

## **Columbia City Council Pre-Council Minutes**

Monday, July 15, 2013 6:00 p.m.

City Hall – Council Chambers

701 East Broadway

**Council members present:** Mayor McDavid, Fred Schmidt, Mike Trapp, Karl Skala (arrived at 6:07), Ian Thomas, Laura Nauser (arrived at 6:08) and Barbara Hoppe

**Absent:** None

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Mayor McDavid called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

### **Google Hangouts to Broadcast Council Meetings:**

City Manager Mike Matthes, introduced Lelande Rehard, City Management Fellow. Mr. Rehard noted that the City is currently using Google extensively for email, drive, sites, calendar and more. He added that we are not yet taking advantage of Google hangout and On-Air. A Google Hangout allows video conferencing for up to 15 people. On-Air is a live broadcast of a Hangout. Broadcasted meetings allow for us to advertise and promote meetings and archive through YouTube. Non-broadcasted meetings use web cameras which could enable other City Boards and Commissions to broadcast meetings and enable greater public comment. Mr. Rehard suggested also using Google Hangout for meetings, interviews and Council office hours. He noted some advantages including a greater reach, ability to promote, and ability to interact. There are some limitations though, such as a 4 hour time limit, lack of control of service, technical and training issues to overcome and the inability to control interaction.

Mr. Rehard showed a live demonstration of the current pre-council using the same feed that goes out on the City Channel. He added that links to sessions can also be embedded in social media posts and on the City web site. There is a demo feature that would allow people to post questions to people hosting it and the person manning the account could answer.

Mayor McDavid noted that the City Channel is indexed with the agenda and he asked if there would be a search feature or a way to tag items. Mr. Rehard explained that there is no search ability and he is not recommending this replace the current Granicus or City Channel systems. Council person Skala felt that this might not be a great item for YouTube, as many people might not watch a long council meeting on YouTube. He felt that it seemed repetitive of what City Channel already does. Mr. Rehard noted that in the future, this could allow greater ability to interact with the community and add commentary. He would like get started now, so that staff can get comfortable with doing

hangouts. These could be broadcast from anywhere that has internet streaming, audio and a web camera. Mr. Matthes commented that the request to explore this came from a google plus user, so we decided to look into opportunities. Google plus has become the second largest social network in the world. Council person Thomas added that the City Channel is also not available on basic cable anymore, so this could reach people with a google plus account. Ms. Hoppe felt it would be beneficial so that she could review missed commission meeting when she has conflicts. Council agreed that it would be beneficial to try it since it is free of charge and could allow more transparency and community engagement.

### **Youth Anti-Violence Task Force:**

Mayor McDavid commented that he intends to ask for a resolution to form anti-violence task force during the regular meeting in light of recent incidents. There are many ways to set this up and Council persons Nauser and Trapp are deeply engaged in this issue and have expressed interest and willingness to be co-moderators of the task force. They will create a syllabus; manage input at meetings, etc. He has spoken to many community leaders to gather suggestions for task force members. He asked council to consider a list of suggested nominations and asked that they forward those suggestions to himself along with Council persons Trapp and Nauser. The resolution for this task force should pass at the August 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting, at which time task force members could be named. He felt that the Task Force should be supported by City staff to include the City Manager's Office staff and Columbia Police Department support.

Ms. Hoppe felt that the task force should have recommendations to Council before 15 months.

Ms. Nauser referred to a handout and stated the Mission of the Columbia Youth Anti-Violence Task Force is to create a coordinated comprehensive multi-year plan to address youth crime. Mr. Trapp added that this will focus on the community.

Mr. Skala felt that the emphasis should be on youth crime and noted that the National League of Cities Youth Institute has many resources. There is an NLC Meeting in Seattle in November he will be attending. He doesn't want to rush into forming the group without exploring some other resources first that may already have a lot of the task force work done already.

Mayor McDavid agreed and added that one resource we have that could have a substantial footprint on this is the Columbia Public Schools. The solution is a societal change, not just a police problem that requires more officers.

Mr. Schmidt was pleased with the proposed structure and will help focus the structure.

Ms. Nauser agreed with Mr. Skala that we don't need to reinvent the wheel and the NLC has a great wealth of ideas and resources and we can then tailor those solutions to our community through the task force.

Mayor McDavid asked Council to submit ideas and names for potential members

and to forward submissions the Ward 2, Ward 5 and Mayor email:  
[Ward2@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:Ward2@GoColumbiaMo.com), [Ward5@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:Ward5@GoColumbiaMo.com) and  
[Mayor@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:Mayor@GoColumbiaMo.com)

Mr. Thomas hopes that the task force can research and explain what the lives of young people behaving this way is like and why they make the choices that they do, that enters them into the life of gangs and violence. That could help with intervention points in the lives of youths.

Mr. Matthes indicated he was encouraged by this conversation and that he and Chief Burton are supportive of anything the task force needs. Mayor McDavid added that he intends to ask for a report on violent crime and gun related statistics at the regular council meeting as well.

Here is a link to the handouts provided:

<https://www.gocolumbiamo.com/CMS/bcmanager/downloadfile.php?id=10274>

**Other Topics Council Wishes to Discuss:**

Mr. Matthes reminded Council that the next meeting is a closed session and will be in Conference Room 1A/1B.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:46 PM.