would bring in income from different areas. He felt this was an opportunity for the community to come together to do something good for the long term. He reiterated his suggestion of delaying a decision to allow time to really look at a potential project at the Fairgrounds. He believed the plan shared by Mr. Parry was very dynamic and inclusive with a lot of opportunities.

Rusty Strodtman, 2300 Bernadette Drive, commented that he supported delaying moving forward with the Philips fieldhouse project to allow time for the parties involved to come to agreement on a public-private arrangement to utilize the Central Missouri Events Center, which was also known as the Boone County Fairgrounds. As a retail landlord in

Columbia and a parent of three sports active kids, he believed they were missing out on a huge opportunity for the community. He noted he had been in St. Louis, Kansas City, and Branson over the last three weekends for sporting events. In his professional job, the last two weekends without the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHAA) State Basketball Championships that would be in Springfield, Missouri for the next five years had hurt the local businesses in the form of millions of dollars. It was too soon for the negative economic impact of missing the event to be determined, but he knew his traffic had been down double digits compared to the same weekends last year. This meant the continued erosion of sales tax for the community. He read statements from the Victus Advisors report which indicated significant demand existed for a city/county competitive sports complex and a multi-sports indoor fieldhouse, and they had recommended the fieldhouse be completed first for basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, etc., in conjunction with Boone County as part of the redevelopment of the Central Missouri Events Center into a Columbia/Boone County competitive sports complex. The report also suggested the fieldhouse include at least eight regulation basketball courts. He hoped the City would work out its difference with the County and do what was right for the community by creating a regional, competitive amateur sports complex that was centrally located for all Missourians as it would generate jobs and sales taxes at local businesses. He felt the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department should only be involved in one of these projects, and hoped it was the Mid-Missouri Sports Park. He asked the Council to not sell the community short by moving forward with the Philips fieldhouse project and to allow more time to look into an arrangement with Boone County and a private entity.

Mayor Treece asked Mr. Strodtman about his thoughts on the voter approved ballot issue and the representations that had been made to voters, and when reconsideration was applicable based upon new information. Mr. Strodtman replied he thought much of this had been a very transparent process with a lot of input from the community. As a result, he felt there had been enough feedback to warrant looking at the other options. If they had known then what they knew today with regard to the Fairgrounds, he thought it would have been a different conversation. He believed the facilities at the Fairgrounds could be a true sports complex and not just another ARC, and thought most of the voters would support the complex as it would generate millions of dollars. He commented that Columbia used to host all of these events, i.e., MSHAA, Show-Me State Games, FFA, etc., but it was now divided between Springfield, Kansas City, St. Louis, Warrensburg, Joplin, etc. He suggested they position themselves to get back to that, and believed the sports complex was the way to accomplish it. He reiterated he thought the voters would agree and would not view it as bait and switch situation.

Steve Tade, 12410 S. Bob Veatch Road, Ashland, asked the Council to consider the 90-day delay in making a decision. He commented that he understood the importance of youth sports, but not every kid played sports with a ball. He noted his son had special needs so he was not able to play basketball or baseball, but did have a passion for showing livestock. They showed all over the United States, but his son looked most forward to the Boone County Fair. He stated the City had the opportunity now with a private investor and Boone County to do great things at the Fairgrounds, and asked the Council to consider it as it would make a difference for all youth. He commented that sports were great, but three times per day everyone needed a farmer. These youth would grow up and provide for America, and it was important to know from where the food came. He asked the Council to take that into consideration.

Eugene Elkin, 3406 Range Line Street, asked the Council to focus heavily on the Boone County Fairgrounds and pointed out that a ground source heat pump had been installed a number of years ago for lower utility costs at the site. He commented that this would do a lot for children in terms of agriculture.

Fred Parry, 709 W. Broadway, complimented the City for having a world class Parks and Recreation Department as they had done a great job and had been great stewards of the

voters' financial assets. He commented that many of the presentations given for the 2015 parks sales tax had included the Boone County Fairgrounds/Central Missouri Events Center as one of the options so he did not believe there would be an issue of misleading voters by moving the project to the Fairgrounds. He felt it was important to look at Lawrence, Kansas, as they had already had more basketball courts than Columbia before building Rockchalk Park, and there were sixteen courts in Rockchalk Park. The City of Columbia, a world class city, was proposing to build only four courts. He did not feel that was living up to the quality or standard they had established as a community. He noted the Victus Advisors report that had been commissioned by the City had called for using the Central Missouri Events Center. He understood the City conducted many citizen surveys for comments on various services, such as police protection, utilities, and quality of life, but they had not given the citizens an opportunity to comment on how they felt about using the Boone County Fairgrounds for this facility versus Philips Park, and the survey that had been scheduled to go out earlier in the year had not gone out. He thought they would have received valuable feedback if they would have spent the money to conduct the survey. He commented that he believed this was a rare and limited opportunity as they had a private investor who was willing to invest $5 million in a community project. He stated one of the reasons the Boone County Fairgrounds had not been chosen was because the City and Boone County had been involved in a lawsuit and there was not any negotiation or communication during that time. He explained that was behind them and their relationship had improved significantly. He believed the Fairgrounds would have been the obvious choice for a sports park had it been on the table when they were having the conversations. He commented that he felt the hotel community, who would collect taxes for $1 million toward this project, would prefer the sports park plan at the Fairgrounds over the project at A. Perry Philips Park. He pointed out the CYBA only represented about 900 children in the community, and there were at least 2,000 other children that could not participate in youth basketball because they did not have the courts. He reiterated it was a rare opportunity and the benefits of delaying a decision far outweighed making a decision now, and noted they were asking for 90 days to give this more consideration. He believed building at the Boone County Fairgrounds would be a good decision for the youth, economic development, tourism, and the health of the community.

Mayor Treece thanked Mr. Parry, the Boone County Commissioner, for the time and effort he had put into this as he did not want any discussion on what they decided tonight to impair any relationship the two of them had worked to improve between the City and the County. He commented that he did not believe they had any disagreements, and that they might only have different paths in reaching a decision. The path the City had taken involved the public improvement process set forth in their ordinances as far as laying out a plan and a project. In addition, he thought they could argue that they had already delayed a decision for at least 90 days to flush out some of the details, and noted he felt as though he was hearing for the first time tonight that there would be an agricultural element to this. He was not sure how the 4-H and FFA would benefit from a Mid-Missouri Sports Park and the building of eight basketball courts at the Fairgrounds instead of the four at Philips Park. Mr. Parry replied he thought it was clear the development of the Mid-Missouri Sports Park would not happen unless the City was a partner. The 135 acre parcel, known as the Fairgrounds, had been an issue that had plagued the community for 19 years, and this was the first time in two decades they had been close to a solution. He explained they had spent 14 months talking to the City about the logistics of this and had gone through three draft revisions of a memorandum of understanding. He noted they had even scheduled a press conference to announce the fact the City and the County were working together to develop the Fairgrounds, but the conversation had then come to an abrupt halt. He stated this project would not happen without the City partnering, and believed that was why they were hearing from folks from the agriculture community. He explained 23 acres had been set aside in the plan drawn by HOK, and they understood

that would not happen without the City's involvement.

Mayor Treece asked if the Council had seen the HOK drawings. Mr. Parry replied he was not sure if the Council had, but the City Manager and the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department had. He noted the public had seen them as well as they had been on all of the major news outlets. He stated he did not feel it was his responsibility or obligation to share it with the Council, and explained he had relied on others in that effort. He commented that he did not think they could wait until 2021 as those pursing the Mid-Missouri Sports Park would need to move on to an alternative site if this would not work because they were ready to move forward and had wanted to break ground last year. He felt the timing of this was unfortunate. Mayor Treece pointed out the City had wanted to break ground last year as well. Mr. Parry stated he understood.

Mr. Skala commented that he agreed in that he did not feel this would be a bait and switch type situation. He believed the promise made to the voters was for four basketball courts on one of three potential sites, and Philips was the site the Parks and Recreation Department had recommended. He explained that was the reason he had been willing to look into the possibility of this type of cooperation with the County. Mr. Parry noted the decision to go to the A. Perry Philips site had unfortunately been made after the election and after people had voted, and it had made sense given the options they had and the fact the City and the County had not been working well together at the time. Mr. Skala commented that he felt the lawsuit issue had been compartmentalized, and stated he believed partnerships between the City and the County were important in this era.

Ms. Peters stated she had not seen or heard of a master plan for this area. She noted she had seen the memorandum of understanding for Parcel No. 1, which was the fieldhouse, but had not heard anything about agriculture until tonight. She wondered where that would be located as she understood half of the parcel would be leased or sold to the profit part of the not-for-profit group. Mr. Parry explained those logistics had been discussed at length and felt that was all the more reason to delay a decision. He stated 23 acres had been set aside for an agriculture park. He understood the City had a great relationship with the Center for Urban Agriculture and there were opportunities for something similar at the Boone County Fairgrounds. He noted Dr. Thornburg, at his own expense, had hired HOK to do a master plan for the fairgrounds, and he believed it was a beautiful plan that met many of the unmet needs in the community, such as turf soccer fields. Columbia could no longer compete for soccer tournaments because they could not guarantee play regardless of the weather. The plan at the Fairgrounds was an economic opportunity to attract tournaments back to Columbia, to include regional tournaments with a need for more than four courts.

Ms. Peters understood Mr. Parry, the City Manager and the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department had been working on this for fourteen months and asked why he thought three more months would make a difference. Mr. Parry replied because it appeared as though the Council had not seen the plan. Ms. Peters stated she had not seen the master plan, but had seen the memorandum of understanding. Mr. Parry commented that he would love for Council to see the plan since they were the decision makers.

Mr. Trapp stated he appreciated and shared the vision of Mr. Parry, and explained his hesitancy was with the risk of an untried partner and with what the City would put forward. He asked if the request for 90 days for further consideration was for them to better understand the proposal in place or if the County was in a position to further address a portion of Waco Road or some other arrangement regarding the final disposition of the land. He noted he felt the current proposal was too much not in the City's interest or favor. He wondered what would be gained by the delay as it appeared to him negotiations were at an impasse. Mr. Parry commented that he believed the primary benefit of the 90-day delay was that it would provide the Council an opportunity to look at the comprehensive plan that had been developed and the memorandum of understanding. It would also allow the Council to review some of the unresolved issues as most of the

issues had been addressed in the memorandum of understanding. He explained the City would maintain control of the facility, and it would be much like the 80-acre Atkins tract where the City and County were partners. He commented that the City and County had a give and take relationship, and listed some examples. He noted the City had saved $8 million in the last four years on 911 Joint Communications as the County had taken on that responsibility, and more than 50 percent of the arrests in Boone County were made in Columbia, but the County handled those prisoners. He explained he was not saying they needed to keep a score card, but there were opportunities for give and take between the governments. He understood the Fairgrounds might not appear to be a win for the City of Columbia as a government, but he believed it was a win for the citizens of Columbia. He reiterated this was an opportunity to do something special that was better than Lawrence, Kansas and Springfield, Missouri. He did not feel the Council had the entire story and thought they needed to be intentional in the next 30 days to ensure they knew exactly what they were voting against.

Mr. Pitzer stated the Council had received the memorandum of understanding dated February 16, and asked how it had changed from the first draft to what they had been provided. Mr. Parry replied he could not do that, but understood some of the issues of concern included the City wanting complete ownership of the Fairgrounds, the City wanting the County to commit to finishing Waco Road, and the City wanting the Fairgrounds to be annexed into the city limits of Columbia. He explained they had agreed to the annexation, and when that occurred there would be very little reason for Boone County to complete Waco Road because it would become a city street. He pointed out the County had committed to completing Waco Road many years ago as a partner with the City, but the City had asked the County to divert those funds for the completion of Scott Boulevard, which they had done. He felt they should have addressed Waco Road when Arora Dairy was being considered as they would have had leverage then. He commented that he thought they needed to approach this with common sense and that the revisions to the memorandum of understanding would show there was some give and take.

Mr. Ruffin commended Mr. Parry for his work on this amazing vision that he felt would meet many needs in the community. He explained his concern was whether this vision could be realized in the time line proposed without a clear source of funding. He understood the $5 million that had been promised by the private investor did not yet exist, and that he hoped to be able to generate those funds. He asked if that was true. Mr. Parry replied it was partially true. He understood at least $2 million had been raised by Dr. Thornburg, and it had become impossible for him to raise any more funds when the news broke about 30 days ago that the deal might be falling apart. He stated he was confident in Dr. Thornburg's ability to raise the $5 million. He pointed out the memorandum of understanding had deadlines and what might happen if Dr. Thornburg did not meet those fundraising deadlines, and felt there was an ample check and balance system. He commented that even if Dr. Thornburg contributed $3 million, they would still be $3 million ahead of where they were with the Philips Park tract. He reiterated he felt confident in Dr. Thornburg meeting his commitments based on his character and reputation.

There being no further comment, Mayor Treece closed the public hearing.

Mr. Skala commented that he had viewed this as a tremendous opportunity initially, which was one of the reasons they had delayed moving forward previously to consider the memorandum of understanding. He asked for the practical of effect of delaying this another 90 days. Mr. Griggs replied ideally they would have bid the project in December or January so they were already delayed and not within the first round of orders for the prefabricated metal building. They would now be in the second round, and the pricing might be a bit higher. He explained they had initially thought they would be done in the spring depending on the weather, and if they were delayed further, it could push them through the summer, which would eliminate the use of the facility by the Show-Me

Games. He stated that was the biggest drawback to a further delay.

Mr. Skala stated his read of Mr. Parry's letter involved co-ownership of 135 acres at the Fairgrounds, and that had not been his understanding when reviewing the memorandum of understanding. He had understood only the property with the sports fieldhouse would be annexed, and asked for clarification. Mr. Matthes replied the memorandum of understanding had divided the entire area into two parcels, and the 50 percent ownership was for what he would call the Fairgrounds parcel and the other parcel involved the land that fronted the road, which was envisioned for commercial enterprise that could be used to help fund the park amenities in the long term. He reiterated the proposal was for the City and County to co-own the Fairgrounds piece of it, which was a fairly large piece of land and not just site of the building.

Mr. Ruffin commented that it appeared as though the proposed plan for Philips Park was just barely enough to meet the need and asked Mr. Griggs what his first priority would be to enhance or expand the plan if they received a larger influx of private donations. Mr. Griggs replied they would first want to know the bid for constructing the building. He explained an amenity that would make the facility nicer would be television screens so teams would stick around the facility and eat from the concessions in between games. He also felt a system that dropped down from the ceiling for volleyball would be helpful as it would eliminate the labor needed to insert the poles into the floor and put up the net. He reiterated the main goal was to get a bid on the building so they knew where they were in terms of funding.

Ms. Peters understood Mr. Thornburg's group was not interested in contributing to the Philips Park project to expand the number of basketball courts there. Mr. Parry stated that was his understanding, but noted he was not sure if that opportunity had been presented. He clarified he could not speak for Mr. Thornburg, but did not believe he would be interested in a smaller facility. Ms. Peters asked if that was because they had planned to do a commercial development as well. Mr. Parry replied no, and explained he thought it was because they wanted to bring in a lot of regional tournaments that would attract top athletes to Columbia and the University. Ms. Peters understood the plan for Philips Park was for 8-12 basketball courts at some point in the future. Mr. Parry replied the voters had approved only four at this time.

Mr. Thomas stated he appreciated the bold vision for the Fairgrounds property and hard work that had gone into bringing it forward in a short amount of time. He thought it was something they should continue to consider, but did not believe, even after a 90-day delay, he would feel comfortable making what he considered a dramatic decision to reallocate funds and becoming a partner in a project that had not yet demonstrated its value or given them enough confidence in it. He compared this to the agriculture park at Clary-Shy and the decade or more those non-profit organizations and the City's Parks and Recreation Department had worked together in full public view to develop a plan. Multiple iterations of the plan over the years had finally culminated in a major agreement between the City and 2-3 different non-profit organizations, similar in some ways to what was being proposed here. He commented that he planned to vote to go ahead with the Philips project, but wanted to keep the conservation going to build a partnership and obtain community input on a Fairgrounds project for a longer period of time.

Mayor Treece stated he agreed with Mr. Thomas. He commented that one of the reasons people believed they had a very good Parks and Recreation Department was because they kept their promises. They took public input into consideration when making plans and were rewarded for it by voters and the public. He did not want to jeopardize that with a further delay. He noted they had already delayed this by at least 90 days. He agreed the Fairgrounds project was a great vision and that they would benefit from further development of that property with some type of regional sports destination, but even if they could reach agreement on the foundation for that discussion, they would still have to follow the City's public improvement process, which would add months. He reiterated he did not want to jeopardize what had already been represented

to the voters and on which they had already made several votes to proceed. He understood additional details continued to trickle in, but at some point they had to move forward. He stated he intended to vote yes on the Philips project as well.
Mr. Skala commented that they had received input from the public on both sides of this issue, to include some that felt this was a bait and switch situation. He noted he had tried to explain he did not feel that was the case as that site had not been included in the promise. There was, however, a process in place, and deadlines in terms of their own facilities improvement. He explained the Philips tract had the capacity for expansion, and they would likely have to go to the voters in the future to help accommodate it. He stated he loved the vision of the City and Boone County cooperating, and the fact the concept had tremendous potential. He felt this potential still existed as the decision to move forward with the Philips site did not foreclose on it. He commented that he would love to see it in his own self-interest as it would be located in the Third Ward where facilities of this type were needed. The memorandum of understanding unfortunately never delivered as they could not function under those terms. He stated he would vote to proceed with the Philips tract property.

B59-18 was given third reading with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: THOMAS, PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

R44-18 Authorizing an Artist's Contract with David Spear for the Columbia Sports Fieldhouse Percent for Art project.

The resolution was read by the Clerk.
Ms. Dresser provided a staff report.
Mayor Treece opened the public hearing.
There being no comment, Mayor Treece closed the public hearing.

The vote on R44-18 was recorded as follows: VOTING YES: PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA. VOTING NO: NO ONE. ABSENT: THOMAS (Mr. Thomas stepped out during the vote on this item). Resolution declared adopted, reading as follows:

PH9-18 Consider the FY 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Discussion shown with R45-18.

R45-18 Approving the FY 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER); authorizing the City Manager to submit the document to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

PH9-18 and R45-18 were read by the Clerk.
Mr. Cole provided a staff report.
Mayor Treece opened the public hearing.
There being no comment, Mayor Treece closed the public hearing.
Mr. Trapp commented that he believed Mr. Cole's division did a great job and noted he worked closely with Mr. Cole through the Community Land Trust Board and various other roles within the community. He believed this was an impressive body of work. When they had brought more of this in-house, the programming levels had gone up and they had been able to grow capacity. He felt this was one of the best run programs within the City. He pointed out this was all federal block grant money, which was under attack in every budget year. He hoped people saw the incredible value of what this meant to the community and would speak out for the preservation of CDBG and HOME funding. He commented that both were in long term decline so it was important to look for their own local investments. If they wanted to continue to do these things, they could do projects like the Community Land Trust as it protected their investment over time and harnessed

the values of rising land prices. He believed they would need more and more creativity with the federal commitment in decline.

Mr. Skala stated he, like Mr. Trapp, applauded the work of staff as some of the work was esoteric and detail oriented when dealing with the federal government, and they had placed the City in good stead for quite some time. He noted he was happy to support and endorse sending this report to HUD.

The vote on R45-18 was recorded as follows: VOTING YES: THOMAS, PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Resolution declared adopted, reading as follows:

VI. OLD BUSINESS

R36-18 Establishing an Integrated Electric Resource and Master Plan Task Force.

The resolution was read by Mayor Treece.

Mayor Treece explained an amendment sheet had been distributed based upon the suggestions of Mr. Thomas, and understood Mr. Skala had some suggested amendments as well.

Jay Hasheider, 1812 Cliff Drive, stated he was on the Water and Light Advisory Board (WLAB), but was not representing it tonight. He understood the purpose of the Integrated Electric Resource and Master Plan was to identify the best mix of demand side and supply side they could effectively employ for the future of the community's energy supply, and noted the memo did not mention renewable energy except that the WLAB had suggested including people representing finance, social equity engineering, and solar as members of the Task Force. He believed they wanted to incorporate renewable energy into this process. He commented that renewable energy was something that would be needed in the future, and would cost money. As a result, he felt mentioning the needs for renewable energy compliance should be included. He suggested adding renewable energy compliance to the items by which forecasted capital needs would be reviewed. He also suggested adding distributed generation to the list the Task Force would assist staff in identifying as it was another way of accommodating renewable energy. He commented that the staff might feel this was already included as part of generation, capacity, and energy needs in the future, but he believed it should be added to ensure it was covered.

Mayor Treece understood Mr. Hasheider was a member of the WLAB and that the WLAB members would be on this Task Force. He asked if that gave him comfort with continuing to bring to bear the issues of renewable energy and whether he had confidence in this Council to appoint six other members that might be cross-collateralized against that renewable energy industry or had distributed power expertise to keep a focus on some of the priorities. Mr. Hasheider replied he was comfortable with whoever the Council nominated for the Task Force. With regard to renewable energy and his role, he believed renewable energy had a lot of community support and it was obviously something in future that had a lesser ongoing cost associated with it. He stated he would do his best to ensure renewable energy was included whether or not the amendments he suggested were included. Mayor Treece pointed out there was also a nexus with the Mayor's Task Force on Climate Action and Adaptation Planning in terms of how they were meeting the renewable energy goals. He hoped they would be combined to create a thoughtful plan. Mr. Hasheider agreed in that he hoped the two would converge into something that would be very helpful.

Mayor Treece commented that they had not discussed how the group would select a consultant to work on it, but thought the RFP could convey additional consideration for a consultant that had experience in renewable energy. Mr. Hasheider explained including that would ensure it was identified in any prospective proposal.

John Clark, 403 N. Ninth Street, stated he was quite pleased with this overall process as he had been looking for a way for the City to conduct its major public capital infrastructure planning processes in a way that would include projections and needs for a long time. The processes in the past had been woefully lacking and pointed to the Integrated Water Resources Planning Committee. It had been a big step forward, but had some major flaws, especially with regard to control issues involving the staff. He commented that some of the suggestions he had provided had been included in some of the amendments. He noted he also supported the amendments of Mr. Skala, particularly his emphasis on the role of the Task Force being as broad as possible. He suggested wording such as "included, but not limited to" as it would cover the suggestions of both Mr. Skala and Mr. Thomas. He commented that he would also suggest a couple of other changes. He recommended the last bullet be reworded to state "respond to any other matter of the City Council and ask for further guidance from the Council for any matter concerning the goals and processes at any time in this process." He wanted to ensure the Task Force knew they could come back to Council if they felt the need. He also recommended the final say in the RFP scope of services, the contract, and the budget be left to the Council before any action was taken by staff. He stated he believed this was important because he did not feel staff had done a good job in the past.

Mr. Thomas summarized the components of his suggested amendments and explained why he thought they were important. He wanted to position the City Council in it along with the City staff as the Task Force would be advisory to both, and wanted the Task Force reports and recommendations to come to them as well as the professional staff. He also believed the Task Force should design a planning process and a rate setting process. He commented that the current rate structure was very inequitable in terms of the shared cost burden of existing customers versus new customers as well as between the different rate classes of residential, commercial, and industrial. He noted about $ 12 of everyone's monthly bill went directly to expand the system for new customers because they did not have a connection fee for electric. He stated he had asked staff to address this for about 4-5 years now, but it had made very little progress. The nearest they had come was with a line extension policy discussed at a work session, which he had been led to believe would address his concerns, but when he saw it presented, it had not. The real need was for a system equity connection fee. He reiterated he wanted the Task Force to study these different methods, and to look at the bonded debt they carried now versus in the past as he felt it would show how they were essentially digging themselves into a financial hole in terms of how they paid for expansion. This was the reason he had included a whereas statement indicating that paying for the system should be logical and fair to everyone. He noted he had also changed the make-up of the Task Force so all of the WLAB members were included and they did not limit themselves to very specific categories or organizations. This would allow for a range of different types of customers and stakeholders. He stated it would also include a number of ad-hoc members representing specific interests, to include the Environment and Energy Commission, the Community Development Commission, the University of Missouri, and Boone Electric Cooperative. He commented that he was also happy to accept the recommendations of Mr. Hasheider of a couple of wording changes to really draw out renewable energy and distributed generation as part of the study.

Mr. Thomas made a motion to amend R36-18 per the amendment sheet included in the packet, which had been proposed by Mr. Thomas. The motion was seconded by Mayor Treece.

Mr. Skala commented that he had suggested amendments to the amendment made by Mr. Thomas. He explained he was in perfect agreement to reduce the membership to eleven with four ad-hoc members, and believed appointing an ad-hoc member of the Environment and Energy Commission (EEC) would reinforce Mr. Hasheider's idea about renewable energy. He also did not object to including language in the resolution to reinforce that idea. He stated he tended to agree with a lot of what Mr. Thomas had to

say as he was also interested in equity and fairness in rate setting, but noted he took a minimalistic approach to resolutions in general. He did not want to include too much detail or micromanage the onus of a task force as their job was to give the Council the best possible advice as long as they identified the issues and reinforced the idea of a comprehensive approach. He agreed it was the obligation of the Task Force to talk about some of these issues, such as the customer classes, new growth paying connection fees, and equity in the system, but believed those issues could be accommodated by just including a few sentences and simplifying the resolution. He understood Mr. Thomas had suggested one of the whereas statements say "City staff and City Council propose a task force be created to provide recommendations on this planning and rate-setting process" and felt it should read "City staff and City Council propose a task force be created to provide recommendations on a planning, cost of service, and rate-setting process" as it would address the issue of connection fees and the equity necessary for existing customers. He also suggested "cost of service" be added to the items by which forecasted capital needs would be reviewed. He believed that accomplished what they wanted without making the resolution so specific that the Task Force somehow felt bound to just answer those specific questions lacking the context of the relationship to all of the rest of it. He did not feel there were a lot of differences and that they were after the same thing. He only felt his approach allowed a broader perspective for the Task Force to do its work.

Mayor Treece agreed they were very close. He commented that he would consider "cost of service" as a term of art within the utility industry that might fail to take into account the equitable recovery of that service. He thought they might look at how to add up all of the rates to pay for the expansion or continued operation, and not whether those rates were equitable across the customer categories. They also might not take into account the legacy costs of everything that had been invested thus far and how they expanded. He stated he was glad to see Boone Electric Cooperative included as an ad-hoc member because cooperatives had a much more aggressive recovery method when it came to connecting to their system. He stated he could likely agree to all of Mr. Skala's amendments to Mr. Thomas's amendments with the exception of deleting the whereas statement reading "the City Council believes that the costs of building, expanding, maintaining, and operating the electric utility should be recovered in a way that is logical and fair to both new and existing customers, and to all customer classes (residential, commercial, industrial)" as he felt that was a real value statement he wanted to keep as a preamble in this Task Force's work. He believed it was consistent with the Strategic Plan and was something that everyone had to pay.

Mr. Skala suggested inserting the term "equity" into the cost of service as it would get them to the same place. Mayor Treece commented that he did not see the harm of leaving the whereas statement in there if there was not an objection to it.

Mr. Thomas stated he wanted to keep that statement in there as he believed it was a very important value statement. He explained it might not be as important if they had already abided by it, but they did not. The system was very inequitable and it had proven to be very difficult to move that needle. He commented that if they felt that whereas statement was true, he thought it should be in there. He stated he did not object to including a reference to cost of service, but noted staff in multiple different utilities with the assistance of consultants had done a number of cost of service studies and those studies had never drawn out the point of how to pay for growth. As a result, he did not have confidence that a cost of service study would address it.

Mr. Skala stated he was not opposed to leaving that whereas statement in, but thought it was important to insert the term equity along with cost of service as that would reinforce the message. Mr. Thomas noted he was agreeable to that.

Mr. Skala reiterated he had been trying to avoid being too specific as he believed the Task Force would be very aware of what they would be talking about since they would have access to this conversation. His issue was as to whether or not it needed to be in

this resolution.

Mr. Thomas understood that whereas statement would remain and that references to cost of service and equity would be included in other parts of the resolution.

Mr. Skala explained his amendment would be as he had written it except that it would include the whereas statement they had just discussed.

Mr. Thomas understood Mr. Skala had suggested removing another major section, which he was not willing to accept. Mr. Skala stated he felt it was unnecessary. Mr. Thomas felt they needed to be specific because it had been difficult to get a conversation going about this important issue in the past. In addition, City staff had discussed a line extension policy as a specific proposal and he had asked for a study of a system equity connection fee, which had not happened. If they believed this was important, he felt it should be included. He pointed out it said "including, but not limited to" which reflected the suggestion of Mr. Clark in that they wanted the Task Force to look at these items, but they would not be limited to it. Mr. Skala commented that he believed the discussion was important, but it was unnecessary for that paragraph to be included.

Mr. Skala stated he had also been a bit uncomfortable with another whereas statement he had decided not to address that said "the proposed planning process will replace all previous planning efforts." He understood it had been defined as relating to serving anticipated loads and meeting federal transmission planning requirements, but he thought the Task Force should be able to discuss anything that had been on the table, including all of the options previously considered and Option E. He did not believe they should exclude any of the previous considerations. Mr. Thomas stated he did not think it was saying the Task Force could not discuss it. He thought it was saying that when this planning process was completed, it would supersede all previous plans in those areas, but he agreed it was not necessary, and noted he would be happy to remove it.

Mr. Skala commented that the only other issue was the one other paragraph, and he felt it was unnecessary given the context of this discussion and the direction they would give to the Task Force. He believed they would take the issue up with the insertion of the equity idea in the cost of service.

Mayor Treece stated he would argue to leave the whereas statement in because when he had asked for an update on the system equity connection fee, he had received a response from Mr. Glascock indicating that had come before Council as early as April of 2017 and had reappeared in December 2017, and they were still six months away from coming back to Council with an ordinance or policy or any recommendation. He thought that needed to be integrated into this study so they were all looking at this in context of how they paid for what would probably be a significant investment in the electric infrastructure. He would prefer to do that all together with a single consultant.

Mr. Pitzer stated he agreed with Mr. Skala in that it did not seem necessary to get that specific, and he was not sure he understood the point of how deleting it would preclude coming back with an ordinance in the future. He did not understand the connection.

Mayor Treece commented that he planned on adding a new Section 5 after disposing of other amendments that indicated the City Council would approve an appropriation, scope of services, and RFP for all work performed under this resolution establishing an Integrated Electric Resource and Master Plan. He asked Mr. Thomas if that would be sufficient to guarantee the language in that whereas to ensure the consultant was doing that work. Mr. Thomas understood the Task Force would be formed, and would then meet, discuss, and make a recommendation for an RFP the Council could review before approving and letting the RFP, and stated he agreed with it. He asked Mayor Treece if that should substitute for something else. Mayor Treece asked if that would be sufficient to meet the language Mr. Skala's amendment would strike with regard to the paragraph that began with "determining the costs of expanding the capacity…" as they could include that detail in the scope of services of the RFP. Mr. Thomas replied he wanted the Task Force to study these issues specifically. Mr. Skala commented that nothing precluded them from doing that. Mr. Thomas noted the Task Force might just choose not

to address it. In addition, if they wanted the Task Force to study the issue, he wondered why they would not just include it. Mr. Skala felt bogging down the Task Force with specific tasks would result in focusing on those tasks to the exclusion of some of the connections between lots of the other advice they really wanted. He pointed out Mayor Treece had provided a way to ensure those issues could be addressed in the RFP. He wanted the Task Force to be able to do what was necessary to provide advice, and did not feel they should be restricted. Mr. Thomas stated he did not think it would restrict them as it was saying "including, but not limited."

Mayor Treece understood they were in agreement with maintaining the whereas statement that stated "the City Council believes that the costs of building, expanding, maintaining…" and asked if that was correct. Mr. Skala and Mr. Trapp stated that was correct.

Mayor Treece understood Mr. Skala had suggested an amendment to Mr. Thomas' amendment in the next whereas statement by changing the wording to include cost of service and concomitant rate structures. In addition, the following whereas would be changed to read "whereas, City staff and City Council propose a task force be created to provide recommendations on a planning, cost of service, and rate-setting process. He also understood cost of service recovery would be incorporated with the bullet that indicated items by which the review of forecasted capital needs would be reviewed. Mr. Skala stated that was correct, but that it should also include equity. Mr. Thomas suggested equity be added as a seventh item under that bullet. Mr. Skala agreed. Mayor Treece suggested the language of system equity connection fee. Mr. Trapp stated he would not agree to that. Mr. Thomas commented that he was not sure the equity argument should go there as it was the review of forecasted capital needs. The equity piece came into paying for those needs. Mr. Skala felt it should go with the cost of service as the idea of equity should be in the cost of service. Mayor Treece suggested "equitable cost of service recovery." Mr. Skala stated he was agreeable. Mr. Thomas commented that he did not object, but also did not feel it made sense as he was not sure how the capital needs would be based upon on the equitable cost of service recovery. He thought that had been nicely laid out in the next bullet he had added to determine the cost of expanding the capacity and to make recommendations on how to recover those costs. In his view, that was precisely equitable cost of service recovery. Mr. Skala commented that it was the preciseness with which he was disagreeing as it was telling the group exactly what they had to do. He would prefer to give them the option of discussing the issue and providing the Council whatever advice they felt was necessary.

Mayor Treece asked if they wanted to add renewable energy to the items by which the forecasted capital needs would be reviewed as had been suggested by Mr. Hasheider. Mr. Skala replied he thought that was acceptable. Ms. Peters and Mr. Thomas were agreeable as well.

Mayor Treece summarized what he thought they had agreed upon with regard to certain amendments. Mr. Skala asked about including equitable so it said equitable cost of service recovery. Mayor Treece replied he was not sure how to include that. Ms. Thompson suggested the third bullet read "review the forecasted capital needs and rate structure based on" and they could then add "cost of service recovery," "renewable energy," and "system equity charge" to the items listed immediately below that bullet. Mr. Thomas stated he was agreeable to that change.

Mayor Treece asked Mr. Thomas if he would allow the paragraph he suggested in his amendment reading "determining the cost of expanding the capacity of…" to be removed. Mr. Thomas replied no.

Mr. Skala made a motion to amend the amendment sheet included in the packet, which had been proposed by Mr. Thomas, by changing the seventh whereas statement to read "whereas, the City Council has expressed concerns about the fairness of the electric utility's current cost of service and concomitant rate

structure; and," changing the eighth whereas statement to read "whereas, City staff and City Council propose a task force be created to provide recommendations on a planning, cost of service, and rate-setting process," changing the third bullet so it read "review the forecasted capital needs and rate structure based on," and adding "cost of service recovery, system equity charge; and renewable energy" to the items listed immediately under that bullet. The motion was seconded by Mayor Treece and approved unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Skala made a motion to amend the amendment sheet included in the packet, which had been proposed by Mr. Thomas, by removing the bullet beginning with "determining the cost of expanding the capacity of the electric utility's…" and the three clauses listed immediately below it. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trapp.

Mr. Thomas stated he opposed this amendment because they had been talking about the cost of expanding the system for years without anything coming forward. It was a complex issue and he believed they wanted the Task Force to specifically study how much they spent as a utility in growing the system for new customers, how little they recovered from the new customers, and the various possible ways to recover the costs.

Mr. Skala explained he did not have any objection to the discussion of that issue by the Task Force. He only did not feel they should tell them they had to do this. He thought they should have the latitude to be able to discuss it. He pointed out the disappointment in staff with regard to connection fees was a separate issue. This Task Force would give advice to the Council. The Task Force would also be aware of this conversation. He was sure they would have the discussion, but did not feel this type of specificity was needed.

Mayor Treece stated he would oppose the deletion as he believed it was the only way to bring focus to that issue, and this was the right time to do it. He commented that he would request this on the water side as well as he wanted to know they had an equitable rate system before asking voters to increase the rates because they would only magnify the gap if equity was not built into the system.

The motion made by Mr. Skala and seconded by Mr. Trapp to amend the amendment sheet included in the packet, which had been proposed by Mr. Thomas, by removing the bullet beginning with "determining the cost of expanding the capacity of the electric utility's…" and the three clauses listed immediately below it was defeated by roll call vote with only Mr. Pitzer, Mr. Trapp, and Mr. Skala voting in favor of it.

Mayor Treece made a motion to amend the amendment sheet included in the packet, which had been proposed by Mr. Thomas, by adding a Section 5 to read "the City Council shall approve an appropriation, scope of service, and RFP for all work performed under this resolution establishing an Integrated Electric Resource Master Plan." The motion was seconded by Mr. Thomas and approved unanimously by voice vote.

Ms. Peters asked for clarification on the membership. Mayor Treece replied that based upon the amendment of Mr. Thomas, it would consist of eleven members, five from the WLAB and six at-large appointed by Council with consideration given to different customer classes and a range of socio-economic classes represented by electric utility customers, and four ad-hoc non-voting members from the Environment and Energy Commission, the Community Development Commission, the University of Missouri, and Boone Electric Cooperative.

Mr. Thomas understood Mr. Hasheider had suggested adding distributed generation to the third bullet from the end of Section 1 that began with "assisting staff in identifying specific generation…."

Mr. Thomas made a motion to amend the amendment sheet included in the packet, which had been proposed by Mr. Thomas, by changing the third bullet from the end of Section 1 so it read "assist staff in identifying specific generation, transmission, substation, distribution system, and distributed generation improvement projects, budgets and schedules." The motion was seconded by Mr. Trapp.

Mr. Pitzer stated he would not vote in favor of this amendment as renewable energy was covered, and he thought by definition distributed generation was not a part of the system. It was tied to the system, but a lot of it was private. He commented that there might be enhancements to incentivize distributed generation that would result from this process, but he did think it was appropriate to incorporate distributed generation into the entire system.

Mr. Thomas thought there was a lot in budgets that related to distributed generation and felt how they treated behind the meter generation should be considered. He believed it was valid to keep it in there.

Mr. Skala commented that he believed it was a reasonable insertion as he did not feel they were lumped together.

The motion made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Trapp to amend the amendment sheet included in the packet, which had been proposed by Mr. Thomas, by changing the third bullet from the end of Section 1 so it read "assist staff in identifying specific generation, transmission, substation, distribution system, and distributed generation improvement projects, budgets and schedules" was approved by voice vote with only Mr. Pitzer voting against it.

The motion made Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mayor Treece to amend R36-18 per the amendment sheet included in the packet, which had been proposed by Mr. Thomas and as it had been amended by other amendments, was approved unanimously by roll call vote with Mr. Thomas, Mr. Pitzer, Ms. Peters, Mayor Treece, Mr. Ruffin, Mr. Trapp, and Mr. Skala voting in favor of it.

Mayor Treece suggested applications be taken for the six at-large members for 30 days and for appointments to be made next month assuming they approved this tonight.

Mr. Skala asked Ms. Amin asked if it was a distinction without a difference if they opened this for 30 days and decided to extend it or if they just opened it up for 60 days. Ms. Amin replied no. She explained it would be on the website on Wednesday and in the papers on Sunday.

Mr. Thomas understood that if they were going to make appointments in 28-30 days, the application process would have to be closed prior to then. Ms. Amin stated that was correct, and noted it would close in about two weeks.

Mr. Thomas stated that based on their experience with the Fair Housing Task Force, he would suggest they vote on these appointments in two months. Ms. Amin understood this would be open for two rounds and they would accept any applications in the meantime as well. It appeared as though everyone was in agreement. Ms. Amin stated the applications would come to the Council at the second meeting in May. Mr. Thomas understood they would make appointments then.

The vote on R36-18, as amended, was recorded as follows: VOTING YES: THOMAS, PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Resolution declared adopted, reading as follows:

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

The following bills were given second reading and the resolutions were read by the Clerk.

B57-18 Appropriating funds to conduct condition assessments, asset inventory bar coding and Level I energy audits on 23 City-owned and occupied facilities.

B60-18 Appropriating funds for the replacement of a water utility truck.

R37-18 Setting a public hearing: proposed replacement of storm drainage and sanitary sewer infrastructure along a portion of Garth Avenue north of Lynn Street.

R38-18 Setting a public hearing: voluntary annexation of property located at the southwest corner of Highway KK and Scott Boulevard (Case No. 18-42).

R39-18 Authorizing a software license purchase agreement with Harris Geospatial Solutions, Inc. as it relates to the analysis of aerial photography to perform an update of the City's natural resources inventory.

R40-18 Authorizing a partnership agreement with Healthy Bottoms Diaper Bank to provide diapers to participants of the Missouri Department of Health and Human Services' WIC program.

R41-18 Transferring funds from FY 2016 General Fund savings allocated to the City Manager's Office to the Parks and Recreation Department's Career Awareness Related Experience (CARE) program for the temporary employment of two (2) neighborhood outreach specialists.

R42-18 Authorizing a long term lane closure and sidewalk closure on Tiger Avenue between Rollins Street and Kentucky Avenue, and a short term closure of Rollins Street between Missouri Avenue and Tiger Avenue.

R43-18 Authorizing a Non-Public Utility Transmission Owner Commitment with Midcontinent Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. (MISO).

The bills were given third reading and the resolutions were read with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: THOMAS, PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bills declared enacted and resolutions declared adopted, reading as follows:

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

IX. INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

The following bills were introduced by the Mayor unless otherwise indicated, and all were given first reading.

B61-18 Approving a Major Amendment to the C-P Plan for Crosscreek Center, Lot 105, located east of U.S. Highway 63, north of the terminus of Stadium Boulevard (State Route 740) and west of Cinnamon Hill Lane/Maguire Boulevard; approving revised design parameters (Case No. 18-43).

B62-18 Approving the Final Plat of Guitar's Subdivision and Park Addition Plat 2, a Replat of all of Lot 69 and the East Half of Lot 70 of Guitars Subdivision and Park, located on the southwest corner of the Forest Avenue and Providence Road intersection (208 and 212 E. Forest Avenue); authorizing a performance contract (Case No.17-186).

B63-18 Appropriating funds for the Project Compliance Inspector position in the Community Development Department.

B64-18 Authorizing a municipal agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for roadway improvements to a portion of Route 763 (College Avenue), between Business Loop 70 and Stadium Boulevard.

B65-18 Accepting a donation from the Columbia Board of Realtors for the 2018 Fair Housing and Lending Seminar; appropriating funds.

B66-18 Accepting a STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant from the Missouri Department of Public Safety; authorizing an Award of Contract and Certified Assurances and Special Conditions.

B67-18 Appropriating funds for Share the Light Program.

X. REPORTS

REP19-18 Administrative Public Improvement Project - WWTP Engineering Offices Remodel.

Discussion shown with REP20-18.

REP20-18 Administrative Public Improvement Process - WWTP Interim Peak Flow and Storage Upgrades.

Mr. Johnsen provided a staff report.
Mr. Trapp asked why the administrative public improvement process was the better way to move forward on these projects. Mr. Johnsen replied the bid call and awarding of the bid would be an administrative process and the time frame associated with the project would be shorter. It was a managerial versus a legislative process. Mr. Matthes commented that these generally were projects not used by the public, would make them

more efficient, or were projects they owned and operated. It was also a much faster process. Ms. Thompson explained the Council had established certain benchmarks in the City Code, and if those benchmarks were not met, the project could go through the administrative process.

Ms. Peters understood no action was needed from the Council. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct. This allowed for the Council to keep them from moving forward with the administrative process if preferred. Ms. Peters understood if they were okay with that process, it would just be considered a report. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct.

REP21-18 City's Efforts in Promoting Diversity and Inclusiveness.

Mr. Matthes provided a staff report.

Mr. Trapp asked who was on the subcommittee for diversity and inclusiveness. Mr. Matthes replied he would email that list tomorrow. Mr. Pitzer asked that the Operational Excellence team be included in that email.

Mr. Pitzer asked if the Building Inclusive Communities training was voluntary or mandatory. Mr. Matthes replied it was voluntary at this time.

Mr. Trapp asked if that training had been approved for post-training for police officers fairly recently. Mr. Matthes replied yes. He explained police officers had a lot of training that included bias-free policing, unconditional respect, etc., but the specific class of Building Inclusive Communities had not been POST certified, and had recently become POST certified so it would count toward the requirements of police officers each year. Mr. Trapp assumed there was an application process POST considered to look at whether the training was of the caliber for professional training for that field, and that they could get other trainings POST certified. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct.

Mr. Pitzer asked if employees were given time if they wanted to attend the trainings. Mr. Matthes replied yes, and explained they encouraged people to participate.

REP22-18 Crime Reduction Strategy Report.

Mr. Matthes provided a staff report.

Mayor Treece explained he had asked for this, but it was not what he had expected to receive.

Mr. Thomas commented that as they transitioned to community-oriented policing, he thought it was important to change their perception of the causes of crime from what he thought he understood from this report of there being a perception that there were bad people and good people along with the need to catch the bad people and incarcerate them to a much greater openness to the idea that crime was the result of environmental factors in people's lives, such as social, economic, and cultural issues, and they should look to stop crime by addressing those issues in collaboration with the people on the receiving end of those issues and the entire community. He stated that was what community-oriented policing was in his mind.

Mayor Treece noted he had asked for this after the last homicide of 2017 that had occurred in Old Hawthorne, and in looking at the 2017 homicide review, it appeared the barrier to making an arrest was the lack of witness cooperation, but the solutions did not address what they would do to build the trust of the community with the Police Department so it would encourage the type of witness cooperation that would be needed to close those cases. He commented that he was likely not interested in the top four recommendations. They could use the $500,000 per year for more officers instead of the technology mentioned. He noted that unless all of those crimes involved children, he was not sure how a curfew would help. In addition, he was not sure they had the capacity to handle more video now. With respect to the requirement for new officers, he wondered about the vacancy rate. He asked how many funded unfilled positions they had now. Police Chief Burton replied ten. Mr. Skala understood that was fairly constant. Chief Burton stated it fluctuated, and pointed out seventeen were in field training. Mayor Treece asked how many were in the retirement pipeline. Chief Burton replied he thought 5-7 were eligible for retirement now.

Mr. Skala understood they felt community-orientated policing was time intensive so there was a need for at least enough police officers that they could adequately go beyond the three strategic areas. He commented that the report was comprehensive, but short on what the City could do and what additional help was needed. He understood the financial restrictions, which were related to the issue of public trust. He was not sure what they could get out of the other alternatives suggested, such as mobile surveillance. He commented that they had talked a lot about the false alarms associated with security systems and felt that was fertile ground. He stated he thought they were restricted in that this was a relatively small list and because some of the items on the list were toxic. He suggested they focus on the trust rebuilding idea and community-oriented policing so they could then go to the public to ask for a public safety measure.

Mr. Pitzer understood the fiscal impact had indicated the City would spend $45 million over the next two years to deliver the comprehensive strategy outlined, and asked if that was based on the current plan and did not include the eight suggestions. Mr. Matthes replied yes.

Mr. Pitzer asked for more information on the focused deterrence plan as the memo indicated the goal was to identify the most violent people in the community and confront them via a customized notification meeting. He asked how individuals were identified and how that meeting might look. Chief Burton replied most of the offenders on the list were known offenders as they had been arrested for multiple offenses multiple times. It was when they engaged in violent activity that they caught eye of the Police Department. He explained they were focusing on those that had the propensity to engage in violence and had done so in the past, and focused deterrence was essentially telling those people that they wanted to help them get out of the life by assisting them in finding resources to get out of that life, but if they did not, the Police Department would come after them with full enforcement behind them. They were essentially told they had two paths, one that was lawful and one that was lawless, and the consequences associated with the lawless path. Mr. Pitzer asked if the Police Department coordinated with other entities. Chief Burton replied yes. He noted they were waiting on President Trump to appoint the local U.S. Attorney as there was only an interim at this time. Mr. Pitzer asked if they had been doing this long enough to judge if the program had been successful. Chief Burton replied they had not actually started because the local U.S. Attorney was one of their major partners. They were on hold until that office became a signatory. Mr. Pitzer asked for clarification as the memo indicated the program had been formed in 2017. Chief Burton replied they had studied the issue and had created their own model. Mr. Pitzer asked if this would take officers away from the existing workload. Chief Burton replied no, and explained they had one officer that would work primarily on this by identifying and communicating with people. There would be other support in terms of resources for jobs in hopes of getting people out of the life of crime.

Mayor Treece asked how many detectives the City had now. Chief Burton replied fourteen. Mayor Treece asked how many they had about ten years ago. Chief Burton replied he thought it would be about the same number, but he would have to check to be sure. Mayor Treece asked Chief Burton if he could check and get back to him.

Mr. Trapp noted saturation patrols had not been listed, and asked for clarification. Chief Burton replied that was by design, and explained saturation patrol was a tactic and not a program. It was something they used when they had a rise in crime in a certain area to see if they could identify offenders. He stated this could be done for property crimes, violent crimes, etc. He reiterated it was a tactic and not a program.

Mr. Trapp commented that he liked a number of the different elements and appreciated the overview of what had been done and what had been considered in the past. He stated there were things others had mentioned that he agreed were not worth pursuing. He noted he had asked about a temporary camera for the Bodie Drive, Currituck Lane, and Edenton Boulevard area because there was one access point through which everyone drove, but the area had calmed down with the community outreach unit. It had taken

away the need for additional surveillance. He commented that he thought saturation patrols were worth examining in the context of the data. He pointed out Mayor Treece made a good point about witness cooperation being the barrier for solving crimes. He explained what he liked about focused deterrence versus saturation patrols was that it was based upon actual crime information and was targeting individuals based on crime facts instead of geography, which he felt could contribute to their racial disparities. He noted the State Police had low disparities compared to Columbia, and did not feel the State had better officers or officers with less unconscious bias. He wondered how saturation patrols contributed to the disparities, and whether the collateral damage to the trust, relationships, and peoples' feelings of integrity with the policing force was more expensive than the benefits received. He understood from his conversations with people that most wanted to maintain a heavy police presence in areas of high crime so it was a difficult balancing act, but thought working toward the new policy of focusing on crime facts was a step in the right direction. He asked that this be considered when addressing the tactics that would be used.

REP23-18 Intra-Departmental Transfer of Funds Request.

Mr. Pitzer understood one of the transfers involved the STEM Alliance and asked what happened if that was never approved by the Council. Mr. Matthes replied the report provided Council a list of the transfers that had already happened, and in this situation, money was just moved from the Public Works General Fund Savings account to a specific account that would spend it at the point the Council made a decision as to how to proceed. He explained they had gone ahead and moved the money, and it showed up on the report this time. The money was not spent and would not be spent until the Council decided how to move forward. If the Council decided not to spend it, the money could be moved back.

Mr. Pitzer asked if the funds had been transferred prior to the previous meeting. Mr. Matthes replied not before the previous meeting. It had been done in the interim because the Council had indicated a desire to proceed in some fashion. Ms. Peters noted this did not determine what program it would go toward. It just indicated the money should go to a STEM program. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct. He commented that as part of the budget process the Council had set aside a total of $35,000 to be used for a STEM Alliance type purpose. This transfer put the Public Works portion of the money into an account where it could be spent after the Council decided where they wanted to spend it.

Mayor Treece asked if the money had not been transferred before the last council meeting and the Council had not approved a contribution to the Columbia STEM Alliance, why $20,000 had been moved to the Columbia STEM Alliance after that council meeting. Mr. Matthes replied it had not been given to that organization. It had just been moved to an account where it could be spent moving forward. Mayor Treece asked why the description was so descriptive. Mr. Matthes replied he thought many of the staff referred to the whole effort as the STEM Alliance. Mayor Treece suggested STEM initiative, STEM activity, or STEM effort.

Mr. Skala understood nothing would be spent until the Council made a determination of where it would be spent. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct. He pointed out they could not sign a contract if the funds were not there so this had been done in preparation for the next decision. Mr. Skala understood the City would not assign the funds until Council authorization was received. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct.

Mr. Ruffin understood the STEM Alliance was working on a proposal. Mr. Matthes stated staff was working on what had been requested by Council.

Mr. Pitzer commented that given their vote at the last meeting, he would not like to see this kind of transfer happen in supposition because it assumed the approval would come. He understood a contract could not be signed, but he thought there had been other cases where the Council had approved an action and had seen the transfer at the follow meeting.

Mr. Skala stated he was not trying to defend this transfer, but pointed out they had made

a decision to allocate the money from surplus funds. He agreed with the point of the specific name used, but understood the funds could not be released regardless of whatever it was called.

Mr. Pitzer commented that if he had been asked to stop what he was doing, he would have stopped without taking any further steps. Mr. Matthes explained the Council had told staff three things. One was to do STEM Alliance via $35,000 as part of the budget process. Mayor Treece stated he did not believe that had been said. Mr. Matthes stated those were the words in the budget. Mayor Treece noted it was STEM initiative in the budget, and it was $15,000. Mr. Matthes agreed the Council portion was $15,000, and $20,000 would come from Public Works. Mayor Treece pointed out it was not to a not-for-profit. It was STEM initiative. Mr. Matthes agreed. He noted they had done what was requested with the first vote, and the second vote involved a pause and for them to come back to Council with something else.

Mr. Skala asked if it would be a problem to change the name of this to STEM initiative instead of Columbia STEM Alliance. Mr. Matthes replied no. Mr. Skala suggested that be done.

Mr. Matthes stated the purpose of this report was to let the Council know of the transfers that had occurred. The service had not been contracted.

Mr. Pitzer noted he fully understood what had occurred. He explained he would not have transferred $20,000 for this purpose for this fund immediately after being told to hit pause. Mr. Matthes stated staff had been told to come back with a different result. Mayor Treece asked about the different result. Mr. Matthes replied the Council had given staff two months to work through a specific scope of work. Mayor Treece stated he had also been told they would do an RFP. Mr. Matthes explained that might be what they recommend, but the action the Council took was to come up with a detailed scope of service. Mayor Treece pointed out they had transferred the money to a line item for a specific not-for-profit, and wondered how it could then be an open RFP process. Mr. Matthes stated he thought the choice of words was unfortunate as it could create confusion. The funds just went from one account to another, and it would be the account from which the money was spent once the Council decided how they wanted to move forward.

Mr. Trapp understood this was an informational report so it was already done. Mayor Treece understood, but pointed out staff had done something that had not been authorized. Mr. Trapp noted the end result was that money had just been moved from Public Works FY16 General Fund Savings to Public Works Administration. It was the description that had language with which they had issue. Mr. Skala commented that he agreed, and noted they were obligated to spend $35,000 on STEM as that was the discussion they had during the budget process. He agreed there was a discrepancy with the use of the term that described a non-profit when it was a fund for anything related to STEM research given the direction they had provided staff.

Mr. Pitzer understood this fund transfer could have happened at any time since they had approved the budget. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct. Mr. Pitzer understood it just ended up happening after they had the discussion at the last meeting. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct as that had been the timing of it.

XI. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, COUNCIL AND STAFF

Rachel Taylor, 119 Clinton Drive, stated she wanted to comment on the stark contrast between the reports about diversity and inclusiveness and crime reduction strategy. As the Council had noted, there had been a lack of awareness of the systemic connections between the way they approached public safety and the numbers they had seen with regard to disparate treatment. She was glad some on the Council had made cogent comments about the overkill in the response in terms of initiating or proposing surveillance and other measures. She noted this systemic disconnect was part of what continued to propagate the systemic inequality they faced in Columbia. As a result, it

was important to continue to be alert for when it happened, and to point it out and challenge it as had been done tonight. She commented that a roadmap had milestones, stakeholder definitions, tasks, and deliverables, and stated she expected to receive one in a PowerPoint presentation format as she had mentioned before when referring to the community-oriented policing project plan. She expected the citizens to be treated as she would expect to be treated in a business context, and that was with the respect that a well-documented and indexed proposal would provide.

Mr. Thomas asked Ms. Taylor if she would support some kind of community forum after the six month planning process to take the key points of the plan and invite the public to respond to it. Ms. Taylor replied she actually felt the community should be involved before the six months ended. She explained that was the reason she recommended bi-monthly status reports to be shared with the Council and the defined stakeholders.

John Clark, 403 N. Ninth Street, stated he had met with the City Manager and had made some suggestions as he did not feel the planning process would work as it was set up. He recommended the Council suggest to the City Manager to direct the Police Chief to contact the Community Relations Service of the Department of Justice (DOJ) in Kansas City as they allowed police departments to ask for help in addressing all kinds of problems, to include this. They could help design, lead, and facilitate it, and do a lot of the things Ms. Taylor had mentioned. He understood Mr. Matthes would look at some things and pick and choose strategies.

Mr. Clark commented that he felt the crime reduction strategy report illustrated the deafness of cops. It essentially said more money and more cops were needed. He believed it was a lost opportunity for the Police Department to meaningfully show they were not deaf. There was also mention of the focused deterrence approach and how proud they were, and felt that was a joke because Columbia did not have the level of violence and the kind of problems that would warrant that program. He believed it was recipe for massive abuse. He understood Dale Roberts, the Executive Director of the Columbia Police Officers Association (CPOA), had recently yelled at the City Manager because someone had testified at a hearing of a person that had never been accused of violence. Neither of them understood the program. He reiterated it was a bad idea.

Mr. Clark stated he could not imagine how deaf the staff was to transfer money or not stop the transfer of money around the STEM issue. He commented that it showed City staff simply assumed it had the authority to do more, requiring the Council to consistently rein them in.

Mr. Clark referred to the sports complex and stated he did not understand why that was an either or situation. He also did not understand why there had not been some kind of work session with everyone involved months, if not years, ago. The idea that fourteen months had been spent on the issue before the Council had met with people from the County in work session was an indictment of the relationship and the way staff thought was the best way to proceed. He commented that he believed staff could be very competent city servants, but not if they continued to behave in that way.

Eugene Elkin, 3406 Range Line Street, explained a few months ago he had indicated he felt there had been a personal attack on the poor, the needy, and the disabled, like him, with regard to trash bags and the newsletter. He commented that it took until this week for him to receive trash bags and noted he wanted to know how that had been initiated. He understood the landlords in all trailer courts had not been involved in the decision, and had been told that they had to take over trash service. He commented that those that lived in the trailer courts did not have increases in money on an annual basis, and wondered why a decision was made to put such a burden on them without notification.

Mr. Elkin stated Faith Voices of Columbia would launch a team to focus on access to safe, affordable, and comfortable housing at 7:00 p.m. at the Wilkes Church on Thursday, March 22. He commented that hundreds of their neighbors went unsheltered every night,

and thousands struggled to pay rent each month. He believed this was a moral issue for the community and asked the Council to participate.

Mr. Trapp understood the Substance Abuse Advisory Commission (SAAC) had been discussing overdrinking and drink specials, and an alternative idea suggested by a constituent was for bouncer identification training. He noted mandatory server training had helped, and thought the training for bouncers in identifying fake IDs might be a limited measure they should consider. He understood there were also alcohol responsibility standards that drinking establishments could earn through good policies, appropriate behavior, and staff training. He viewed that to be similar to what they did in terms of the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement Awards by recognizing those with sustainable practices.

Mr. Trapp understood one of the constant frustrations of people in the Second Ward involved the lack of neighborhood serving businesses. As a result, he had been in conversation with people that were trying to bring neighborhood serving businesses to the Second Ward, and they had indicated the City could help with data. He asked if there was recent traffic data and demographic data as it might be helpful in making the case the Second Ward could support a grocery store as that anchor development would open up the possibility of restaurants and small retail businesses. He stated he would be interested in seeing that information if it existed. He understood the City Manager had suggested looking at some economic gardening. They had rejected an earlier proposal that seemed to be based on recruitment that many in the private sector felt was already happening. He wondered if they could do some things within the free market that would encourage neighborhood serving businesses in the Second Ward.

Mr. Skala stated he was supportive of improvements to the governing process, but noted he was getting tired of these constant rants at staff incompetence. It was just not fair. He agreed mistakes were being made and they would try to correct those mistakes. He commented that he agreed with the concern of Mr. Pitzer with regard to the transfer of funds, but noted they had approved the spending of the monies. The wording was unfortunate because it tended to specify something in particular. He pointed out the money would not be spent until they approved the spending of it. He reiterated he was getting tired of the constant attacks. He noted there might be shortcomings in certain aspects with certain departments, but thought the staff and this government was doing a pretty good job on behalf of the community. They would not be attractive as a community if that was not the case.

Mr. Skala noted staff was looking into the issue of vacation rentals, which were also known as Airbnbs, and understood there had been a firestorm of comments. He believed there might have been a misunderstanding that the City was trying to put people out of business that were just trying to make a little extra money. He stated they were awaiting a report on the subject and noted he was anxious to see the report. He pointed out this had been prompted by an article about New Orleans as businesses were buying up property to rent them on a very short term basis and causing all kinds of nuisance and gentrification issues in certain neighborhoods. He reiterated he was anxious to see the report on this topic. Mr. Matthes stated it was in process and would likely come forward in May.

Mr. Skala commented that with the consent of the City Council he would like to refer the issues of density bonuses and inclusionary zoning to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) so they could start the discussion as it might be able to assist with affordable housing needs.

Mayor Treece stated REDI had adopted a statement entitled Principles of Community at its last meeting, and it had come from the great work Dr. Kevin McDonald was doing for the University of Missouri. He understood the Chamber of Commerce had also adopted it and the University was either in the process of adopting it or had already done so. He also understood from talking to Dr. McDonald that Columbia could be one of the first communities in the country to adopt these Principles of Community across all platforms, and encouraged the Columbia Public Schools and private business to adopt it as well to make them a welcoming community. He asked that the Principles of Community be brought back as a resolution for consideration at the next council meeting. He thought this was consistent with the work they had done on community policing and the Strategic Plan. He asked if there was any objection. No one objected.

Mr. Thomas supported Mr. Skala's request of the PZC to look at density bonuses for affordable housing and inclusionary zoning. He noted the Fair Housing Task Force would also explore those same topics and hoped that would result in more discussions about those strategies.

Mr. Ruffin commented that fourteen culturally and racially diverse congregations from across the City had gathered together in January to participate in a special project called Critical Conversations in Troubled Times. He noted they were doing a unified book study on a book entitled *America's Original Sin*, which dealt with the history of race and racism in the country as well as the disenfranchisement of Native Americans. He stated it had been amazingly successful and they had broken into smaller groups that were meeting all over the community. They were now within the third month and were having really difficult, awkward, and honest conversations about how they could ensure Columbia would become the beloved community they all wanted. He noted they were also building friendships with people who did not look like them, talk like them, or think like they did. He stated they were really pursing a better and more profound understanding of how race and racism affected all of their lives. He commented that he had been happy to participate in it because it was consistent with the work they were doing as a Council and with the vision of where they were moving as a City. It was a grassroots effort that had been very productive.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Treece adjourned the meeting without objection at 10:34 p.m.