



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Monday, March 16, 2020
6:00 PM

Pre-Council

Conference Room
1A/1B
Columbia City Hall
701 E. Broadway

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:04 p.m.

Mayor Treece noted that the capacity of the room has been limited for social distancing purposes. He stated that the pre-council will be contracted and each topic should be ten minutes or less, so that Stephanie Browning can update the Council on preparedness for COVID-19.

Present: 7 - Ruffin, Trapp, Thomas, Peters, Treece, Skala, and Pitzer

Police and Fire Pension Update

Attachments: [City of Columbia Fact Sheet](#)
[Portfolio Value and Allocation as of 12/31/2019](#)
[RSM FY19 Audit Presentation](#)
[Princeton Investment Consulting](#)

Matthew Lue, Director of Finance, stated that Marc Shegoski with UBS was in attendance to discuss the Police and Fire Pension. Mr. Shegoski stated that he is the Managing Director of Wealth Management with UBS. He provided a brief history on the background and experience of his team. Mr. Shegoski provided a snapshot of the total portfolio value and allocation for the Police and Fire pension as of 12/31/2019 which totaled \$150,492,705. He reviewed portfolio returns noting that allocations have done what they expected and they expect more volatility moving forward. He stated that fees are very low and they have hit the actuarial assumption even in a tough market. Councilperson Peters asked if given the volatility, they are comfortable with how assets are distributed. Mr. Shegoski stated that they are. The Council thanked Mr. Shegoski for attending.

Cullimore Cottages Update

Attachments: [Cullimore Cottages Presentation](#)

Randy Cole, Housing Programs Manager, stated that there are Council actions on the near horizon for Cullimore Cottages and he wanted to update Council on the project, in particular, the funding. He reviewed the site layout for the cottages noting there are ten energy efficient homes, and he reviewed the home designs. He stated that they aligned the CHDO and CCLT bid process and procured an architect to tighten the designs. Due to increased competition costs for realtor fees, financing costs and builder pricing have decreased. He reviewed the criteria for CHDO stating there are capacity challenges with CHDO and overhead costs can be higher. He reviewed some of the CHDO regulations and noted some of the challenges. He stated that the City partners by allocating at least 15% of HOME funds to CHDO annually. CCLT receives the land at closing and provides

additional capacity beyond the 15% cap. He stated previous budgeting included five homes, but the Housing Community Development Commission is recommending funding for three homes through CHDO's and remaining \$151,732 with CCLT which will be a significant savings. He reviewed the CHDO and CCLT proposed costs noting a significance saving potential. He stated that the first Council Meeting in April will include an FY 2019 Annual Action Plan Amendment to dedicate the funds to the project. Mayor Treece asked what the construction time frame is and what other barriers may be expected. Mr. Cole stated the biggest barrier on projects like this is just to get all the schedules to line up. There will be eight done at once.

II. ALL OTHER ITEMS THE COUNCIL MAY WISH TO DISCUSS

COVID-19 Update

Mayor Treece asked the Director of Public Health and Human Services, Stephanie Browning to provide an update on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic. He stated that he has been in regular contact with other local leaders on how to handle things locally. Mayor Treece stated that decisions are backed by data and the community should speak with a unified voice so we can communicate credible information. This is a natural disaster unfolding and preparedness, response and recovery are always key in disasters scenarios.

Ms. Browning stated that her department monitors the CDC site. Totals for today are 3,480 cases of COVID-19. Last Friday there were 1,629. So cases over the weekend doubled. Deaths are also increasing, as are the states reporting confirmed cases. In Missouri, there are 6 confirmed cases. Testing has only recently been approved for private labs to test, so numbers will likely increase as more tests are being done.

Actions to date: An incident command system has been implemented, they are partnering with health care entities, and numerous conference calls are occurring with other communities and partners. Travelers that may require monitoring are self-isolating including study abroad students and there is increased communication to the public and City staff. City facilities have been advised on cleaning and disinfecting procedures. The City has committed to not shut off utilities during this time. Shelter populations have been provided sanitizer and steps to prepare. Targeted guidance has been sent to faith based communities, shelters, volunteer groups, CPS, long-term care providers, and other local health care providers, etc.

Next Steps: Increasing testing, ensuring quarantine and pulling in other staff to assist as needed. The Contact Center will be provided scripting for incoming calls. Mr. Glascock stated that it's a time to have compassion and consider staff that won't have time to take off and may need to stay home home with children. We need to consider how we budget for the economic impact of this and how we can continue operations. We may re-assign staff to other roles to keep everyone busy, but safe. We are encouraging social distancing and increased cleaning.

Mayor Treece felt the biggest challenge is testing. The state lab will be able to do 1,000 per week compared to a private lab doing 800 to 1,000 per day. There is a goal to test every Missourian with a fever and dry cough, but they are not on track to meet that goal right now. The impact on families will really expose the inequities in our system including child care, paid leave, insurance, access to technology, etc. The community impact of the census is also something that will continue to be discussed.

Mr. Ruffin asked what happens if someone tests positive, but can't cover the cost of the test. Ms. Browning stated that the State Health Lab is free, but you must meet criteria to be eligible, which still requires a visit to a doctor. If someone has an issue, the Health

Dept. will assist as they can. MU Health Care is offering \$10 virtual visits which is a low cost option without putting yourself into the community.

Mr. Skala confirmed we do not have confirmed cases. Ms. Browning stated that is correct, but if there were more testing, we will likely be seeing more cases. Mr. Pitzer asked if the City could do testing. Ms. Browning stated that she has only seven nurses and just as flu testing, those services are contracted out. He asked about drive through tests. Ms. Browning replied that they are talking about that tomorrow with Springfield, who started that practice today.

Mr. Ruffin asked how deep they go on contact consulting. Ms. Browning said it's different for each case to assess the risk and likelihood of exposure. It's really based on each persons interactions. Ms. Peters asked what the symptoms must be displayed in order to be tested. Ms. Browning replied that they must rule out influenza, but have fever, coughing or shortness of breath, and other requirements. It is a relatively long list of criteria to qualify for a state test.

Mr. Thomas asked if we area coordinating with social service providers to coordinate needs and donations. Mr. Glascock stated that John Baker will be at the regular meeting and the Community Foundation is setting something up. Ms. Browning stated that it's important to use the incident command structure to know what agencies need. Mayor Treece stated that he has asked the Governor to consider reducing the restrictions on the unemployment compensation fund, which includes tipped workers. Anything that can be done to get those people some money will be helpful. As there are displaced workers, there are other entities that might need more workers.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:54 p.m.