

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
701 E. BROADWAY, COLUMBIA, MISSOURI  
DECEMBER 2, 2013**

**INTRODUCTORY**

The City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri met for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 2, 2013, 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 NAUSER, HOPPE, MCDAVID, TRAPP, SKALA and THOMAS were present. Council Member SCHMIDT was absent. The City Manager, City Counselor, City Clerk and various Department Heads were also present.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 18, 2013 were approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Ms. Nauser and a second by Mr. Skala.

**APPROVAL AND ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA INCLUDING CONSENT AGENDA**

Ms. Hoppe requested B342-13 and B348-13 be moved from the consent agenda to old business. Mr. Skala requested R252-13 be moved from the consent agenda to new business.

The agenda, including the consent agenda with B342-13 and B348-13 being moved to old business and R252-13 being moved to new business, was approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Ms. Nauser and a second by Ms. Hoppe.

**SPECIAL ITEMS**

None.

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

None.

**SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Kyle Williams – Changing the traffic light and roundabout at the I-70/Business Loop/Outer Road to be a large roundabout to increase throughput.**

Kyle Williams was not in attendance.

**Vincent Downton – Clark Lane sidewalk need.**

Vincent Downton, 5010 Clark Lane Apt. 100, explained he had been struck by the side mirror of a vehicle while walking home from work along Clark Lane this past September. He stated he had concerns about the current plan to narrow the Clark Lane roadway and placing pedestrian and bicycle traffic next to vehicular traffic. He asked the Council to keep Clark Lane at its current width and provide a sidewalk with a buffer.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**B351-13 Approving the Douglass Park Comprehensive Plan; authorizing construction of the Douglass Park – Phase I improvement project to include**

**construction of an outdoor amphitheater and small shelter, parking improvements, the installation of new signage, construction of walkways, and additional landscaping, storm water and forestry improvements; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.**

The bill was given second reading by the Clerk.

Mr. Griggs provided a staff report.

Mayor McDavid opened the public hearing.

Phil Steinhaus, CEO of the Columbia Housing Authority, 201 Switzler Street, expressed his support of the plan as he felt the changes would improve the park. There were about 200 family site units within one block walking distance of the park, so a lot of families used the park. He agreed with moving the parking lot to the side as it would improve safety, which he felt was a great concern since they wanted to encourage everyone to use the park. He encouraged the City to install more security cameras in the area. He did not believe anyone needed to watch the live video, but it would allow for a review of the video if something were to happen.

Zach Rubin, 501 Lyon Street, expressed his support of these improvements to Douglass Park. He explained he worked in his yard on the weekends and enjoyed the deejay playing music, which would be enhanced by the amphitheater. The one problem he had with the plan involved the angled parking as there was a lot of reckless driving on Fifth Street, and he felt people would try to leave quickly when incident occurred at Douglass Park, which would lead to accidents. He suggested features to slow down traffic, such as speed bumps, or to create something similar to the angled parking at rest stops along I-70, which allowed people to pull forward from the angled parking.

Anthony Stanton, 315 LaSalle, stated he was speaking on behalf of the Douglass Park Neighborhood Association and explained the Association was in support of the plan and Phase 1 of this project. The green space would be improved and parking would help naturally police the area. The Association did not necessarily support additional cameras, and felt the proposed improvements would help the police and make the park safer. He pointed out John Clark, who was unable to attend tonight, had participated in the process and supported the plan. He commented that he believed this would be a good opportunity for minority and small businesses in the area and hoped some of the work could be outsourced to local minority and women-owned business enterprises.

Will Araiza expressed support for a skatepark at Douglass Park as he believed having two skateparks on warm days would help in terms of overcrowding at the current skatepark. He pointed out less crowded skateparks prevented injuries as the number of people crashing into each other or getting hurt trying to avoid someone else would be less. He suggested the new skatepark be built with more advanced obstacles for the more advanced skaters. Traveling to skateparks would be easier as well with two locations because the new skatepark might be closer to some people's homes. It would also keep skaters out of the downtown and off of the streets.

Christopher Bailey explained he served on the Bicycle/Pedestrian Commission and was a small business owner and avid skateboard enthusiast. He pointed out construction techniques had improved and the size and design of obstacles had changed since 1999 when the current concrete skatepark was built, and although the popularity of skateboarding

and Columbia's population had increased, the construction of new skateboarding facilities had not grown. The data collected from the Parks and Recreation Department ranked skateboarding as the third most practiced recreational activity for 2012 in Columbia and first in importance of facilities to households regardless of how often used. The current skatepark was outdated, had become dangerously overcrowded and could be inconvenient to access. He believed a good start to accommodate the community with more accessible and up-to-date facilities would be to construct a more centralized skatepark near downtown. He asked those in the audience in support of the skatepark to stand, and approximately 30 people stood.

Pat Fowler, 606 N. Sixth Street, stated she was delighted by the possibility of a second skatepark. The churches, police, and Parks and Recreation Department staff had worked hard over the last 18 months in trying to return the park to normal park uses. She noted she agreed with Mr. Rubin's comments regarding traffic safety and speed along Fifth Street, and asked that traffic calming be incorporated. She asked the City to utilize the services of the young people involved in Job Point and YouthBuild as many of them had the skill set to do this work. She also thought it would improve the pride they had in their community.

Monta Welch, 2808 Greenbriar Drive, commented that she was speaking on behalf of People's Visioning and stated they were supportive of the design and process. She also noted they were supportive of keeping the youth busy and involving local businesses to do the work. They felt this would be a great improvement to the community and suggested edible plants be incorporated in the project.

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

Ms. Hoppe asked staff to comment on the concerns with angled parking. Mr. Griggs replied the angled parking spaces would be deeper than normal angle parking as normal angle parking was about 18 feet deep and these would be 22 feet deep. This would allow space for people to get equipment out of vehicles without being in the street and would provide more room when backing out on to the street. He noted they could also work with the Public Works Department for traffic calming ideas.

Mayor McDavid understood funding was not available from the 2010 park sales tax for the skatepark. Mr. Griggs stated that was correct. He explained the skatepark the City would like to construct would cost about \$50,000, and they only had \$100,000. He thought they would try to do the basics in terms of improving Douglass Park and would then attempt to find money for the skatepark. He noted they might be able to fund it with excess park sales tax.

Ms. Hoppe understood the intent of staff was to do it as quickly as possible by looking for grants now. Mr. Griggs stated that was correct. Mr. Huffington explained an avenue they might pursue was through the Missouri Foundation for Health as they had funded a skatepark in Poplar Bluff three years ago. He noted the City was currently in talks with them in terms of grant opportunities.

Mayor McDavid thanked the representatives of the skateboard community for stating their opinion. He explained the funding process for parks, which involved an eighth-cent sales tax and priorities for how the money, if approved by the voters, would be passed. As a result, they had already accounted for much of the 2010 park sales tax ballot money. He noted there was a chance the needed funding would become available since they did not

know how much the sales tax would actually be generated. If that money did not become available, he pointed out the City could include it when asking the community to extend the sales tax in 2015.

Mr. Skala asked if Phase 1 involved preparing the ground for the skatepark and other amenities and if future phases would incrementally be done until the entire project was completed. Mr. Huffington replied yes. He explained the City had acquired lots along Fifth Street over the past 5-7 years so the initial discussions and improvements needed involved grading, etc. along that road. In addition, they knew they only had \$100,000 as this time. He pointed out the Parks and Recreation Commission had indicated they wanted to see the rest of the improvements to Douglass Park on the 2015 park sales tax ballot.

Mr. Skala stated he appreciated the moving the parking to side to maximize the amount of green space and encouraged staff to be sensitive to the traffic problems, which might involve traffic calming. He also suggested staff be sensitive to Mr. Stanton's comments in terms of the capacity to outsource some of these projects to minority contractors.

Ms. Hoppe asked if improvements to the outdated skatepark at Cosmo Park would be considered in the near future. Mr. Griggs replied yes, and noted it would likely be on the project list for Council to consider for 2015 parks sales tax.

Mr. Thomas congratulated staff on a great community engagement effort and noted he was happy to see resources invested in this area that would improve the environment in terms of health and physical activity. He pointed out Missouri Foundation for Health funds were used to do landscaping improvements in front of Douglass High School, so they might be interested in leveraging their existing investment.

Mr. Trapp commented that he believed this was a great plan. He liked the stormwater improvements and the open design as it would allow one to see across the park from Fifth Street to Providence, which would enhance community safety.

Ms. Nauser asked if the parking area would be lighted to provide more security. Mr. Griggs replied lights would be installed in some areas of the park, but he also thought some lighting already existed in the area. He could not recall the location of existing poles, but noted they would ensure the area would be lit. Ms. Nauser thought that would be helpful since pedestrians would be walking to and from their vehicles.

B351-13 was given third reading with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: NAUSER, HOPPE, MCDAVID, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS. VOTING NO: NO ONE. ABSENT: SCHMIDT. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

**(A) Construction of a sidewalk on the east side of Ashland Road, between Stadium Boulevard and East Campus Loop Drive, and a raised island and signals at the intersection of Ashland Road and Stadium Boulevard.**

Item A was read by the Clerk.

Mr. Glascock provided a staff report.

Ms. Hoppe asked for clarification regarding the improvement crossing Stadium as it appeared there was an additional island. Mr. Glascock replied islands would be installed so people could cross perpendicular to the right turn lane on to Stadium on the south side.

Mr. Thomas asked for clarification regarding the remark in the memo about the other legs of the crosswalk. He understood MODOT would evaluate whether those needed to be

upgraded as well. Mr. Glascock replied that was correct, and explained it would be a MODOT signalized upgrade. The City was only paying for this portion of the project.

Mr. Thomas asked if crosswalks were marked on all four legs currently. Mr. Glascock replied he did not believe they were presently marked. Mr. Thomas understood this would add one set of signals on the east side.

Mayor McDavid opened the public hearing.

There being no comment, Mayor McDavid closed the public hearing.

Ms. Hoppe stated this connection would serve a lot of young people and professionals that lived on the south side of Ashland and crossed the street to get to the University. She believed it was a very dangerous area and the improvements were much needed.

Ms. Hoppe made a motion directing staff to proceed with the plans and specifications for this project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trapp and approved unanimously by voice vote.

**(B) Voluntary annexation of property located on the east side of Creasy Springs Road and north of Prairie Lane (3680 North Creasy Springs Road).**

Item B was read by the Clerk.

Mr. Teddy provided a staff report.

Mayor McDavid asked if the sewer hook up would be at the expense of the landowner. Mr. Teddy replied yes.

Mr. Skala asked if this was consistent with the comprehensive plan in terms of the urban service area. Mr. Teddy replied yes. Mr. Thomas suggested future memos involving annexations include whether the property was located within the urban service area as he had planned to ask the same question. Mr. Teddy stated that could be incorporated.

Mayor McDavid opened the public hearing.

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

Mr. Trapp stated he appreciated the comment of Mr. Teddy in terms of squaring up the border in this area as it was very ragged and made it difficult to determine who had jurisdiction over certain services.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**B342-13 Authorizing a right of use permit with North America Islamic for construction, improvement, operation and maintenance of a private sidewalk and site wall with handrail in a portion of the Locust Street (408 Locust Street) right-of-way.**

The bill was given second reading by the Clerk.

Mr. Glascock provided a staff report.

Ms. Hoppe commented that this was the only area in the downtown that still had overhead wires and lines, and asked if they should determine if undergrounding should be done prior to moving forward with this project. She noted the Downtown Community Improvement District (CID) was very supportive of undergrounding this remaining section. Mr. Glascock replied he spoke with the Water and Light Department staff and understood they had tried to obtain an easement from the Islamic Center but had been unable to get it in order to underground the wires.

Mayor McDavid understood the City would not be tearing up the new sidewalk to underground the wires. Mr. Glascock stated he did not know where the easement would be located.

Ms. Hoppe suggested tabling this item so the City had an opportunity to determine if the undergrounding could be done. She did not want the sidewalk constructed, regardless of who paid for it, and for that sidewalk to then be torn up a couple of years later to underground the wires.

Mr. Trapp suggested they ask the Islamic Center if it would cause an undue hardship if the item was tabled.

Keenan Simon stated he was a representative of the Islamic Center and explained they were providing an easement, which would be located to the northeast of the gymnasium. As part of that project, all of the overhead transformers would be removed. He noted they would enter into an agreement with the City for some of the transformer costs as some of the power would be used for Flat Branch Park. He reiterated that as part of the project, the transformer poles and overhead transformers would be removed. Ms. Hoppe asked if they would be placed underground. Mr. Simon replied yes. Ms. Hoppe asked who the Islamic Center had worked with on this agreement. Mr. Simon replied Dan Clark of the Water and Light Department. Mr. Glascock asked if that would include the wires as he understood there was an agreement for the transformers, but he was unsure of an agreement for the wires. Mr. Simon replied yes.

Ms. Hoppe made a motion to table B342-13 to the December 16, 2013 Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Skala and approved unanimously by voice vote.

**B348-13 Authorizing an STP-Urban Program agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the Broadway pavement improvement project from Providence Road to Hitt Street; appropriating funds.**

The bill was given second reading by the Clerk.

Mr. Glascock provided a staff report.

Mayor McDavid asked how long this project would take. Mr. Glascock replied it would depend on how many crosswalks and ADA ramps were involved as they would have to correct all of the ADA items on the street. Mayor McDavid asked if it would disrupt traffic for awhile. Mr. Glascock replied it could.

Ms. Hoppe understood the match would be funded from the annual sidewalk fund and up to 35 ramps would need to be replaced. She noted the City had a lot of sidewalk needs and wondered if the sidewalk fund was the best fund to use. She suggested a road fund be used instead. She also wondered how many ramps would need to be improved for the \$67,000 in match funds. Mr. Glascock stated he would not know the number of ramps until the project was designed. They had identified 35 ramps, but only a few might need to be adjusted. He knew some would have to be improved. He noted staff could look into whether other funds could be used for the match.

Mayor McDavid asked if this would come back to the council for an appropriation. Mr. Glascock replied no since this bill included the appropriation.

Ms. Hoppe asked if there was another fund from which the money could be appropriated. Mr. Glascock replied the annual street fund.

Ms. Hoppe made a motion to amend B348-13 by changing the account from which the money would be appropriated from annual sidewalks to annual streets. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thomas.

Mayor McDavid asked if staff was okay with this since the City also had \$200 million in street needs. Mr. Glascock replied he believed the sidewalk adjustments should be funded from the sidewalk fund. He noted the street fund would fund the portion for the street through the STP. Ms. Hoppe understood, but felt the number of ramps and the costs were very vague at this time. Mr. Glascock stated he would not know the number of ramps that would need to be replaced until the design was done.

Mayor McDavid stated he would oppose the motion on the basis of the argument there was sidewalk money and street money, and to fund it out of the appropriate account.

Mr. Thomas understood ramps were considered to be a part of the sidewalk and were expensive, and thought that should be considered when allocating sidewalk and street funds. Mr. Glascock pointed out they were not talking about the brick portion. They were talking about the ramp leading from the sidewalk to the street, which included the dimples and red coloring.

Mr. Trapp asked they knew there was definitely \$69,400 in ramp work. Mr. Glascock replied he thought there would be more than that amount in ramp work.

Mr. Thomas understood the entire project was estimated at \$350,000 and asked if the cost was about 50/50 in terms of resurfacing and the ramps. Mr. Glascock replied he would not know until the project was designed. The bulk of the STP funding was street money that would go toward a street and sidewalk project.

Mr. Blattel pointed out money could be transferred after the project was completed when they knew exactly how much was spent on sidewalks and streets. Ms. Hoppe stated she was willing to withdraw her motion based on that information. Mayor McDavid suggested they vote on the motion.

Mr. Skala commented that intuitively it made more sense for street funds to go to streets and sidewalk funds go to sidewalks. In addition, he thought it was useful to know they could adjust the funding amounts later through a transfer of funds if necessary.

The motion made by Ms. Hoppe and seconded by Mr. Thomas to amend B348-13 by changing the account from which the money would be appropriated from annual sidewalks to annual streets was defeated by voice vote with only Ms. Hoppe and Mr. Thomas voting in favor of it.

B348-13 was given third reading with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: NAUSER, HOPPE, MCDAVID, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS. VOTING NO: NO ONE. ABSENT: SCHMIDT. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- B339-13 Amending Ordinance No. 021840 to correct the address designation of property on Wagon Trail Road as it relates to an annexation agreement with Pendurthi Properties, LLC.
- B340-13 Amending Chapter 29 of the City Code to revise the definition of “family”.
- B341-13 Amending Chapter 14 of the City Code as it relates to hourly parking and fees for certain facilities.
- B343-13 Authorizing a right of use permit with MM III, LLC to allow construction, operation and maintenance of a non-standard patterned, textured and colored sidewalk in a portion of the Ninth Street (404 South Ninth Street) right-of-way.
- B344-13 Authorizing rights of use permits with MM III, LLC to allow construction, improvement, operation and maintenance of balconies and canopies to extend in a portion of the Ninth Street (404 South Ninth Street) right-of-way.
- B345-13 Authorizing a right of use permit with The Curators of the University of Missouri to allow construction, improvement, operation and maintenance of fiber optic telecommunication lines in a portion of the Old Route K right-of-way.
- B346-13 Authorizing a right of use permit with Ameren Missouri to allow construction, operation and maintenance of temporary remedial action project improvements at the Ameren Missouri manufactured gas plant (MGP) site located at 210 Orr Street; authorizing the temporary closure of a portion of the sidewalk on the south side of Park Avenue, a portion of the sidewalk on the east side of Orr Street and two parking spaces located on the north side of Ash Street.
- B347-13 Authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the agreement with Loomacres Wildlife Management for a wildlife hazard assessment at the Columbia Regional Airport; appropriating funds.
- B349-13 Authorizing application to the United States Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration and the Missouri Department of Transportation for airport capital assistance grants.
- B350-13 Authorizing application for public transit planning, operating and capital assistance grants with the Federal Transit Administration.
- B352-13 Appropriating donated funds for construction of the Otho Smith memorial project at the Antimi Sports Complex located in Columbia Cosmopolitan Recreation Area.
- B353-13 Authorizing an agreement with the Columbia Public School District relating to the replacement of tennis courts at Hickman High School.
- B354-13 Amending Chapter 4 of the City Code as it relates to alcoholic beverages.
- B355-13 Accepting a donation from the Downtown Community Improvement District for the purchase of a John Deere Gator™ 825i to be used by the Police Department for patrolling the downtown area; appropriating funds.
- B356-13 Amending Chapter 19 of the City Code as it relates to mutual aid emergency pay and restoration of services.
- B357-13 Authorizing renewal of provisions pertaining to the operation of the Columbia Fire Department and conditions of employment of the Columbia Fire Department personnel.

- B358-13 Adopting the Choice Plus \$750 Plan, the Choice Plus \$1,500 Plan and the Choice Plus \$2,500 High Deductible Health Plan for the City of Columbia.
- B359-13 Establishing retiree insurance premiums for medical and dental care plans.
- R242-13 Setting a public hearing: construction of the Cliff Drive PCCE #14 Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project.
- R243-13 Setting a public hearing: athletic field lighting improvements on the east baseball field located in American Legion Park.
- R244-13 Authorizing an agreement with the Boone County Historical Society for operating a museum and maintaining and making improvements to the Maplewood Home and other historic buildings in Nifong Park.
- R245-13 Authorizing an agreement with the Boone County Historical Society for caretaking services at Nifong Park.
- R246-13 Authorizing a letter of agreement with MoHepC Alliance relating to privacy requirements and restrictions pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).
- R247-13 Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with Maryville University for a clinical preceptorship program for nursing students.
- R248-13 Authorizing an agreement with the Jefferson City Barracuda Swim Team for sports development funding under the Tourism Development Program.
- R249-13 Authorizing various Adopt A Spot agreements.
- R250-13 Authorizing an Addendum to the Lease/Purchase Master Agreement with IBM Credit LLC for the replacement of two servers in the Information Technologies Department that support the financial management and utility billing systems.
- R251-13 Authorizing a Software License and Service and Maintenance Plan Agreement with Emphasys Software for treasury management software to be implemented as part of the Columbia Financial Enterprise Resource System (COFERS) project.
- R253-13 Authorizing the periodic closure of Discovery Ridge, and the temporary closure of sidewalks along both sides of Discovery Ridge, between Ponderosa Street and East Gans Road, to facilitate a mass grading project.
- R254-13 Authorizing a Resource Management Agreement with The Energy Authority, Inc. to represent the Water and Light Department as its Market Participant in electric and natural gas energy markets.
- R255-13 Authorizing an amendment to the service agreement with Woodruff Sweitzer and True Media for marketing and advertising agency services for the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The bills were given third reading and the resolutions were read with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: NAUSER, HOPPE, MCDAVID, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS. VOTING NO: NO ONE. ABSENT: SCHMIDT. Bills declared enacted and resolutions declared adopted, reading as follows:

## NEW BUSINESS

### **R252-13 Transferring funds to maintain, plant and remove diseased or dead trees within street rights-of-way.**

The resolution was read by the Clerk.

Mr. Glascock provided a staff report.

Mr. Skala commented that he did not have a problem with the evaluation of trees and the money spent to replant them, but wondered about the status of a citizen tree board, which he had previously suggested, as it would provide an advisory role in addition to the professional evaluation of trees. Mr. Matthes replied staff was close to being able to bring something back to Council. He explained there were currently four advisory groups that were involved in trees as they had been separated based on function, such as electric lines, parks, trails, construction projects, tree canopies, etc. Staff was mapping out the different decision-making processes so the Council had a clear picture of what was currently done and the value of a tree board. Mr. Skala stated the Environment and Energy Commission had previously indicated it could take on the responsibilities of the tree board, but that recommendation was not accepted and was the reason he suggested a tree board.

Mr. Thomas understood 74 trees had been identified as critical or dead and another 60 were in poor condition. He asked what that meant. Mr. Glascock replied those were trees that were degrading in health. He pointed out staff was not planning to remove 74 trees. There were only looking to make the streets safe. They would fix impacted sidewalks as well.

Mr. Thomas understood staff would not remove 130 trees tomorrow if the transfer was approved. Mr. Glascock stated that was correct, but pointed out they would remove newer trees, like those on Green Meadows that were about three inches in caliper and dead. He noted those would be replaced with new trees as now was the time to plant new trees.

Mr. Thomas understood it would be a one at a time process in the Old Southwest neighborhood. Mr. Glascock stated that was correct.

Mr. Thomas asked if these 134 trees were on private property. Mr. Glascock replied a lot were between a sidewalk and a curb, which meant they were likely in a street right-of-way. He pointed out they would work with adjacent property owners and ensure the appropriate Council Member was involved.

Ms. Nauser asked if the new trees would be planted in the same spot or in another location. Mr. Glascock replied they would try to accommodate the property owner, so they might not replace the tree if a property owner did not want it replaced.

Ms. Nauser asked if overhead lines were near these trees. Mr. Glascock replied he did not know, but thought many would be since they were located in the Old Southwest. Ms. Nauser asked if they would then only replant trees that might not grow to a height where the City needed to continually send crews out to trim trees. She commented that it appeared to be counterproductive to plant a tree that would grow into the power lines. Mr. Glascock stated he would ensure the Water and Light Department was involved in addition to the property owner.

Mr. Trapp commented that keeping trees from falling on people appeared to be a basic function of government and thanked staff for its work.

The vote on R252-13 was recorded as follows: VOTING YES: NAUSER, HOPPE, MCDAVID, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS. VOTING NO: NO ONE. ABSENT: SCHMIDT. Resolution declared adopted, reading as follows:

## INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

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

- PR256-13    Establishing a Cash and Marketable Securities Reserve Policy for the Water and Light Department.
  
- B360-13    Voluntary annexation of property located on the east side of Creasy Springs Road and north of Prairie Lane (3680 North Creasy Springs Road); establishing permanent R-1 zoning.
  
- B361-13    Rezoning property located 500 feet west of the Chapel Hill Road and Forum Boulevard intersection from O-P to C-P; approving the Chapel Hill Parking Expansion C-P Development Plan.
  
- B362-13    Approving the Final Plat of Hoeper Subdivision Plat 2 located on the south side of Walnut Street, east of Stephens Lake Park; authorizing a performance contract.
  
- B363-13    Authorizing an agreement with Clarion Associates, LLC for professional services for a comprehensive update to the City of Columbia development codes (zoning and subdivision); appropriating funds.
  
- B364-13    Authorizing construction of a bicycle boulevard from the Wabash Station to the Hominy Trail; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.
  
- B365-13    Authorizing the acquisition of easements for construction of a bicycle boulevard from the Wabash Station to the Hominy Trail.
  
- B366-13    Amending Chapter 27 of the City Code as it relates to renewable energy standard.
  
- B367-13    Accepting conveyances for utility purposes.
  
- B368-13    Authorizing athletic field lighting improvements on the east baseball field located in American Legion Park; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division; appropriating funds.
  
- B369-13    Amending the agreement with the Columbia Public School District to substitute a playground improvement project at West Boulevard Elementary School in place of the New Haven Elementary School playground improvement project; authorizing an agreement with the Columbia Public School District for FY 2014 playground improvement projects at New Haven Elementary School, Parkade Elementary School, Fairview Elementary School and Russell Boulevard Elementary School.
  
- B370-13    Appropriating Share the Light funds.
  
- B371-13    Amending the FY 2014 Annual Budget by adding and deleting positions in the Finance Department, Police Department, Public Works Department and Water and Light Department; amending the FY 2014 Classification and Pay Plan by adding, closing and reclassifying positions in the Finance Department, Police Department, Public Works Department and Water and Light Department.

## REPORTS AND PETITIONS

### **REP165-13 Street Closure Requests – Jingle Bell Run and Earth Day Festival.**

Mayor McDavid made a motion to approve the street closures contingent upon the applicant providing proof of liability insurance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trapp and approved unanimously by voice vote.

### **REP166-13 Ending in field collection of utility payments, February 1, 2014.**

Mr. Johnsen provided a staff report.

Ms. Nauser asked if other media sources would be used to inform people as those in this situation might not have access to computers to view the website or the city channel. Mr. Johnsen replied they could consider a campaign through the newspaper or television if Council felt that was needed. He pointed out those in the field would provide printed documentation to the community as well as there were a few customers that really needed this information. He thought they had a good idea on the targeted audience as this occurred with a few customers on a regular basis.

Mr. Trapp suggested the Office of Neighborhood Services reach out to the Basic Needs Coalition as those organizations tended to work with those struggling financially. He thought the disconnect notices and phone calls helped as well. Mr. Johnsen stated staff would be cognizant of other outreach methods.

### **REP167-13 Information regarding the payment methods available to pay utility bills.**

Mayor McDavid understood this fee was the result of the City having to pay the third party used by customers to pay their utility bills, and as a result, each household ended up paying \$20 as part of the utility fee for the convenience of others using a credit card.

Mr. Blattel pointed out about 25 percent of the City's customers were using credit cards for payments to receive a reward, and that 25 percent was causing the other 75 percent of customers to pay more through the utility bill. The fee allowed those who wanted to use a credit card to pay for the privilege without impacting those that did not use credit cards.

Mayor McDavid understood bill pay through a bank was a payment method that did not involve a fee and still allowed payment with a computer. Mr. Blattel stated that was correct.

Mr. Thomas commented that the memo had a time point of February 20, 2012 and indicated the Director of Finance had mentioned a discount for large customers and asked for clarification. Mr. Blattel replied a couple of large institutions were paying a significant amount of utility bills via credit cards, so one idea was to offer a one percent discount to them if they paid by check since the credit card transaction was costing the City three percent. Mayor McDavid pointed out the Council decided not to implement the discount.

Mr. Skala stated he wished he would have had this information when this was first implemented to explain this to constituents as he had received many complaints on the issue. He noted the explanation made sense and he appreciated receipt of this information.

**REP168-13 Intra-Departmental Transfer of Funds Request.**

Mayor McDavid understood this report had been provided for informational purposes.

**COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, COUNCIL AND STAFF**

Jeff Stack reminded the Council of the homeless and felt the community needed to work toward permanent emergency housing. He appreciated the efforts of the Council and City staff in the past year, which included providing a police officer at the Room at the Inn and the Imani Center and assistance with obtaining cots. Five different churches were working together to provide a shelter in January and February of this year. He noted he was working with the Mid-Missouri Fellowship of Reconciliation and the Unitarian Universalist Church, and the church agreed to open a shelter December 9-20. He asked the Council to provide a police officer to be present at that shelter for a couple hours per day and to assist with transportation as the church was on Shepard Boulevard. He understood there was a possibility for bus passes and noted they were appreciative of it, but wondered if some type of service could be provided on Sundays and Saturday mornings when the buses did not run.

Phillip Ravit, 1415 Godas Drive, stated he was glad they were still talking about Clark Lane as it was a dangerous and pressing issue. He commented that he was an advocate for the urban canopy and felt a citizen advisory tree board was important. He was appreciative of the fact the City would be replacing any trees removed as he believed that was critical. In terms of areas with overhead lines, he felt there were possibilities for smaller trees to be planted, such as the oak trees at Ninth and Walnut or hedgerows if the property owner agreed. He thought it was important to seek alternatives in order to have a canopy and landscaping. He noted he also appreciated the young men who were pushing the skatepark issue and suggested pursuing a corporate sponsorship in addition to grants for funding.

Eugene Elkin, 3406 Range Line, commented that he believed it was difficult to know what organizations to turn to if someone was in need of assistance for a utility bill due to a disconnect notice and asked that someone look into this as Columbia did not need a growing homeless population. He noted he was currently helping a man on the streets with socks to keep his feet from freezing and explained it was sometimes the simplest things that needed to be resolved to assist the homeless. He was hopeful for a permanent homeless shelter. With regard to trees, he thought it was a good idea for shorter trees to be planted near electric lines. He commented that he had a reverse osmosis system for fluoride-free water and noted he was enjoying it and felt better. He understood a demolition would soon be taking place on South Ninth Street for more student housing, and hoped that was not true.

Mayor McDavid asked for a report on a use tax for the City of Columbia.

Mayor McDavid congratulated REDI for two recent job announcements involving Nanova and Biopharma, and noted the REDI staff was doing great work.

Mr. Thomas stated he agreed with the saying that a community was judged by how well it treated its most vulnerable citizens. He expressed his support for the Room at the Inn program and similar programs that provided shelters for those that had no other place to go.

He understood a request for 25 bus passes had already been granted, but 50 passes were really needed, and asked if the additional 25 passes could be provided. He also understood there were three transitions whereby bus service was not available, and those included the morning and evening services on Sundays and the morning service on Saturdays. He had already asked for a cost estimate for providing bus service between the Wabash and the Unitarian Church for those days and suggested council contingency funds in the amount of up to \$5,000 be committed for that service. He pointed out there would not be another Council Meeting prior to the weekend this service was needed.

Mr. Thomas made a motion to hold \$5,000 in council contingency funds for morning bus service on Saturday, December 14 and morning and evening bus service for Sunday, December 15. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trapp.

Mayor McDavid asked if the motion was to hold the funds or if it was to appropriate the funds. Mr. Thomas replied it would be for an appropriation for the amount needed once an estimated cost was provided.

Mr. Trapp stated he suspected the cost would be far less than \$5,000 and noted he believed this was a worthwhile investment of resources. He appreciated the Unitarian Universalist Church and Fellowship for Reconciliation for providing a shelter for some of December and the Room at the Inn for providing shelters in January and February.

Mayor McDavid commented that that the Council had been chided for actions during the council comment section without public comment, but thought this was acceptable due to the time constraints and the weather.

The motion made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Trapp to hold \$5,000 in council contingency funds for morning bus service on Saturday, December 14 and morning and evening bus service for Sunday, December 15 was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Thomas asked for the beat officer for that district to drop by the shelter during check-in. Mr. Stack suggested 6 p.m. to 8 or 9 p.m.

Mr. Trapp explained three hour shifts were done at the Room at the Inn last year because that was the minimum for police overtime. He understood that cost had been budgeted for Room at the Inn this year, but did not know if there was enough to cover the shelter in December at the Unitarian Universalist Church.

Mr. Matthes suggested an allocation of up to \$10,000 from the council contingency fund to cover those costs as he thought that was the amount spent last year. Mr. Trapp stated the cost was less than \$10,000 for two months at the Room at the Inn and the add-on shelters in March, which involved about 11 total weeks. He thought the costs for an officer at the Room at the Inn had been covered in the approved budget.

Mayor McDavid understood they needed to allocate enough for the next two weeks. Mr. Matthes stated they would not need to worry about the next two weeks as the current overtime budget could cover it. They would need to allocate funding for the entire winter season. Mayor McDavid asked that staff provide an estimate of how much it would cost at the next Council Meeting.

Ms. Hoppe explained trees had recently been removed for a trail from Old 63 to Stephens Lake, and one spot was now accumulating water on a regular basis. She

understood a couple Sycamores needed to be planted in that spot to help absorb the water and this was the ideal time of year to plant Sycamores. She asked if staff was in the process of planting those trees. Mr. Matthes replied he thought they were, but would check and report back.

Mr. Skala commented that one of the sessions at the National League of Cities Conference involved a panel of experts on homelessness and noted he would share that information at a future pre-council meeting as there was a potential funding source to assist cities in addressing issues.

Mr. Skala stated the improvements to Clark Lane were scheduled and would involve the widening of the street by ten feet, five feet on each side. Only the traffic lanes would be narrowed by striping to try to reduce speeds on the road. This was not a decrease in safety. It was an increase in safety. In addition, in the future, contingent upon the CIP sales tax and assuming high priority, money would be available for a complete street with curbs, gutters, sidewalks and pedways.

Mr. Trapp explained the City was presently looking for property for a permanent homeless shelter with funding allocated as part of the budget, and was working with the VA and various non-profits in terms of federal grants, etc. to build the shelter. He thought the partnerships in Columbia were great in terms of serving the homeless as it involved churches, advocacy organizations, non-profits, engaged citizenry, etc.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheela Amin  
City Clerk